



Mount Albion Elementary School

NEWSLETTER

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C. E. MacKenzie - Principal

JANUARY 2015

L. Quinn - Office Administrator

L. Romano - Superintendent of Student Achievement

A Message from the Principal:

Welcome back and Happy New Year!! We hope you had a wonderful holiday. First order of business is that we would like to congratulate one of our much-loved and respected E.A.'s, Miss Nancy, who retired on December 19th. Her warmth, kindness, extreme generosity, genuine interest and thoughtfulness along with her wonderful smile will be missed here at Mount Albion for a long time to come. Thank you Miss Nancy for so many years of your sunshine. We also welcome Mrs. V. Mitchell to our staff, supporting students in Grades 1/2 and SIDD.

We have certainly jumped right into "winter weather" this January, so I wanted to give a quick reminder that your children will need to come to school prepared for all kinds of weather conditions. Boots are a must for safety and warmth on the outside, but due to wet snow, ice and salt and dirt, they cannot be worn into the classrooms. So remind your child(ren) to pack dry shoes in their backpack on a daily basis. Even better would be if they could keep a second pair of shoes at school.

HWDSB policy on dealing with extreme cold temperatures aligns with recommendations from Public Health and the City of Hamilton. As such, we always keep our students inside on days that drop to minus 15 degrees or colder without wind chill, or when it is minus 20 degrees or colder with the wind chill.

Starting on January 30th, we will be selling popcorn on Fridays at both nutrition breaks. The flavours will be Light Butter and Salt, White Cheddar, and Dill Pickle. Cost is \$2.00. Profits from all sales will come back to the school to support student events and special initiatives that enhance programming at our school! No pre-orders are needed. Students will just make their purchases at the very beginning of each nutrition break. The popcorn is guaranteed Nut-free, Gluten Free, GMO Free and Pesticide Free. It is compliant with Nutrition Policy PPM 150 as a "sell most" food. The company "From Farm to Table Canada" is devoted to the promotion of locally grown foods. We are excited to try out this new "snack" option for our students as an enhancement to their lunches.

Mrs. C. E. MacKenzie

Principal





COMING IN JANUARY!

School Cash Online!

We will be rolling out a new and exciting way to pay for your child's school purchases in the new year. School Cash Online will allow you to do one-stop shopping for items like pizza, spirit wear and school trips!

This amazing program will take all of 5 minutes to register for and get yourself going. You will find it both easy and convenient.

More information to come this month!

January 28th

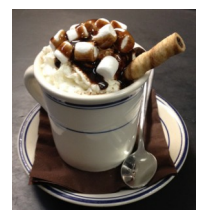
JK/SK 911

Presentation



P.A. DAY!

January 23, 2015



Heart and Stroke Corner – January 2015 Edition



Tip of the Month



As the height of winter is upon us we have to worry about our children's physical activity and spending too much time in front of a screen. "There is a demonstrable association between screen time and lack of physical activity and obesity. And if children are engaged in the screen, they are not engaged in society or the family," says pediatrician Dr. Glen Ward, member of the CPS Public Advisory committee. So how can we manage screen habits in a healthy way that works for everyone? A few tips from screen-savvy families: Keep bedrooms screen free. Keep a basket in the hall and by 8pm, all gadgets go in there. Make a plan together- get input from all family members how technology is used, time allotment, agreement that chores and homework need to be done. First, turn it off! Sounds simple but how often is the tv on during dinner or texting during a real conversation? By powering down, not only are you reducing screen time, you're setting an example with your own behavior. Consider the alternatives- if the screen is your kids' "go-to" downtime activity, give them other options. Consider playing a game of table hockey after dinner every night, or stocking the cupboard with crafts and crossword puzzles. "It starts with you," says Ward. "Turning on the TV is easier than sitting down and playing Scrabble. But are you really OK with the screen replacing one-on-one time with your child?"

POPCORN!

Sales start January 30th and will be sold every Friday after that!

3 flavours!

Light Butter & Salt!



White Cheddar!



Dill Pickle!

ONLY \$2.00 a bag!

LOST & FOUND



Please have your children check our Lost & Found at the Junior doors for those missing mittens and cozy hats that are much needed at this time of year! :)

Christmas Food Drive

We are so proud of our Mount Albion Students and Staff! We were able to donate a whopping 513 items to the Stoney Creek Food Bank!

Due to the generosity of all who donated, we are sure many families' Christmas was made brighter.

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.



In November Mr. Duffy`s class prepared Christmas mugs filled with candies to be sold at The Community Living Christmas Bazar in December. This was a great project for the class that involved sorting and packing. Mount Albion staff members generously donated the mugs. The proceeds from the sale when to the United Way.

Our class recently received a letter from Community Living thanking us for "making their Christmas Craft sale a success".

The class did such a great job on the mugs that we made some more for family and friends in December !

Life Skills in action!

ALL visitors and parents must report to the office upon entry to the school.

Visitor Passes will be issued there.



Me to We presents

SPIRIT DAY!



ACCESSORIES DAY!!!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14th



Wear all your fun and fancy accessories and show us your jazzy Mount Albion spirit! We want to see your funny hats, a zillion bracelets, sparkles, scarves, neck ties and bow-ties and anything else you can imagine to really accessorize the day. You are only limited by your imagination!

French Immersion Information Sessions

Families across the Hamilton are being invited to learn more about French Immersion as an option for their child.

Because every student is unique in their learning, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board staff strive to provide programs that help all students reach their full potential. French Immersion is one such program.

French Immersion is a proven way of acquiring excellent French language skills. At HWDSB, French Immersion is specifically designed for parents who do not speak French, but want their children to speak both official languages. The program is open to all students in Hamilton-Wentworth starting in Grade 1.

Families can attend an information session to learn about French Immersion as an option for their child:

Information Session for Westdale Family of French Immersion Schools (Cootes Paradise, Dundana, Earl Kitchener, Guy Brown)

* 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at Earl Kitchener (300 Dundurn St. S., Hamilton)

* 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at Dundana (23 Dundana Ave., Dundas)

Information Session for Sherwood Family of French Immersion Schools (A.M. Cunningham, Fessenden, Glen Echo, Lawfield, Michaëlle Jean, Norwood Park)

* 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at Lawfield (45 Berko Ave., Hamilton)

* 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday, January 26 at A.M. Cunningham (100 Wexford Ave. S., Hamilton)

Parents may choose to attend the location and date most convenient for them. If you can't attend an information session, you can learn more by contacting the principal at one of our French Immersion elementary schools, or by contacting the French as a Second Language (FSL) Consultant at 905-527-5092 ext. 2653 or crees@hwdsb.on.ca.

You can also learn about French Immersion and other programs for elementary students at hwdsb.on.ca/fi or by talking to your principal.

JANUARY 2015 WINTER

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|--------|--|--|--|--|-----|
| | | | | 1 NEW YEARS DAY PIZZA!  | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 (2) | 6 (3) | 7 (4)  | 8 (5) Pizza  | 9 (1) Hot Dog Day  | 10 |
| 11 | 12 (2) | 13 (3) | 14 (4)  ACCESSORIES SPIRIT DAY!  | 15 (5) School Council 6:30 pm  | 16 (1) | 17 |
| 18 | 19 (2) | 20 (3) | 21 (4)  | 22 (5) PIZZA  | 23 P.A. DAY | 24 |
| 25 | 26 (1) | 27 (2)  Family Literacy Day Parent & Child Crock-a-Doodle Event 6:00-7:30 | 28 (3)  JK/SK 911 Presentation  | 29 (4) PIZZA  | 30 (5) POPCORN DAY!  | 31 |