

Mutchmor Public School

Ottawa Carleton District School Board
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OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Volume 8 , April 9, 2010



Principal's Message

Spring is here. Our schoolyards are dry, but the field can still be quite muddy, especially after heavy rains. On occasion, over the next few weeks, it may be necessary for the Junior students to remain in the West yard at recess and for the gr. 3 students to play in the East yard. This change will be communicated to students and staff prior to recess on a day by day basis. We still continue to encourage students to dress appropriately for outdoor recesses by wearing boots or outdoor shoes, lightweight jackets or raincoats. It is important to note that students will go outside for recesses on light rain days. To ensure their comfort both at recess and for the remainder of the day students should be properly outfitted for the weather.

The second term report cards will be sent home on Monday, April 12th. Due to a redistribution of Professional Activity Days, there will not be a dedicated day for Parent-Teacher Interviews, this term. The exception being the students in Senior Kindergarten, some of whom will have an interview scheduled upon Mrs. Taylor's return in early May. As always, should you wish to speak to your child's teacher about his or her progress, please contact the teacher to arrange either a face to face interview or a phone interview.

To show our appreciation for all of the many parent and community volunteers who give of their time and effort in support of the students, Mutchmor's staff will be hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on Thursday, April 29th from 8:15 to 9:15 in the large gym. Teachers are putting together their list of invitees and the invitations will be sent out on April 15th. We ask that volunteers RSVP by April 21st so we may confirm our numbers and finalize the details. This is a small gesture on our part to thank you for all of your dedication. We look forward to meeting with you on that day.

Sherri Bonneville

Dates to Remember

April 12 - Report cards sent home.

April 21 - Earth Day Assembly - morning

April 22 - Jump-a-thon Fundraiser for Greening (all day)

April 26 - School Council Meeting - 7:00 pm in Computer Lab

April 29 - Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast - 8:15-9:15

May 3-7 - Education Week

May 3 - In-school Storytelling event

May 13 - Storytelling Event at GCC (afternoon)

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.

Students Not Returning to Mutchmor PS

If you know that your child will not be returning to Mutchmor Public School for the 2010-2011 school year, please advise the office as soon as possible. This will assist us in our planning and organization for next year.

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 and muddy conditions of the school yard - lightweight coat, rain pants and rubber boots. Sending in a change of socks would also be beneficial. 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 appropriate clothing.



Emergency Dental Care for Children

Children in Need of Treatment, (CINOT) is a provincial dental program that provides emergency dental care to low-income children from birth to 17 years of age. Dental care is an important component in overall health. This program ensures that no child goes without essential emergency dental care because their family can't pay for services.

Children receive dental screenings at school by Ottawa Public Health Dental Hygienists and can access the CINOT program if they are experiencing a dental problem causing pain, infection, or bleeding from an accident, tooth decay or gum disease; and have no dental insurance and the cost of treatment would result in a financial hardship for their family.

Ottawa has three public health dental clinics in the west, south and downtown

areas of the city that can provide screening and treatment.

For more information and a list of dental clinics go to ottawa.ca/health or call Ottawa Public Health at 613-580-6744 to speak with a public health nurse.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR A BIG SUCCESS

Thanks to all who visited and supported the Scholastic Book Fair on March 31st and April 1st. With the profits from the sale, we will buy over \$2,000 in new books for the library at Mutchmor. Your support of this event is greatly appreciated.

Awesome Authors at Mutchmor

Four students from Mutchmor received cash prizes for their amazing stories and poems on March 31st, at the Awesome Authors ceremony.

Awesome Authors is a competition for writers ages 9-17. It is held every year by Friends of The Ottawa Public Library, and in past years other authors from Mutchmor have won prizes.

This year, James and I - students from Mme Z's class -entered the Awesome Authors 2010 competition. We were introduced to this competition by Mrs. Hodges who was very helpful last year in getting us involved.

James and I were happy and relieved to have won. By the end of the night, the stress was killing us. I enjoyed showing off my prize and gloating to my new fans, while James just seemed somewhat stunned. We really enjoyed the ceremony, and it would have been fun even if we hadn't won.

Two students from Mrs. Hodges class also won honourable mentions: Miranda and Eileen.

I love writing! The pleasure of winning doesn't come from gloating, or the prize money or having fun at the ceremony. The true pleasure comes from going to the book launch of the Pot-Pourri - the book of all the winning stories and poems - and, of course, getting to store a dozen chocolate cookies from the spread in your pockets for later. Life is good, life is very good...

by Sacha from Mme Z's class

News from School Council

Mutchmor School Council is hosting a student Jump-a-thon on Earth Day, Thursday, April 22. Our goal for the Jump-a-thon is to raise \$12,000 for an outdoor classroom for our children to use and enjoy! A letter to parents and the pledge form should have come home with students at the end of last week. This information can also be found on the school council website www.mutchmorpsc.ca. Please encourage and support your child to get pledges to support our School Council Fundraiser. More volunteers are needed on April 22nd. We need helpers to supervise the various stations including regular skipping, Chinese jump rope, Philippine stick jumping, hula hoops, and limbo. E-mail mutchmorpscouncil@gmail.com to volunteer. To assist in preparation and managing our 'Healthy Canteen' please contact Mel Vaz at fil-mel@rogers.com.

The Greening Project outdoor classroom will be located in the Mutchmor Field (between Third and Fourth Avenues), and will feature a circle of boulders beneath a grouping of trees to create a shaded outdoor learning environment. Of the proceeds from this Jump-a-thon, 90% will go to the outdoor classroom with the remaining portion being directed to school needs as determined by staff and school council.

Thank you to all who took the time to complete the survey on the Future of Mutchmor! The results have been compiled and analyzed and the resulting report can be found on the Mutchmor School Council website at the link below. The results are being used in discussions with the Board on the future direction of the school and in response to questions regarding an upcoming accommodation review for this area. Please stay tuned for more information. Meanwhile, if you have comments or questions, please contact Barbara Massey barbarajmassey@gmail.com or Cindy Kirk

cinkirk@gmail.com.
http://www.mutchmorpsc.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18:survey&catid=31:surv

As the school year enters the final term, School Council is looking ahead to next year already. We always welcome newcomers and will have a few positions on council to fill as parent volunteers move on to new roles. Upcoming dates for council meetings are Monday, April 26 and May 31 at 7pm in the computer lab. Nominees for OCDSB Zone 9 School Trustee will be invited to these upcoming meetings.

Spring is here and our gardens are sprouting new life. Lynn Armstrong and Anne Marie Korba maintain and nurture our flower gardens. Their children have graduated from Mutchmor but they lovingly continue to tend the flower gardens. They would welcome any helping hands with these gardens! Contact mutchmorpscouncil@gmail.com to assist with the gardening.