

Mutchmor Public School

Ottawa Carleton District School Board
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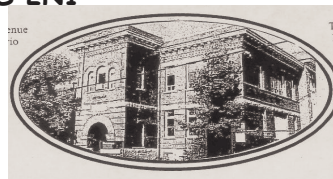
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OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

October 8, 2010



Principal's Message

We have had a wonderful first month of school. It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving is already upon us and Halloween is just around the corner. It was nice to see so many people at our Meet the Teacher Night, last month. I would like to thank the teachers for welcoming parents into the school and into their classrooms and Mrs. Williams, Past Chair of School Council and Barbara Massey current Co-Chair for their presentations on behalf of the School Council.

There are many opportunities to get involved at Mutchmor P. S. Some students in grades 3-6 competed on October 7th in the X-Country Meet at Mooney's Bay; intra-mural soccer for boys in grades 5 and 6 is underway, and Drama Club and Auditions have also started. Lunch time activities such as: Learn to Play Squirrmies, Yoga, Chess and Dance have all started; Stamp Club is also back for another year; Sportscan Active Start program will begin next week.

Individual Student Reports for last spring's EQAO assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics have been sent home with students, who were involved in the assessments. If you are interested in more information, please visit the EQAO website at www.eqao.ca. School, board and provincial results are also available on the same website.

As mentioned at the Meet the Teacher evening, the province has put forth changes to student reporting. Starting this year, the school year has been divided into two terms (Sept - mid-January, mid-January to June). Students will receive a Progress Report at the beginning of November, focusing on Learning Skills and student work habits and how they are progressing toward meeting the curricular expectations for first term. Parents will then have the opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss their child's progress prior to the issuing of the first term report card. The first term report card will be issued February 2nd and the second term report card on June 29th. More information will be sent home shortly regarding these changes. Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or direct your questions to me.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend.
Sherri Bonneville

Dates to

Remember

Oct. 11 -
Thanksgiving - NO
CLASSES

Oct. 12 - Earth
Rangers Assemblies
(Primary 10:30,
Junior 12:15)

Oct. 15 -19 - IEPs
sent home for
parental consultation

Oct 30 - Primary
Halloween Activities
(morning)

Nov. 4 - Progress
Report sent home

Nov. 11 -
Remembrance Day
Assembly - 10:30
a.m.

Nov 11 - 12 -
Parental
Consultations
(formerly Parent-
Teacher Interviews)

Nov 12 - P. A. Day -
Consultation with
parents - NO
CLASSES

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.

Student Verification Documents

A Student Verification Document has been sent home with every student. Please review this document and, if there are any changes, please make the corrections directly on the document (preferably in red ink), sign and return the document to the school as soon as possible.

We would ask that all Student Verification Documents be signed and returned to the school whether there are changes or not. This will allow the Office staff to better track changes. Thank you for helping us to ensure the safety of our students.

Attendance

If your child is going to be absent please call the attendance line at 613-239-0535. If the absence is due to illness, please specify if any of the following symptoms are present: diarrhea, vomiting, cough and / or fever. The Health Department is asking us to report respiratory and enteric outbreaks in our schools and in specific classes, as

well. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

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

Busing Information for 2010-2011

We continue to work with OSTA, Ottawa Student Transportation Authority to finalize busing for our students. You can access their website at www.ottawaschoolbus.ca or can reach them by phone at 613-224-8800 should you have any questions or concerns regarding busing for your child.

OSTA has also set up a new system whereby parents can also go on-line and review the "bus delay" information from the OSTA website. This new system is meant to provide you with the status of the bus routes servicing your school and alert you to any buses that may be delayed due to traffic conditions, weather delays, mechanical breakdowns, etc. (occasional delays).

Individual Student Results - EQAO

Individual Student Results (ISR) for students who completed the EQAO assessment last year, have been sent home with students. Former grade 6 students and those grade 3 students, who have left the school, have had their ISR sent to their new schools.

Information regarding our students' performance against the overall board and provincial standings is available on the EQAO website at www.eqao.com.

Mutchmor Exceeds Terry Fox Fundraising Goal

Students and families raised \$2,175.41 for the Terry Fox Foundation during the week-long celebration of Terry Fox's life. Despite pouring rain, students participated in the national school run event. The run was moved into the school and students ran through two gyms and the downstairs hallway, as the rain pelted the field and windows. But like the postmen poem of long ago "Neither rain nor hail nor sleet nor snow..." would stop our run. Thank you for everyone's flexibility and fun-loving spirit for the quick, yet required, change in plans from outdoors to indoors.

Halloween Activities

On Friday, October 29th, the primary students will participate in numerous activities in the morning that involve rotating from class to class, where a different activity (craft, drama activity etc.) will be set up. In the afternoon, primary students will participate in individual activities that are organized by their homeroom teacher. It will be a fun day!

No division-wide activity has been planned for the junior students. Individual classes may have activities planned and this information will be communicated to parents by the individual classroom teacher.

Choir is Coming Soon!

If you are in grades 2-6 and you like to sing, please consider joining our Mutchmor Choir. Practices will be at 11:45 on Tuesdays and some Thursdays starting next week. Our first concert will be at our Remembrance Day assembly in November. We hope to see lots of happy faces next Tuesday.

Health Habits for Learning



Consider the following family routine tips:

- **Healthy eating.** Prepare healthy meals. Try to include at least 3 or 4 food groups each meal from Canada's Food Guide. A growing brain will work at its best with good fuel.
- **Regular exercise.** Activities and sports can focus thinking and let out stress. 90 minutes of exercise is suggested each day.
- **Sleep.** A growing body needs nine to eleven hours of sleep each night.
- **Hygiene.** Daily baths or showers will reduce body odour.
- **Health check-up.** Bring your child for a yearly health check-up. Ask for your child's hearing and vision to be tested. Be sure your child's vaccines are up to date.
- **Dental care.** Bring your child for a yearly dental check-up. Brush teeth two times a day for two minutes.

Tricks, Treats, and Cavities



Children love candy. Sugary treats can lead to plaque which causes cavities. Plaque is a blend of sugar and germs found in the mouth. It harms the hard layer of your teeth.

Simple steps to avoid cavities:

- Give treats after a meal when more spit flows to wash food away.
- Avoid hard candies. They remain in the mouth for a long time. They can also injure fillings and braces.
- Avoid sticky candies. They stick to the teeth.
- Help your child brush and floss after treats. Do not wait until bedtime.
- Do not offer candies as a snack. Try cheese, fruits, and veggies instead.

Please watch your child's sugar intake and visit your dentist often.

If you would like more information, go to Ottawa.ca/health or call Ottawa Public Health at 613-580-6744.

NEWS FROM SCHOOL COUNCIL

Ongoing Fundraisers:

- **QSP Magazine Subscription fundraiser – Oct 5 – Oct 22. Our School Code: 10776**

Your child received an information sheet and a catalogue on October 5th. Buying and renewing subscriptions is an easy way to donate to Mutchmor.

- **Mutchmor Spirit Wear – orders & payment due Oct 13**

Order forms have already been sent home and a colour pamphlet of the clothing is on our website at www.mutchmorsc.ca. Please return orders by Oct 13.

Later this fall we also hope to sell organic fair trade coffee beans - keep an eye out for our 'Kicking Horse Coffee' campaign in November.

Trustee All Candidates Meeting – Tues Oct 12 @ 7pm at Hopewell Public School

Elections for School Trustees will be taking place on October 25, 2010 as part of the municipal elections. There will be an all candidates meeting for those persons running for the position of Zone 9 Trustee in the Hopewell Public School gym at 7pm. School Trustees are your representative at the School Board. Come out, be informed of your choices and please vote!!

Community Consultation on Local School Accommodation Issues – Thurs Nov 4 @ 7pm

There will be an **important** community consultation at the Glebe Community Centre, 175 Third Avenue, on Thursday November 4, from 7:00-9:30pm. Mutchmor's future may be affected by these discussions! We hope you will participate and consider the impacts upon English programming in this area.

Topics for discussion will include: How should we address overcrowding at some of our local schools? What programs do we want to have and where should they be located? What grade configurations make sense for our schools?

This event is hosted by the GCA Education Committee with the participation and support of OCDSB staff members and representatives from local schools including Mutchmor, First Avenue, Glashan, Hopewell and possibly others.

Come out and have your say!

Volunteer Spotlight – Margo Williams

Volunteers add energy and life to our school community and enrich our children's educational experience. Mutchmor School Council would like to thank this year's outgoing Chair, Margo Williams, for her dedication, energy, enthusiasm and the hours upon hours of time she has donated for council, school fundraisers, milk, pizza, sports, spiritwear and the many other programs and events she has supported over the past 6 years. Our school is lucky to have volunteers like Margo who help make our school what it is - a community! Thanks Margo!! We are also very happy to have Margo back on council this year in the position of Past-Chair and Fundraising Coordinator.

Next Council Meeting – Mon Oct 25 @ 7pm

The next meeting of School Council will be Monday, October 25th at 7pm in the computer lab. All are welcome! We will be discussing how to spend our funds for this year.

In the past, our fundraising has supported many important initiatives all designed to improve the quality of the school for our children. Last year, council directed funds towards the following:

- the Greening Project – 18 new trees were planted and an outdoor door classroom and rock seating was added;
- furthering the Arts - several theatre and music groups were engaged to entertain the students;
- supporting a guest speaker to address parents and teachers on the subject of gifted education programming;
- new books for the School Library;
- multi-media Elmo carts for use by the teachers in the classroom;
- Scrabble sets for the Scrabble club;
- a table top scoreboard for the gym;
- the installation of new bike racks;
- much needed fans for use in the classrooms during heat waves; and
- other area schools' fundraising efforts.

Thank you for all the help and support you have provided in the past and we hope that the parents in our school community will continue to support our fundraising efforts.

If you have an idea for a fundraiser or are willing to help out in some way, please do not hesitate to contact school council at mutchmorscouncil@gmail.com

School Council Website

Check out Council's website for order forms and more information at www.mutchmorsc.ca