



Mount Albion Monthly News

www.schools.hwdsb.on.ca/mountalbion

**October
2013**

24 Kennard Street
Stoney Creek
L8J 2E5
905-560-0908

From the Principal's Desk

September has come and gone, and what a busy month it was! Teachers have been working diligently to get to know their students both from an academic perspective, but also as individual learners. Important to us as well are the interests and passions of our students, their talents and learning styles!

As we continue our learning together this month, we ask that you model for your child(ren) the importance of their using their agendas for tracking their work.

This agenda is the daily communication tool between home and school as well. Please initial regularly! Thanks.

Update on our Construction:

Work continues steadily at the front of the school. Now that all structural pieces have been removed the work is now focused on preparing the land for the upper parking lot, the bus lane, and the parent drop-off lane. As much as it has been a steady distraction in one sense, we are all excited to see Mount Albion get a

much needed and overdue "facelift" for the front of our building! Right now, completion is on target for the end of October/first week of November.



Re-organization this fall had a minimal impact on Mount Albion. No additional classes were assigned to the school and only a handful of students had to move classes to balance numbers as per the ministry class size caps.

Staffing News at Mount Albion

Welcome to new staff members since September! A few staffing changes have taken place since we started school. We have a new School Success EA at our school, and we welcome Ms. L. Burke-Sholar. Also, Ms. S. Kuczerepa was moved to Bellmoore school on September 30th, and

she is now being replaced by Ms. S. Kellie, who will be providing music and dance instruction to our Special Education classes as well as Mr. Craig's 4/5 class. Ms. K. McLean is filling the Long Term Occasional position in the Grade 5/6 class while Mr. Chabot recovers from surgery, and Ms.

R. Dykstra is filling in for Ms. Carne in the JK/SK class while she is recovering from surgery as well!



Principal:
Mrs. C.E. MacKenzie
Office Administrator:
Ms. K. Hall
Superintendent:
Mrs. L. Romano
(905-527-5092)
Trustee:
Mrs. S. Glauser
(905-527-5092)

Upcoming Dates

October 11th:

P.A. Day—no school

October 14th:

Thanksgiving Holiday—no school

October 17th:

Rugby Tournament (grades 7 & 8) at Saltfleet

October 31st:

Hallowe'en events—more to come!

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEBSITE—GET AN AUTOMATIC E-MAIL ANY TIME OUR WEBSITE IS UPDATED!

Just go to www.schools.hwdsb.on.ca/mountalbion and look for our subscription link in the left column.

No Smoking Please

Just a reminder that smoking is not permitted anywhere on School or Board property at any time of the day or night. This by-law applies to staff, students, visitors and parents. The parking lot is still considered school property according to the by-law. Please remember that we want to maintain a smoke-free environment.



School Council 2013-2014

At the first School Council meeting this year a new Executive was established.

Co-chairs:

K. Cannell and M. Mutter

Treasurer:

C. Felker

Continuing Members:

C. Goebel

M. Fazekas

Results from the parent survey reflected a variety of times that people would prefer that these meetings take place, but the majority indicated that Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 was still a convenient time. So please mark your calendars for November 7th - our next School Council meeting. We will be discussing the school's EQAO results, and Council will make some decisions about upcoming parent information evenings. Your input is important to us!

Get involved in your child(ren)'s school!

School Council is spearheading a simple Fundraising event this month partnering with a web-based shopping site called Smart Betty. Much like Wag-Jag, and Group-On, Smart Betty is a local volume based on-line discount shopping site.

When you buy a coupon for \$2.00, you receive a \$5.00 discount on your first purchase! And the \$2.00 comes right back to the school (after campaign costs are deducted). All proceeds will be directed towards Student Awards and Acknowledgements (e.g. track and field, graduation awards, etc.). And, as you continue to use Smart Betty in the future, 10% of the revenue portion from your purchases will also be donated back to our school!! So please help us out! Vouchers and information is on its way!



EQAO Results

If your son or daughter is in Grade 4 or Grade 7 this year, then they will be taking home the results of the EQAO assessment that they wrote last spring. Expect this information during the week of October 15th. This report will give you an understanding of the individual performance of your child as well as the results of our school, the board and the province. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's current teacher who can help you interpret the results, and share with you how we are responding to the needs identified by our school's results.



Firedrills and Lockdown Drills

As per board policy, we will have completed the mandatory 3 fall fire drills by the end of October.

November is "Lockdown Drill" month at Mount Albion, when we will practice both a full Lockdown drill as well as the procedure known as "Shelter in Place". For a better understanding of these safe school policies, please visit the



board's website (www.hwdsb.on.ca) and go to "Parents", "Safe and Caring Schools", and then "Lockdown, Hold and Secure and Shelter in Place".

Dogs on School Property

Yes—our canine friends are cute and for the most part, we know that they are friendly. However we must respect that some of our children are afraid of dogs, and having them close by causes stress and anxiety. We also know that dogs who are normally friendly can be startled by fast moving children and can snap at fingers and faces if startled. We ask that you **do not bring your family pets** onto school property during school hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Thanks for understanding.



If you walk your dog on school grounds during the evenings or weekends, please remember to "stoop and scoop". Keep in mind as well, that the Kindergarten area is strictly out of bounds for sanitary reasons.