



Mount Albion Elementary School

NEWSLETTER

24 Kennard Street, Stoney Creek, ON, L8J 2E5 P: 905-560-0908 F: 905-560-0913

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

October 2014



September has come and gone, and we are now settling in to routines and students are engaged in great learning experiences! Re-organization at Mount Albion created a new JK/SK FDK classroom, and we welcome Ms. M. Kafouf as our newest Kindergarten classroom teacher! I have visited our newly formed classes a number of times already, and the children have settled in beautifully! The movement of students to different classes to balance out numbers from Grade 3/4 upward also went well. Thanks for your understanding and support during this time.

Our internal and external renovations for this year are almost complete...if your children use the "French and Art" room (room 10), then I'm sure that they have shared with you the new shelving that has just been installed. Just some finishing touches and adjustments to come at this point!

Thank you to those families who supported our fall fundraising campaign – we will publish the profits made in our next newsletter, when the numbers are finalized!!!

Once again, I need to remind parents about the very important protocol of parking, dropping and picking up children in both parking lot areas: When using either parking lot, please only use actual/designated parking spots. DO NOT park on hatched lines. DO NOT park along fences in the lower parking lot – especially the fence that runs alongside the Kindergarten entry doors. There simply is not enough space for you to leave your vehicle in these places without your creating a problem for other vehicles to drive around you. If you are stopping briefly, it would be to escort your child to the gate and pass them on to supervising staff, then quickly get back into your vehicle to drive away from that area. If you like to stay and wait with your child until the bell rings, then you must park in an actual parking spot only, or park on Kennard.

This applies to the end of the day as well. Once the parking lot is full, please find a spot on the road. In the upper parking lot area, please DO take advantage of the drop and go zone – but please be careful and pull right into the zone before stopping to drop off/pick up your children. The Fire Department and By-Law officers have confirmed that cars stopping at the “curve” but not fully pulling over into the “bay” may in fact be ticketed. Also, please be advised that parking in our wheelchair accessible parking spots – even for a few minutes – could also result in a substantial ticket! We certainly don’t want this to happen. In the Drop and Go Zone – this area is designated as “stopping only” – therefore you must remain with your vehicle at all times. If you plan to “park” and vacate your vehicle to wait for your child on school property, please use a parking spot if open – or head out to the street and park where legal parking is permitted. If you have any questions about the parking areas, please do not hesitate to give me a call. And thank-you to everyone as we have learned to use these new areas in a way that keeps our children safe!

Next week we all celebrate Thanksgiving in our own ways. I am grateful for another year at Mount Albion where I can celebrate the opportunity of working with our wonderful students and this community!

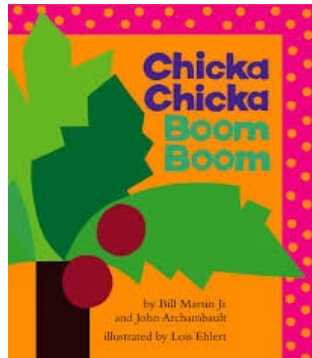
Mrs. C. E. MacKenzie

Principal



**ALL visitors and parents must
report to the office upon
entry to the school.
Visitor Passes will be issued.**

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom—Ms. Baca and 1A



The grade one students in Ms. Baca's class are participating in the Chicka Chicka Boom Boom Letter Exchange with schools across Canada. Each school was assigned a letter of the alphabet, ours was letter G. As a class we thought of words that start with G and drew the pictures on our letter G. The letter G was sent to each school in the letter exchange along with a letter sharing about our class and school. We have already received the letter A, B and Z from schools in Ontario and Saskatchewan. The students get very excited when a new letter arrives in the mail and love to guess which letter of the alphabet it might be. Come check out our Chicka Chicka Boom Boom Letter Exchange bulletin board in the primary hallway to see the amazing letters we have received.



HAPPENINGS AT M.A.!

Terry Fox Run



Mount Albion raised \$274.51 for cancer research through the generous donations of our staff and students. It was a beautiful Autumn day, and the entire school spent time in an assembly learning about Terry Fox and his heroic efforts, and then getting outside and running to support an amazing cause in honour of an incredible Canadian!



Follow Us on Twitter (@mountalbion)

One great way to stay up-to-date with what's happening at Mount Albion School is to follow us on Twitter! Through our Twitter feed you will get frequent updates on life at Mount Albion School including important reminders, special events, community happenings, and student activities.

Follow us by going to www.twitter.com/mountalbion and clicking "Follow". You can also use the Twitter App to get updates sent straight to your Smart phone/device!

Epi-Pen Reminder



Please ensure your child always has their epi-pen and puffers, and that the one in the school office has not expired. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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.

3-Pitch



During the month of September Mount Albion participated in the annual 3-Pitch Tournaments held by the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board. We had excellent weather all week for the tournaments and our student athletes had a great time playing baseball. Our Senior Boys Team finished with a record of 2-2-1 while our combined Junior/Senior Girls team finished with a record 2-2 and our Junior Boys Team finished with a 3-1 record which enabled them to go to the Championship where eventually lost in a close game to Eastdale School. Mount Albion wishes to thank Coaches Axiak, Ellis, Jack and Toohey, parent and Saltfleet student volunteers as well as those who came out to cheer us on.



VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball season is fast approaching and we are looking forward to it. Practices and team try-outs have already begun. Due to the number of sign-ups we will be having three teams this year; Senior Boys, Junior Boys, and a combined Senior/Junior Girls team. For more information, including schedules, please go to the H.W.D.S.B. Athletic page (<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/athletics/middle-school/volleyball/>). Look for more information from our coaches to come home soon.

News from Mount Albion School Council



Welcome back to school! School council has already had their first meeting and are eager to embrace the new school year.

We are still accepting nominations for executive council positions, and will finalize those positions at our next meeting on the 16th of October. There is still time to get your name in for submission!




**WE NEED
YOU
TO JOIN THE
SCHOOL
COUNCIL**

Come on out and join us on the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.. Every parent is welcome to come out to all or one of the meetings to participate in all the fun! This is your opportunity to be a part of the decision-making for the school and get involved in your child(ren)'s academic life. We organize fun activities, make choices about equipment needed to purchase and fund-raising opportunities for the students. Help us make a difference! :)

All are welcome and childcare is available. We look forward to seeing new faces at our next meeting. Mark your calendars—**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16th!**

We have scheduled our first hot dog day for the 17th of October.

More info to follow!



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. It also includes the interior of your vehicle. The parking lot is considered school property according to the by-law. Please remember that we want to maintain a smoke-free environment.

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 your understanding.

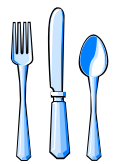
If you walk your dog on school grounds during the evenings or weekends, please remember to 'stoop and scoop'. We appreciate your support.

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!*

Please remember to pack forks and spoons in your child's lunch!



“Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.”

— Socrates



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Reminder to parents and guardians to call the school office before 8:40 a.m., if your child is going to be late or absent from school due to an illness, appointment or a family holiday. It is the policy of the HWDSB to contact parents in the event that the student does not arrive at school and the school has not been notified about an absence or late arrival.

Please understand that **not all students begin their day with their homeroom teacher** so messages regarding attendance that are given to the homeroom teacher do not always make it to the office. A note to the office or a call to our 24hr answering machine (905-560-0908) will ensure that student absences will be received.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation with us in this important daily activity to make sure that your child arrives at school safely.

***We would also ask that if your child needs to be excused early from school, that he/she brings a note to the office in the morning so we can have them properly signed out and ready for when they are to be picked up. This will help everyone to be organized and on time as much as possible. Thank you. ***



REMINDER!

The morning bell rings at

8:40 a.m.

Please help your child(ren) be on time in the morning to ensure a full and uninterrupted school day.

ACCESSIBLE PARKING

Please ensure the Accessible Parking spots in the upper and lower lots are left open for those who require those spaces.

OCTOBER 2014 AUTUMN

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 (1)	2 (2)	3 (3) 8:00-9:00 Junior Swim Team 	4 
5	6 (4)	7 (5)	8 (1)	9 (2) Cross-Country 10:00-1:00 	10 (3) 8:00-9:00 Junior Swim Team 	11
12 	13 Thanks-giving	14 (4)	15 (5)	16 (1) SCHOOL COUNCIL 6:30-8:00	17 (2) 8:00-9:00 Junior Swim Team HOT DOG DAY 	18
19	20 (3)	21 (4)	22 (5)	23 (1)	24 (2) 8:00-9:00 Junior Swim Team 	25 
26	27 (3)	28 (4)	29 (5)	30 (1)	31 (2) 8:00-9:00 Junior Swim Team HALLOWEEN 	