



Mount Albion Elementary School

NEWSLETTER

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C. E. MacKenzie - Principal

DECEMBER and JANUARY 2015

L. Quinn - Office Administrator



L. Romano - Superintendent of Student Achievement

A Message from the Principal:

The month of December finds us celebrating all of the events of the last few months as we approach our 2 week holiday break....Progress Report cards will go home, parents have had conversations with their child(ren)'s teachers....and we will complete our year with festive activities as well....such as Joy Day, Holiday Sweater Spirit Day, and our December Awards assembly.

December is a month of many diverse celebrations that will continue into January for many of our students and their families. Hanukkah is an 8 day Jewish holiday that is celebrated between December 7th and 14th. Christmas is celebrated on December 25th. Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration beginning on December 26th each year. At Mount Albion we strive to build understanding and acceptance of these wonderful yet different traditions, and will also simply enjoy the fun and joy of holiday time spent with family and friends.

In January 2016, our current Superintendent of Student Achievement, Laura Romano will be moving to a different "family of schools". Thank-you Mrs. Romano for your dedication to our school over the last few years. We will welcome Mr. Jeff Gillies as our new Superintendent. He is a Hamilton born educator who has been living and working in the London area, but has recently joined HWDSB as part of the Executive Council team.

On behalf of the Mount Albion "team" I want to extend to you and your family warm wishes for a wonderful Winter Holiday! May you find time together to rest, relax, have fun and re-connect! Before you know it, we will be saying "Happy New Year"

Mrs. C. E. MacKenzie
Principal

Christmas Food Drive

December 1 - 14

Once again, Mount Albion students will be collecting non-perishable items for the Stoney Creek Food Bank. Please help our neighbours by sending in items to donate. Of particular note, items such as baby food, baby formula, diapers, peanut butter, beans in sauce, canned fish, canned fruit, cold cereal, macaroni and cheese, pasta and pasta sauce and items for school lunches, such as drinking boxes, granola bars and fruit cups are most needed.

Please check expiration dates before donating!

Thank you for helping us make this the best holiday season ever for our friends in need!



Friday, December 11th

Joy Day and Holiday Spirit Sweater Day!

Wear your most festive, funniest or spirited holiday sweater or colours!

Multi-grade activities for community building and festive school spirit!



Wednesday, January 27th

Snuggle Up & Read Spirit Day!

Hot chocolate and pyjamas!

No need to get dressed today, just roll into school in your comfy cozies!

More details to come!





School
Cash
Online!

Haven't signed up for
School Cash Online?

Contact the office for your child's personal pin number and sign-up information. It's fast, easy and convenient! As parents, time is precious, and this app can make your early morning routines MUCH easier when hunting for trip or pizza money! :)

Please remember—dogs are not permitted on school property between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.!

Thank you for understanding that we all need to follow this guideline. Even the friendliest and cutest dog can be startled by a child and “nip” or “bite”. And some of our children are fearful around your pets. If you want to walk your dog to school to meet your child, please arrange to meet out on the city sidewalk, off of school property. Thanks!



HOLIDAY DANCE!

Friday, December 18th

Periods 6, 7 & 8!

Grades 6, 7 & 8!



News from Mount Albion School Council

SAVE THE DATE

School Council has already had a busy year to date. There are some new Executive Committee and members filling out your Council for this year. The current new School Council wishes to extend a huge thanks to the 2014/2015 Executive team for all their hard work, and would like to announce this year's official Council Members:

Amber Mayne, Mount Albion's School Council Chair. (Congratulations and thank-you for volunteering)

Stephanie Blanchard, Secretary

Julie Young, Treasurer

Executive Members:

Cindy Goebel

Michelle Fazekas

Jennifer Vogel

Claudia Castro

Kirsteen Cannell (also there as our Community Partner rep).

This September the kindergarten classes were provided 3 new bicycles which were purchased from funds raised in the 2014/2015 school year.

Recently, School Council hosted a Family Movie Night to watch the holiday movie "How The Grinch Stole Christmas." Thank you to all who attended and made the night a success! The money raised will help go towards purchasing new audiovisual equipment, as well as to fund other School Council and School Initiatives.

Stay tuned! In Mid-February 2016, School Council will be hosting a Healthy Living Night – complete with family exercise class (approx. 45 mins) and a nutrition seminar! More details to come!

School Council meetings are the last Thursday of every month (June meeting is June 16th), so please come and join us on Thursday, January 28th @ 6:30. Babysitting is provided.

Holiday Vacation

December 19—January 3

Students will be returning
to school on Monday,
January 4th, 2016!

HAPPY NEW YEAR
from all of us at Mount Albion.



Cold Weather Apparel



It's here—the cold and the frost and snow and the blowing wind! And with that comes the need to dress appropriately to stay warm and comfortable during outdoor activities and breaks.

Please ensure your children have hats, boots, mitts, scarves and snow pants. There is no supervision inside of the school during break, and so they must come prepared to be outside at least twice during the school day.

Please remember that if students are too sick to go outside for break, then they are too sick to come to school. Unfortunately, we cannot offer indoor supervision at those times. Please refer to your child's agenda for the HWDSB policy on cold weather alerts.

ILLNESS



Please keep your child at home when they are sick. In cases of vomiting, please ensure they stay home for 24-hours once it has stopped.

Thank you!

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL



This is a reminder that the school cannot dispense medications without the signed authorization of **both** a parent/guardian **and** physician. This includes such items as cough syrup, Tylenol and other over the counter medications. Please ask the school office for the proper form for your doctor to complete for this purpose. We are sorry for any inconvenience or added expense this may cause, we must however follow HWDSB medical protocols.



Parking Reminders – Parents Helping to be Part of the Solution!!

Parents – please be reminded that there is absolutely **NO** parking on the left hand side of the exit lane from the upper parking area/bus lane. A few families have started regularly parking here at the end of the day to pick up their child(ren) – however these cars are in violation of Fire Route regulations. If there are no designated spots in either the Drop Zone or designated parking spaces in the Parking lot, please find a street location, or simply wait a few moments to circle back in – and use the recessed Drop Zone area only to pull over. Please also do not stop in the Handicapped parking spot or the hatched area by the front side-walk. By-law has advised that fines can be as high as \$300 for those parking in non-parking areas, or if using the Handicapped spot without a permit. Also, in the lower lot, please use designated parking spots only if you intend to get out of your vehicle and stay with your child until the bell goes. If stopping to drop a Kindergarten child, please stop along the fence that is parallel to the school only, and please only take a couple of minutes only to escort your child to the gate where they will be received by supervising staff. Stopping at the back of the lot is NOT permitted, as it creates traffic flow blockages (especially in the winter). For the safety of our children, please do not leave an idling vehicle. Drive slowly and with caution. I thank you for your attention to these critical matters.



DECEMBER 2015 WINTER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 (4) FOOD DRIVE BEGINS! 	2 (5)	3 (1) Pizza 	4 (2) 	5 
6 HANUKKAH BEGINS 	7 (2) Food Drive Continues! 	8 (3)	9 (4)	10 (5)  Pizza 	11 (1)  JOY DAY ACTIVITIES and HOLIDAY SPIRIT SWEATER DAY!	12 
13 	14 (2) Hanukkah ends Food Drive ENDS	15 (3)	16 (4) Gr. 4-8 & Intermediate Special Classes to Saltfleet for Holiday Concert	17 (5) December Awards Assembly @ 11:00 a.m. 	18 (1)  Holiday Dance Grade 6,7 & 8 Last day of school for students	19 
20 	21 	22  First day of Winter 	23 	24  CHRISTMAS EVE 	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 	26 KWAANZA BEGINS 
27 	28 	29 	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 		

JANUARY 2016 WINTER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 NEW YEARS DAY! WELCOME 2016!	2
3 	4 (3)  Students back to School!	5 (4)	6 (5)	7 (1) Pizza 	8 (2)  Popcorn sales	9
10	11 (3)	12 (4)	13 (5)	14 (1) Pizza 	15 (2)  Popcorn sales 	16
17 	18 (3)	19 (4)	20 (5)	21 (1) Pizza 	22 (2)  Popcorn sales	23
24/31	25 (3)	26 (4)	27 (5) Snuggle Up & Read Spirit Day and Family Literacy Day! WEAR YOUR JAMMIES! 	28 (1)  Hooping It Up for Best Buddies and January Awards assembly @ 1:50 Popcorn sales School Council 6:30 p.m. PIZZA 	29 P.D. DAY 	30