

Mutchmor Public School

Ottawa Carleton District School Board
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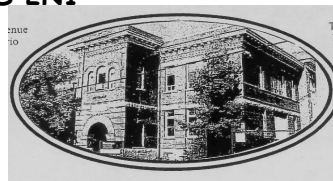
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OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Volume 3 , November 12, 2009



Principal's Message

October was a busy month and many wonderful events and opportunities for students and student learning took place. Students were involved in sports, choir, classroom presentations, assemblies, field trips and more. Our first term has ended and the first student report card will be issued on Monday, November 30th. Parent-Teacher Interviews will take place the evening of Thursday, December 3rd and the morning of Friday, December 4th. Additional information is included in this newsletter.

Our Remembrance Day assembly, held the morning of November 11th, recognized the many contributions made by men and women so that we may continue to live in freedom. The assembly was a wonderful tribute to their many efforts. We would like to thank our special guests, Captain Diane Kilby of the Armed Forces, who spoke to the students about the significance of Veterans' Week and Remembrance Day and the efforts of our Armed Forces members who are currently on active duty and Catriona Moggach, a student from Glebe Collegiate H. S., who played the Last Post and Reveille. Additionally, we would like to recognize the efforts of our student performers, the choir and our class representatives for their unique contributions to the assembly. A special thank you is extended to the organizer, Ms. Quart, and the behind the scenes people who all contributed to the success of the program: Mrs. Hodges, Mme Zylberstein, Mr Cook, Mr. Stonebridge, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Kooy-Roome and Mme Chloe.

We will be practicing the Lockdown and Secure School procedure with the students this month. The purpose for the practice, and the procedure to follow has been discussed with students by their classroom teachers. Our School Resource Officer, Constable Serge Berube, will be in the school for our practice on Tuesday, November 17th. More details regarding the procedure are included in this newsletter.

I look forward to meeting and speaking with parents during Parent-Teacher Interview times and at the upcoming Community Breakfast in early December.

Sherri Bonneville

Dates to Remember

Nov. 13- P.A. Day -
NO CLASSES

Nov. 13 -
Presentation - Dr.
Karen Rogers -large
gym @ 1:00 p.m.

Nov. 16 - P. A. Day -
NO CLASSES

Nov. 17 - Lockdown
procedure practice-
10:00 am

Nov. 23 - School
Council Meeting -
Library at 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 30 - First Term
Report Cards sent
home

Dec 3 - Evening
Parent-Teacher
Interviews - 4-8 pm

Dec 4 - Parent -
Teacher Interviews
(morning only) NO
CLASSES ALL DAY

Dec 10 - School
Council Family
Breakfast - 8:00 to
9:15 am

Emergency Evacuation

In the event of a prolonged evacuation of the school building, Mutchmor's evacuation site is Corpus Christi Catholic School across the street on Fourth Avenue.

We would hope that sufficient time would be provided for the school to notify the parents, via the school's Emergency Phone tree, prior to an evacuation. However, that may not be possible. In any event, parents will be notified following an evacuation about where and when to pick up their child(ren). Once again, accurate and up-to-date contact information is crucial in such an event.

Attendance

If your child is going to be absent please call the attendance line at 613-239-0535.

Students arriving after the 9:15 AM announcements must report to the office for a late slip before making their way to class.

Safety Precaution

It is important for students to remember to cross streets at a designated crosswalk and preferably one where a crossing guard is present.

Please remember the crossing guard is there to ensure your safety and you should listen to and follow their directions.

Please review these safety precautions with your children.

Dressing for the Weather

A reminder to parents to send your children to school appropriately dressed for the weather - coat, hat, mittens or gloves and boots if the weather is wet and/or cold. Students will be sent outside for recess on a daily basis unless there is

severe weather. Please ensure their time outside is pleasant and enjoyable by providing them with warm clothing.

Mutchmor's Choir is Up and Running

The Mutchmor Choir performed beautifully for our Remembrance Day Assembly. Students from grades 2-6 performed with sparkling voices. Congratulations to everyone.

If your child would like to join choir, they are welcome to do so in preparation for our Holiday Concert. Practices are on Tuesdays and Fridays at 11:45 recess.

Once Upon a Story Presentation

Mutchmor should be very proud of our storytellers. Thanks to the amazing skill of our storytellers last spring, they were invited by the Ottawa Storytellers to perform at their own festival "Once Upon a Story" at the National Archives this past Sunday, November 8th.

Our storytellers did an excellent job wowing the crowd with their professional storytelling skills and their excellent choices of stories.

Congratulations to Hannah, Maya, Nora, Maia, RainbeauxHarmony, Richard, Rachel and Anthony. A job well done!

Thanks also to Mrs. Hodges, Mrs. Bruce and Mr. Stonebridge for the time and effort they dedicated to this project.

Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Interviews

First term report cards for students in grades 1 - 6 will be sent home on Monday, November 30th. In the envelope with the report card, will also be an invitation to attend a Parent-Teacher Interview scheduled either on Thursday, December 3rd between 4:00 and 8:00 pm or Friday, December 4th between 9:15 and 11:30 am.

Individual classroom teachers will try, as much as possible, to arrange interview times for siblings in other classes in back-to-back time slots to assist you with scheduling and child care arrangements. However, please note this may not always be possible.

Due to the number of interviews which must be accommodated, changing interview times is highly improbable. If you are unable to attend the scheduled interview, the classroom teacher will initiate a phone interview. If this is the case, please ensure the phone number where you can be reached is on the return slip on the invitation.

As additional time for interviews is given to teachers of students in JK and SK, further details are included below.

Junior and Senior Kindergarten Interviews

Parent-Teacher Interviews for students in JK and SK will be conducted Thursday, December 4th from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Friday morning from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Mrs. Taylor will be sending home interview times with each student on Monday, November 30th.

Lego Robotics is Back at Mutchmor

Students in grades 5 and 6 were invited to take home a note last week about Lego Robotics Bootcamp with Mr. Ian Dudley. He will be providing bootcamps for experienced students and a beginner session for students interested in learning about robotics. Bootcamps are on Mondays and Wednesdays. If you would like information, please contact Kim Hodges at the school.

When Bootcamp ends, the Robotics Club will begin and we are excited to be hosting, in partnership with Mr. Dudley, our first Lego Robotics and Engineering

Challenge at the Glebe Community Centre on Sunday, Feb. 7. More information will be coming home soon for students interested in joining our Robotics Club.

REMINDER - PARENT RESOURCE LIBRARY AT MUTCHMOR

If you are looking for books about any of the following topics, you should consider borrowing from the new **Parent Resource Library** here at Mutchmor:

- Gifted Children
- How to help your child with homework, reading, math, writing, getting organized
- Communication between home and school
- Bullying
- Self-Esteem

If you wish to borrow a book from the Parent Resource Library, you can come to the school to browse or send an email or a note with your child (addressed to Connie Bruce in the library) indicating the area of interest. Any books you borrow will be signed out to your child and can be kept at home for about 3 weeks.

Drama Club

The drama club is looking for the donation of a bed frame and any Viking apparel you may have gathering cobwebs in your cupboards. Please be aware that these items will not be returned to you should you decide to donate. We thank you all in advance and can't wait to see you at the show in the spring.

Community Info

From time to time, the school is asked to distribute information about activities in the community that may be of interest to some parents/children - for example, summer camps, gymnastic clubs, sports groups, etc. This information is provided

for your consideration only and should not be viewed as an endorsement by the school or its staff of any particular organization.

Student Accident Insurance

Parents should be aware that the OCDSB does **not** provide accident insurance coverage in the event of student injuries that occur on school premises or during school activities. Unfortunately, despite all reasonable precautions being taken, accidents can and do continue to happen. Some injuries incur medical, dental or other expenses that are not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans. As a parent or guardian, you become responsible for these expenses. Student accident insurance is available, on a voluntary basis, through Reliable Life Insurance Company. Forms will be NOT be distributed to individual students, but can either be picked up from the school office or downloaded at www.binks.ca or you may apply online at www.insuremykids.com. If you have any questions, please call Binks Insurance Brokers at 613-226-1350.

Practice of Lockdown and Secure School Procedures

We continue working to improve our ability to deal with emergency situations and prepare our students to act in a manner that ensures their safety.

On Tuesday, November 17th, we are going to practice a safety procedure with the students that would be used in an emergency situation requiring the halls to be cleared quickly and for staff to be able to safely account for all students. All homeroom teachers have explained the purpose and procedure of this drill with their class, in an age-appropriate manner. Just as we practice fire drills, we will

practice this emergency Lockdown and Secure School Drill twice a year.

Such a procedure would be used if we needed to get medical staff to the aid of a student or staff member in a hurry, or to allow for the police department to move quickly and safely through the building without students in the halls. Please be assured that this is simply a preventative measure that we are practicing in order to be proactive in ensuring the safety of the children should such an emergency situation occur.

Girls' Soccer Update

The Mutchmor girls' soccer team had a very successful tournament October 14th, going all the way to finals where they lost to Hopewell in overtime. Despite freezing temperatures the girls were on fire with almost every member of the team scoring a goal. Congratulations to all the girls and special thanks to Mr. Aston for all his help.

Jr. Boys Soccer

The Mutchmor Jr. Boys' Soccer team participated at the Jr. Region 3 tournament on the chilly afternoon of Wednesday October 14th at Hornets Nest Fields in Gloucester. After round robin play with a record 2 ties and 2 losses, the team advanced to the quarterfinals against Manor Park P.S where they lost a hard fought match. The team played extremely well and proudly represented our school. Special thanks to all parent volunteers who cheered and supported the team. Congratulations to all participants on a great day of soccer. S. Bourassa, C. Cook

Junior Girls' and Boys' Volleyball Tryouts

The tryouts for the junior girls' and boys' volleyball teams are underway. Students

interested in trying out are encouraged to listen to the morning announcements for times and location of tryouts.

The teams will be selected shortly for participation in the regional volleyball tournament (Date TBD).

help with this project in any way, please contact us at greenmutchmor@gmail.com.

News from School Council

The School Council would like to announce a new greening project to improve the school environment for our children. This project focuses on the play yard which students in grades 3-6 use and is located behind Corpus Christi School. We plan to add more trees to the yard incorporate boulders to double as seating and borders, create stone dust paths and add mulch areas around existing trees. This project arose from the realization that over 50% of the yard's tree cover is Ash, which are trees highly susceptible to the Ash Borer Beetle that is present in Ottawa. Ash trees are expected to live only another 10-15 years, thus, we hope to increase the shade cover and seating areas available to the children, and to encourage them to learn about environmental stewardship by under planting the Ash trees, and decreasing the stresses on the existing trees due to compacted soil. This project depends upon us receiving funding from the City of Ottawa Community Tree Grant and other funding sources and we plan to fund raise for this project at the school as well. With help from the school board landscape designer, a plan for the upgrades has been drawn up and approved by the School Council. This plan will be posted on the school website in the near future. We are looking for volunteers to assist with the project, including: engaging students, identifying potential funding sources, fundraising, and sourcing low-cost landscaping supplies. If you can