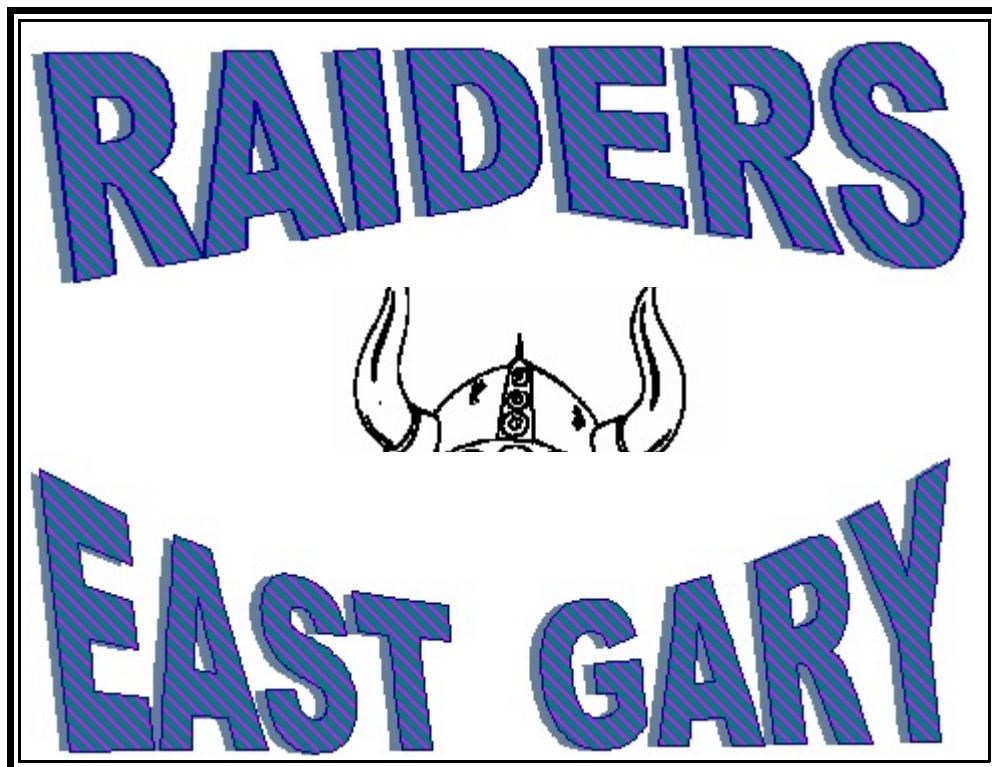


***EAST GARAFRAXA TOWNSHIP
CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL***

***STUDENT AND PARENT
HANDBOOK
2009-2010***



RR # 3
ORTON, ON
L0N 1N0
(519) 855-4484
(519) 855-6220
www.ugdsb.on.ca/EastGarafraxa/



THE UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Mission Statement

The Upper Grand District School Board subscribes to a philosophy of education that embraces the intellectual, physical, social, spiritual, moral and cultural fulfillment of the individual. To this end, our schools share responsibilities with the home and those agencies within the community who seek to meet the cultural and social needs of people.

The basic aim of education, therefore, is to provide for the individual to grow in knowledge, to seek truth, to assess values, and to develop physically to find his/her place as a happy and productive member of society.

All children in the Upper Grand District School Board have the right to the best education available. This means that they are entitled to access the education and training facilities for which their talents qualify them and that no condition of race, religion, language or background shall be allowed to impede their progress to full citizenship. Schools are dedicated to providing , within the limit of its financial resources, an opportunity for each individual to be educated to the limit of their ability.

EAST GARAFRAXA SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

At East Garafraxa, staff, students and parents are partners promoting confident and competent learners who are preparing for our changing world. We want our students to demonstrate characteristics of a good citizen and we believe in the following values:

VALUES WHICH SUPPORT LEARNING

- ◆ **Maintain high standards in academic, physical, social and emotional aspects of life**
- ◆ **Communicate effectively**
- ◆ **Think critically and problem solve**
- ◆ **Show respect for self and others**
- ◆ **Demonstrate competency in literacy and numeracy**
- ◆ **Value and protect the natural environment**
- ◆ **Possess technical knowledge and be accepting of technical change**

EAST GARAFRAXA CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL
Staff List 2009-2010

Principal: Mr. W. Vander Vaart **Voice Mail Ext. 223**
Secretaries: Mrs. Susan Chambers **Voice Mail Ext. 0**

Phone # (519)855-4484 **Fax: (519) 855-6888**
Custodians: Sharon and Hans Bigler, Gord Kerr, Patti Beaton

Grade	Name	Location	Voice Mail
Kindergarten	Deb Foster	Room 2	302
	Jackie Speers	Room 1	325
Grade 1	Ev Zietsma	Room 3	327
Grade 1/2	LeeAnn Hewitt	Room 4	304
Grade 2	Jenn Little	Room 5	301
Grade 2	Debi Stephenson	Room 6	322
Grade 3	Holly Keizer	Portable 2	306
Grade 3	Christine Turnbull	Portable 3	315
Grade 4	Joyce Turek	Portable 5	318
Grade 4/5	Andrea Mooy	Portable 6	313
Grade 5	Jennifer Schryer	Portable 8	307
Grade 6	Colleen Hunter	Portable 9	319
Grade 6/7	Paul Panagiotou	Room 7	323
Grade 7/8	Shane Mead	Room 8	311
Special Education	Barb Tomkins	Portable 1	316
	Donna Armstrong	Portable 1	309
Planning	Sandra McLarnon	Portable 1	305
	Krista Bradley	Portable 1	308
	Alison Steeves		320
Teacher Librarian	Alison Steeves	Library	320
Core French	LouAnn Price	Room 9	314
Child and Youth Worker	Tamara Zappia	Office	303
Education Assistants	Alison Moutrey		321
	Stephanie Prentice		330
	Helena Woodland		310

CONTACTING STAFF

If you wish to speak to or meet with a teacher, please call the school office at 519-855-4484 or if it is long distance 1-800-552-5045. You can be connected to their voice mail extensions. If your call is urgent in nature, please inform the secretary. Please do not go directly to a classroom. This is a safety issue for our students.

WELCOME

A K-8 public school, the East Garafraxa School community welcomes you to an excellent place to learn and grow. We work hard at maintaining our reputation as a caring, friendly and family oriented school.

Built in 1965, East Garafraxa Public School was originally intended to house approximately 200 students from the immediate geographic area. A new Library was added in 1995. Presently, East Garafraxa Public School has a population approximately 360 bussed students serving the south-west side of Orangeville and the surrounding areas.

The Staff is proud of our students' accomplishments and of their classroom programs. We are pleased that you are joining our East Garafraxa family.

BOARD PERSONNEL

Director of Education	Martha Rogers
Superintendent of Education (Dufferin Family of Schools)	Rosemary Fyfe
Superintendent of Program	Heather Boswell
Trustee for East Garafraxa Public School	Dan Best 822-4420 ex 862
	Bob Borden 822-4420 ex 735
Wellington-Dufferin Student Transportation Services	519-824-4119 or 888-292-2224
	Website: www.stwdsts.ca
Davison Bus Lines Ltd. Grand Valley	519- 928-2188
First Student	519-941-2582
Stock Bus Lines	866-250-4316

The Upper Grand District Board	(519) 822-4420
Main Administrative Office	(800) 321-4025
500 Victoria Road North	www.ugdsb.on.ca
N1E 6K2	

The Upper Grand District Board	(519) 941-6191
Program/Special Services Office	
40 Amelia Street	
Orangeville, ON	
L9W 3T8	

USEFUL WEBSITES/PHONE NUMBERS-SPECIAL EDUCATION

Ontario Ministry of Education	- www.edu.gov.on.ca
Dufferin Child and Family Services	- www.dcafs.on.ca
Kids Help Phone	- 1-800-668-6868
Dufferin Support Network	- 519-925-9574
Wellington Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit	- 1-800-265-7293

SCHOOL SPIRIT

The East Garafraxa School mascot is a RAIDER which is a Norse helmet, and our school colours are BLUE and RED.

Students are encouraged to wear our school colours on special spirit days. Theme days are also promoted throughout the school year as a means of encouraging school spirit (e.g. crazy hair day, backwards day). Please check student's daily agenda for details.

SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

The school year calendar is distributed each September. This calendar highlights Professional Activity Days and Holidays.

SCHOOL HOURS

8:25 a.m.	Yard Supervision Begins
8:45 a.m.	Entrance and Instructions - Bell Rings
8:45 - 9:25 a.m.	Period 1
9:25 - 10:05 a.m.	Period 2
10:05 - 10:45 a.m.	Period 3
10:40 a.m.	Opening Announcements
10:45 - 11:05 a.m.	Nutrition Break (eating portion)
11:05 - 11:30 a.m.	Outdoor Play
11:30 - 12:10 p.m.	Period 4
12:10 - 12:50 p.m.	Period 5
12:50 - 1:10 p.m.	Period 6
1:10 - 1:30 p.m.	Nutrition Break (eating portion)
1:30 - 1:55 p.m.	Outdoor Play
1:55 - 2:35 p.m.	Period 7
2:35 - 3:15 p.m.	Period 8
3:15 p.m.	Dismissal
3:20 - 3:30 p.m.	Bus Loading

OFFICE HOURS

Our office hours are from 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday to Friday.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

What is it about? The purpose of School Council is to work cooperatively with the school administration, teaching staff and parent community to improve the school environment, enhance student growth and advise the principal about issues related to school. Council meetings are an excellent source of information about your children's education. Relevant discussion forums transpire with open communication. Meetings are an opportunity to get to know school staff and to connect with other families. Babysitting is free.

Just for you! School Council strives to keep school families informed and distributes a detailed newsletter with updates on events and activities, on a regular basis. By adding your name to the Council *E-Mail* list you will be provided with Council newsletters, meeting agendas, opportunities to help out and other school-related news and information. Please contact Trisha Joaquin *dd_trisha@yahoo.ca*

Volunteering is another valuable way to get involved. Many Council activities depend on extra help and every contribution is important. Watch for opportunities to offer your support in upcoming Council newsletters.

Visit our website:

<http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/eastgarafraxa/schoolcouncil.htm>

Please contact the school if you would like additional information about our School Council.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all” Aristotle

There are a number of universal attributes that schools and communities value. Character Education development is the deliberate effort to nurture these common attributes and use them as a standard against which we hold ourselves accountable. They are the key elements of school life. They bind us together and form the basis of responsible citizenship. They are the foundation for excellence and equity in education and for school communities that are respectful, safe, caring and inclusive. A quality education includes the education of the heart as well as the mind. It means preparing students to be citizens who have empathy and respect for others and who will think critically, feel deeply and act wisely. Character development enhances employability skills, encourages civic engagement and prepares students to be contributing citizens in our increasingly global society.

Here at East Gary, we use RAIDERS positive character traits, to remind students to be Respectful, have a positive Attitude, have Integrity, be Dependable, strive for Excellence, take Responsibility for your actions and practice Self-Discipline.

Character Education aims to develop schools that are respectful, caring and safe for all students and adults.

“When schools flourish, all flourish” Martin Luther

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

When your child is absent or is going to be absent please call 519-855-4484 or leave a message on the school general voice mail box "0". (Please leave your child's name, teacher's name, reason and length of absence). If it is long distance for you to call the school, e.g. Belwood, Fergus, Grand Valley please call 1-800-552-5045.

LATE ARRIVALS

If your child is late for school, please notify the school. Upon arrival all students must report to the office with an adult so that he/she may be "signed-in" and "signed-on" the bus. Please send a note to your child's teacher if you are aware of this before hand, this is helpful when taking attendance. This note can be written in the student's agenda.

LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY

If your child must leave school at any time during the day, an adult must report to the office to sign the child "OUT" of school and "OFF" the bus. Should a child return within the same day, an adult must report to the office to sign the child "IN" to school and "ON" the bus. Please send a note to your child's teacher if you are aware of this before hand, this is helpful when taking attendance and for bussing at the end of the day. Please send a note to your child's teacher when ever possible.

VISITOR POLICY/VOLUNTEERS

Parents are always welcome, however, please respect the teacher's job to teach and the student's job to learn. For many students it takes very little to disrupt a learning opportunity. All visitors/volunteers are requested to report to the school office upon arrival. Please use the office counter binder to sign yourself "IN" and "OUT" of the school. During your stay at the school please wear the red visitor badges provided at the office. All visitors are asked to wait for students at the main office or in the foyer. For the safety of our students, please DO NOT proceed to classrooms to pick up a child.

Parent volunteers are an important part of our school. Volunteers assist teachers by working with small groups of students, helping with photocopying, assisting in the library and much more. Some parents volunteer on a regular basis while other parents bring their expertise and skills to assist with specific units of study. If you wish to become a volunteer please contact your child's teacher or the school office at 519-855-4484.

As part of the entry process for new volunteers, we ask that you complete the "Volunteer Information Application" form available in our office and read carefully and comply with the following statement:

Protection of Privacy Statement for Volunteers

The Volunteer's role in the school is one of partnership with the employees of the Upper Grand District School Board. In this capacity, it is understood that the volunteer will follow the terms and conditions relating to security and confidentiality of person information according to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 89.

Pursuant to Board Policy #205, it is understood that the volunteer will work under the direction of an appropriate staff member and be privy only to that information that is necessary for working effectively with a student(s) and/or for the purpose of performing the task assigned; e.g. office/clerical.

Some of the areas to volunteer include: School Council member, School Council Committees, helper in classrooms, reading buddy to encourage young readers, in our library assisting with book inventory and sign-out procedures, computer lab assistant, supervisor on field trips, and many other activities that arise throughout the busy year. Additional opportunities for parent involvement will be described in our monthly newsletters.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

In the event of severe inclement weather, East Garafraxa Public School will be **CLOSED**. Please do not bring or send your child to school. When students have traveled to school on the bus and should the weather change during the course of the day, they will continue to travel home on the bus at their regularly scheduled time.

***** THERE IS NO EARLY DISMISSAL FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER ***.**

We now have updated information on the Board's website (www.ugdsb.on.ca) and/or, please listen to any of the following radio stations: 1460 AM CJOY, 106.1 Magic FM, 99.1 FM CBC, News talk 570 AM, 96.7 FM CHYM, 98.1 FM CHFI, 680 AM CFTR, and A Channel or CKCK-TV television station for up to date information. Please note that you may also call the school number and listen to the message on the **INCLEMENT WEATHER MAILBOX (#605) starting at 6:30am.**

PARKING

Parking is available in the lot at the front of the school only. Space is also available for handicapped parking. You are asked to please refrain from driving your vehicle onto or out of the lot until bus dismissal is complete. i.e. 3:00 – 3:40 p.m. If you must pick-up your child between 3:00 p.m. and 3:40 p.m., please use County Road # 3. Please do not drive your vehicle into the portable area of the school at any time before, during or after the school day. Thanks for keeping all children safe!

TRANSPORTATION

Please know your child's bus number. It is not necessary to contact the bus lines. if your child is going to be absent from school.

Students are NOT allowed to change buses except in exceptional circumstances or in an emergency. A written request must be forwarded to the Principal for approval.

Students may change stops on the same bus route. Parents/guardians must provide the office with written permission.

The bus is an extension of the school. The same Upper Grand District School Board policies and rules apply to both.

EAST GARAFRAXA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BUS STUDENTS

- 1. Follow the directions of your driver. Be courteous and respectful at all times.**
- 2. Listen to your bus patrol.**
- 3. Be at your bus stop 5 minutes before your pick-up time. Ride only assigned bus.**
- 4. Stay seated while the bus is in motion. Last seats empty if possible.**
- 5. Leave windows closed unless driver gives permission to open them. Keep arms and head inside the bus at all times.**
- 6. No smoking, eating, chewing gum, or swearing.**
- 7. Keep books, lunch boxes, and other bulky items on your lap.**
- 8. Pick up and discharge at designated stops only.**
- 9. Vandalism is a Criminal Offence and will be treated as such. Be responsible for other improper behaviour.**
- 10. Whenever possible, leave the last row of seats vacant.**
- 11. Personal radios, CDs and MP3 players with ear phones may be used on the bus.**
- 12. Personal radios, CDs and MP3 players with speakers may NOT be used on the bus.**

Consequences

- First incident: Driver warns student.**
- Second incident: Student is assigned a designated seat.**
- Third incident: Principal is notified**
- Further incidents: Principal notifies parents.
Bus privileges may be suspended.**
- Serious incident: Suspension of bus privileges.**

A student must be aware that serious or repeated misconduct will be recorded and that the report may be placed in the Ontario Student Record folder. A student must also be aware that such conduct may result in the loss of the provision of transportation. Bus transportation is a privilege not a right.

Loading Procedures

- a) **Arrive at the bus stop five (5) minutes before pick-up time.**
- b) **Stand well away from the road until the bus is stopped.**
- c) **Line up in a single file, and when the bus is stopped, board the bus in an orderly fashion using the handrail.**
- d) **If it is necessary to cross the road to board the bus, wait for the driver's direction before crossing and stay at least five (5) to eight (8) paces in front of the bus when crossing.**

Unloading Procedures

- a) **Stay in the seat until the bus comes to a stop.**
- b) **Leave the bus in an orderly fashion, using the handrail.**
- c) **If his/her lane way is directly beside the door of the bus, continue up the lane.**
- d) **If it is necessary to walk to his/her lane way, remain at the stop, a safe distance from the bus (three (3) paces) until the bus has departed.**
- e) **If it is necessary to cross the road, line up in single file, and when everyone is lined up, cross under the direction of the driver, and stay at least five (5) to eight (8) paces in front of the bus when crossing**

SCHOOL RECORDS

Accurate school records are extremely important to the health and welfare of our students.

Changes in telephone numbers (home, workplace, babysitters), addresses, emergency contacts etc. need to be reported to the school secretary so that our records are accurate and current.

When a child registers in Kindergarten, the school initiates an Ontario Student Record Folder (O.S.R.). This folder stays with your child until the end of his/her secondary school education. The O.S.R. is a record of a student's educational progress through schools in Ontario.

Parents may examine their child's Ontario Student Record Folder (O.S.R.) or any of their child's records by appointment with the Principal.

STUDENT ILLNESS

Parents are asked to make alternate arrangements for students who are too ill to participate in a full day at school. Should your child become ill at school, the office will contact you or your emergency contact. Please ensure that your child has a place to go if he/she becomes ill.

SPECIAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Please advise your child's teacher and the school office if your child has a special health concern e.g. allergies, asthma, diabetes or ANY condition requiring medication. While East Garafraxa is not a peanut free school, classes in which students have food allergies are prohibited from having peanut products in the classroom. We do try and limit peanut products on school property and attempt to be have a peanut safe environment.

MEDICATION

ALL student medication MUST be kept at the office (e.g. pills, inhalers etc.). For the administration of prescription medication by school personnel, parents must provide the school with a signed Consent for Administration of Oral Medication form. For the administration of non-prescription medication, a written note of permission is also required from a parent.

INJURY AT SCHOOL

When an injury appears to be serious, the Principal or designate may take the child to a hospital, or call an ambulance. In all cases, we will do our best to contact you or the emergency contact person you have indicated so someone can meet the student at the hospital. Please ensure that your emergency and work numbers are current.

PEDICULOSIS/HEAD LICE/NITS

Head Lice is considered a health "nuisance" and poses no threat to your child's health. However, children who have contacted head lice cannot remain at school. Nits need to be removed manually. Children returning to school after being treated for pediculosis are asked to check in with the office before returning to class. A 50% vinegar and 50% mineral oil solution is a proven non-chemical means of ridding your child of head lice. If this does not work you could contact a local health products store for suggestions for non-chemical treatments. (Tea Tree Oil, Oil of Oregano solutions)

HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES

During the school year, it is sometimes necessary to contact parents to come for their child because of illness. If your child is ill before leaving for school in the morning, careful thought should be taken in keeping the child home in the hopes he/she will be better during the day and protect the health of other children.

With regards to communicable diseases, the Public Health Act gives the authority to the Principal to exclude children from school who are suffering from communicable diseases. The school may request that the parents take their child to the family physician should any of the following communicable diseases be suspected: PINK EYE, TRENCH MOUTH, RINGWORM, HEAD LICE.

Below are the periods of exclusion for the following diseases:

Read Measles	- 5 days from appearance of rash
German Measles	- 5 days from appearance of rash
Mumps	- until swelling has disappeared or 9 days from onset of swelling
Chicken pox	- at least 7 days or until all scales have disappeared
Scarlet Fever	- 24 hours after prescription with effective antibiotic instituted
Epidemic Strep/Sore Throat	
Infectious Hepatitis	- for the first two weeks of illness and one week after onset of jaundice
Whooping Cough	- three weeks from onset or one week after treatment
Pink Eye	- three weeks from onset or one week after treatment
Ring Worm	- until under treatment and no purulent discharge present
Scabies	- until family treated adequately
Head Lice	- until treatment with special shampoo
Impetigo	- same as Scarlet Fever and other strep infections

DISCIPLINE

Maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment is essential to the intellectual growth and development of our students.

Students, Staff and Visitors are expected to:

- 1. act and speak in such a way that enhances the learning process;**
- 2. act and speak in such a way that physically or emotionally encourages another person;**
- 3. act or speak in such a way that is respectful of persons and property.**

Our school staff enforces and upholds the existing East Garafraxa Public School Code of Behaviour as well as the Upper Grand District School Board Code of Conduct (Policy #213) which applies to students, staff, parents/guardians, and volunteers whether they are on school property or on a school field trip or that may have a negative impact on the school climate. As of February 1, 2008, the Safe and Inclusive School (Bill 212) and the Ontario Code of Conduct are in effect in all schools in the Province.

SMOKING

In accordance with Upper Grand District School Board policy, there is no smoking in East Garafraxa School or on East Garafraxa School property. Violation of this Policy could result in a report being filed and directed to the Public Health Office.

DRESS CODE

It is the policy of the Upper Grand District School Board to support all schools in their expectations of appropriate dress.

Appropriate dress refers to student attire that is modest, no crop cut tops or low cut tops are permitted, free of symbols of hate or images which portray violence, death, abuse, alcohol, cigarettes, drugs, racial, political or sexual statements or put downs. Common sense is the rule. See Code of Conduct for Specifics.

Students require TWO pairs of shoes while at East Garafraxa. Gym or “indoor” shoes are used for the classroom. Street shoes are not permitted in the gym.

Intermediate students are strongly encouraged to purchase gym clothes to be kept at school and washed weekly.

BICYCLES, ROLLERBLADES, SCOOTERS AND SKATEBOARDS

Due to the volume of traffic on County Road #3, and out of consideration for the safety of your child, bicycle use is discouraged. Rollerblades, scooters, and skateboards are prohibited on school property. Wheelie Shoes are also prohibited on school property.

GAME BOYS/ MP3 PLAYERS (IPODS)/CD PLAYERS

Electronic equipment is not recommended at school. The school will not be held responsible for lost/stolen or broken equipment.

CELL PHONES/ CAMERAS(digital or regular)

Cell Phone are not to be used during school hours. Cell phones can be disruptive and draw the attention of students away from tasks at school. Cell phones must be away and off when on school property, including school buses.

Cameras are not allowed at school. They can be used to violate the privacy, dignity and safety of students and staff. All pictures taken on school property or field trips must be done so with consent.

PLAYGROUND

East Garafraxa has three designated playground areas for students. Primary children play in the area west of the school. The Kindergarten and grade one students will play on the south playground and the grade two and three students will play on the northern playground in the primary yard. Junior students play in the areas east of the school. The back-west field is for grade three, four and five students. The Intermediate students play on the swings on the east side of the school. The back-east field is for the grade six, seven and eight students.

NUTRITION BREAKS

Students are encouraged to bring litterless snacks to school. Our school encourages composting and recycling. All children eat in their regular classrooms under supervision. The Balanced School Day provides for 2 eating periods per day. Each term, the School Council offers a variety of prepaid lunches. These are a welcome change from sandwiches and provide a source of revenue for the School Council.

OUTDOOR BREAKS

Weather permitting all children are expected to participate in outdoor recesses. Please have your child dress appropriately.

MILK PROGRAM

Our school offers and Milk Program, students may purchase a milk token for 75 cents on Monday and Tuesdays at first nutrition break, or pay a loonie at anytime. Primary students can purchase milk for each of the three terms and the milk will be delivered to the class on a daily bases. Forms for the Primary order are available at the office. Chocolate or white milk are available.

BEVERAGE MACHINE

Beverages are available from the machine in the foyer of the school which can be used during nutrition breaks. Juices and water are \$1.25 - \$2.00.

LOST AND FOUND

Found items are located in a bin outside the washrooms. Please feel welcome to check this bin at any time. Any found jewelry or money should be taken to the school office to be claimed. Please assist us by putting name labels on all of your child's belongings, including gym bags, jackets etc. Unclaimed clothing items are donated regularly to charity.

SUPPORT STAFF/SPECIAL SERVICES

Our regular school programs are supported by a variety of professionals who assist students in their learning environment.

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS (Resource/Withdrawal teachers) assist students with special learning needs. Working largely with Exceptional Students, they also assess students with learning problems, prepare reports, oversee the process of identification and provide program suggestions to teachers and deliver programs to small groups and individual students.

A CHILD YOUTH WORKER is also available to students. Concerned for the emotional well being of students, the C.Y.W. works with individual students and small groups.

If you have questions regarding accessing the above services or any other Board Support Staff Services (speech pathologists, psychologists, ESL etc.), please contact the Principal.

LIBRARY

Our school library is open at various times between 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.. The loan period for picture books is one week and all other books are two week loan periods. If a book is lost or damaged, it is the responsibility of the student or parent to cover the replacement cost.

Please DO NOT attempt to repair damaged books. Please return damaged books to the Teacher-Librarian.

COMPUTER LAB

Our school computer lab is housed in the library. IBM Pentium computers with Internet access are available to students and staff. Bringing computer disks or CDs from home is PROHIBITED due to the potential for computer viruses.

COMPUTER/INTERNET POLICY EAST GARAFRAXA CODE OF ON-LINE CONDUCT

East Garafraxa is committed to providing the students with access to the Internet through the Board's computer network. The Internet is a rich source of information and opportunities to enhance student learning. However, increased access to the Internet raises issues that must be addressed and understood.

East Garafraxa has adopted a "Code of On-Line Conduct" which applies to students, staff, and all other users of electronic resources accessed through the facilities of the Upper Grand District School Board.

The Board expects that students will be responsible in their use of the Internet through the facilities provided by the Board.

The Internet is a dynamic educational resource which dramatically expands the classroom by delivering current information, data and images from around the world.

We believe that the valuable information and interaction available to users through the resources of the Internet far outweigh the possibility that users may access material that may be inappropriate and inconsistent with school and community values.

While teachers monitor the use of computers by students, ultimately, it is the responsibility of the student to guard against unacceptable information.

Failure to observe the guidelines will result in loss of computer privileges and/or other consequences consistent with the board/school policies and procedures.

USER RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Respect computers/hardware**
- **Safe and respectful Internet browsing consistent with beliefs and objectives of board/school**
- **Adhere to standards for behaviour**
- **Promptly reporting to staff any inappropriate Internet Data**

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

- **Accessing inappropriate material**
- **Using the network for unauthorized, inappropriate or obscene purposes**
- **Plagiarizing or violating copyrights**
- **Vandalism**
- **Engaging in any form of harassment on the network**

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Our Instrumental Music Program is currently offered to Grades 7-8 students and delivered by Mrs. Turek during the school day. Instruments for use in the program may be rented through the school. Some practices are held over the Nutrition Breaks. Regular classes are scheduled during the week.

STUDENT EVALUATION & REPORTING

Evaluation of student progress is an ongoing process that is an integral part of all learning activities. Its purpose is to find your child's areas of strength and weakness in order that appropriate programs (review, or enrichment) may be provided.

Classroom participation, daily classroom work, projects, notebooks, homework, informal and formal testing and standardized tests are used to help evaluate a student's progress. Standardized Ministry of Education Report Cards are used to accomplish the above. These report cards, which reflect the new Ontario Curriculum, are sent home three times per year. Students in Kindergarten receive two written report cards annually.

HELPING YOUR CHILD BE SUCCESSFUL IN SCHOOL

We want every student to have a successful school experience. When schools and parents work together, our students are the winners! Here are some ways you can help build your child's confidence:

Be generous with praise:

Observe your child carefully and comment on the things that are done well. When you see an area that needs improvement find a positive way to talk about it with your child.

Encourage "personal best":

Help your child by encouraging him or her to do the best in school and at home. Remember, "personal best" does not mean "perfect", and learning is not the same as high grades. Children, like adults, need the freedom to make mistakes and to learn from them.

Make learning a priority:

Your attitude toward school attendance, education and involvement in the school makes a strong and lasting impression on your child. Show your child, by example that learning is a priority.

Give them a good start:

Make sure your child has a good breakfast and arrives at school on time.

Limit T.V.:

Limit your child's television viewing and monitor the shows being watched.

Show interest in school work:

- * Talk about school each day.**
- * Ask to see class work.**
- * Have your child read aloud to you.**
- * Encourage your child to discuss new ideas and opinions.**
- * Show appreciation for good efforts.**

Other suggestions for success:

Help your child use the following strategies to improve performance in school:

- * Read the assignment when it is given.**
- * Keep a list of new vocabulary.**
- * Proofread assignments to catch errors before writing a final draft.**
- * Review notes before a test.**

Schedule study times:

Set up an area for homework away from distractions. Post a family calendar that schedules school project deadlines, after-school activities, mid-term dates, exam periods and report card dates.

Support regular attendance:

Some kinds of absences are unavoidable, but taking students out of school unnecessarily is disruptive for learning. Students should only be absent when ill.

Help set goals:

At the beginning of each term, help your child identify three or four goals. Put the goals where they can be frequently seen (the refrigerator is always an excellent spot). Make sure the goals are specific.

Get involved:

Attend school activities such as Open Houses, parent/teacher interviews and School Council meetings. When your children see you involved, they will also see education as a high priority.

Make direct contact with the school:

Try to make early and positive contact with your child's teacher. Visit the school and phone your child's teacher with any questions or concerns.

STUDY SKILLS IMPROVE LEARNING

Your child can enhance overall learning by developing basic study skills. A child studies to learn, and as study progresses, learning increases. Your child's attitude pays an important role in how efficiently learning can be accomplished. A student with a positive attitude will learn more readily than one with a poor attitude.

Here is a guide to help your child study effectively:

PREPARATION

Schedule time for your homework or studying. Then find a quiet, secluded place with:

- *no distractions
- *no music, radio or TV
- *good overhead lighting; and
- *a firm chair and table or desk

HELPFUL HOMEWORK HINTS

Homework starts at school. By listening to the teacher's instruction, you will know:

- What to do;
- When the assignment is due;
- Where to get the information; and

How to write the project.

When no homework is assigned you can:

- *review your notes and relevant textbook sections;
- *correct mistakes;
- *begin your next assignment or read about your next topic;
- *read some of the supplementary materials suggested by your teacher;
- *review and drill formulas and tables in math and science; and
- *make a study outline using mind maps, an audio tape to record your ideas, or a computer

SIX STEPS TO SUCCESS

1. Survey - Read the chapter headings, introductions, summaries and author's notes to get the main idea.
2. Question - Ask your self questions that you hope to answer when you read.
3. Read - Read each section, answering your questions and picking out the main points.
4. Record - Write down the key ideas in your own words.
5. Recite - Cover your notes and using key works, recall the main points.
6. Review - Review your notes and repeat number 5 regularly.

TIPS ON TEST-TAKING

Everyone feels anxious about taking tests. Reduce your stress.

1. Be prepared. Know your material. Get enough sleep.
2. Bring the necessary equipment, such as pens, pencils, rulers, erasers, etc.
3. Listen to the instructions. Read the directions carefully.
4. Budget your time so you can complete all the questions.
5. Answer the questions your know first.
6. Try to answer all of the questions. Guess (if you don't lose marks); you might know more than you think;
7. Be familiar with key words:
discuss - go into detail; compare - give similarities and differences; describe - use adjectives; list - give main points; and illustrate - give examples.

REMEMBER THESE KEYS TO SUCCESS

1. Be prepared.
2. Schedule time for homework.
3. Have a study plan and a regular time for homework.

EFFECTIVE STUDYING WILL IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS

Start today for a successful future!

Work with your child to develop good study habits. Stress the importance of good study skills.

Follow the tips provided above to establish improved study skills for your child.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework Definition:

Homework is a valuable component in improving student learning and success. It provides practice, reinforcement and consolidation of skills and concepts learned in school. It develops self-discipline, time management skills, commitment and responsibility for the student. Homework provides an essential link between home and school for both students and parents.

Homework is part of the “Learning Skills” section of the Provincial Report Card and is therefore, part of a student’s evaluation.

Types of Homework and Activities:

- **preparation of assignments to give students background information before instruction begins in the classroom**
- **practice assignments to reinforce skills and learning after they have been taught in the classroom**
- **extension assignments that take the students beyond the classroom by applying knowledge and skills**
- **creative assignments that require students to integrate many skills and concepts when producing a project**
- **editing and checking activities to correct and polish assignments**

Time Guidelines (approx. 10 minutes per grade per night)

Plus reading and/or independent project

K - (10 - 15) minutes of reading to or with someone

Grades 1 to 3 - (10 - 30) minutes

Grades 4 to 6 - (30 - 60) minutes

Grades 7 to 8 - (45 - 70) minutes

Roles and Responsibilities:

Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

- **provide encouragement and appropriate assistance, without completing the homework for the student**
- **provide a nurturing and supportive environment**
- **provide the supplies suitable for completing homework**
- **provide activities to support and extend classroom learning**
- **demonstrate an interest in the student's schoolwork and performance/progress overall**
- **monitor the student's homework performance**
- **encourage student's independence in completing homework**
- **communicate with the teacher through the student's agenda**

Student:

- **complete homework regularly**
- **take responsibility for taking home, completing and returning to school all books, forms and homework materials by using student agenda**
- **develop the habit of:**
 - *reading, writing**
 - *practicing math skills**
 - *becoming an independent learner**
- **understand the purpose and nature of the homework before leaving school (i.e., assignments, criteria, time lines)**
- **manage time and materials appropriately (e.g., uses school agenda, submits homework on time, organizes necessary material)**

School:

- **provide homework that is clear, meaningful, purposeful and understood**
- **provide information to parents and students on homework routines and effective study habits (i.e., time management, using school agenda, strategies, resources)**
- **monitor, check and/or evaluate homework, as appropriate**
- **monitor student's participation in homework activities**

- **communicate homework performance with parents as needed (i.e., phone calls, goal setting, agenda notes)**

ASSEMBLIES

Parents are welcome to attend all school activities and events. Student recognition assemblies are held regularly. Special occasion assemblies are held throughout the year: Remembrance Day, Speeches, Christmas and RAIDERS character Award assemblies.

Individual Achievement Awards:

Desi Hunter

This memorial plaque is presented to recognize perseverance, friendliness, responsibility, dependability, steadfastness, optimism and organization.

Science

This award is presented to the student with consistently high marks on tests and daily work. This student also shows co-operation, has an excellent attitude, keeps notes neat and tidy and up-to-date and participates fully in the classroom.

Top Academic

This award goes to the students who have received the highest average overall. These students have consistently shown interest in all classroom activities and assignments and strive to do the best job possible. These students have excellent work and study habits and find satisfaction in extra personal challenge.

Female Athlete

The recipients of this award have consistently shown an excellent attitude and co-operation throughout the year. They have demonstrated ability, skill development, character and leadership in Phys. Ed. Classes and on school teams. They always put forth their best effort.

French

This award is given to the student who has demonstrated proficiency in written and oral assignments. Along with excellent comprehension and effective application of skills, this student has displayed good attitude and co-operation throughout the year.

Most Improved

This award is given annually to the student who has shown an overall improvement academically and socially between September and June. We congratulate the recipient who has put forth a first-rate effort throughout the year. The results are most gratifying.

Math Award

This award goes to the student who has achieved a high average on tests and daily assignments. The recipient has shown co-operation and interest throughout the year along with an excellent attitude.

Male Athlete

The recipient of this award has consistently shown an excellent attitude and co-operation throughout the year. He has demonstrated ability, skill development, character and leadership in Phys. Ed. classes and on school teams. He always puts forth his best efforts.

Art

The art award is presented to the student who consistently puts forth an outstanding effort on all projects. This student shows a good attitude towards the completion of assignments and demonstrates skill and ability with the various methods and media used in class.

Instrumental Music

This award is presented to the student who shows a good attitude in band by putting forth his/her best effort at all times. This student contributes to the band by co-operating with and being helpful to others. Good attendance is essential. As well, the award winner must demonstrate progress and skill development.

History and Geography

The winner of this award showed interest and co-operation throughout the term, displayed a good attitude and willingness to learn. Notes were kept complete and organized. Marks on tests were consistently high.

World Affairs

Instead of a single quiz at the end of June this year, several quizzes were given to the senior students between September and June. The questions included politics, sports, entertainment, literature, and other current information about Canada and happenings around the world.

The award winner has received the highest total on these quizzes and has also shown interest, knowledge and understanding in class discussions about current events.

General Proficiency

The recipient of this award is the student with a very good overall average in all subjects, with a good attitude and work ethic, and one who is willing and independent classroom worker.

The Citizenship Award

This award is given to a student who is respectful and helpful to people in all walks of life - be it parents, siblings, peers, or staff members. The student shows respect for the property of others and demonstrates honesty and dedication.

English

This award is given to the student who has demonstrated proficiency in written and oral assignments. Possessing excellent comprehension and effective application of skills, the student demonstrates a good attitude and interest in all parts of the programme.

Drama and Music

This award is given to the student who has consistently shown interest and enthusiasm in the various drama and music events throughout the school year. This person is very talented and is always willing and able to perform whenever the opportunity arises.

Valedictorian

This award goes to the two students who were chosen to represent the 2008-2009 class. The Grade 8 class nominates the valedictorian based on the ability to best represent and convey the ideals, principles and memories of the graduating class. These students have consistently shown interest in all activities around the school and demonstrated strong leadership skills throughout the school year.

Principal's Leadership

This award goes to the student who has demonstrated strong leadership skills throughout the school year. The recipient is chosen by the principal and is someone who demonstrates a collegial attitude, often putting the needs of the school ahead of themselves. This student is enthusiastic and forthright and always puts forth their best effort.

ETFO Math/Science Award

The Elementary Teachers federation sponsors an award that celebrates the unique achievement of a female in the category of Math and Science combined. This student has shown a passion and commitment for Math and Science as both an independent area of study as well as an integrated unit of study. This student has maintained a high average through the course of study and was actively involved in all aspects of both subject areas.

ETFO Male Art Award

The Elementary Teachers Federation sponsors this unique award that recognizes a boy in the category of visual art. The ETFO's mandate with this award is to neutralize the stereotype often associated with an Art award. The recipient of this award is a male that shows great promise in talent in the area of visual arts, maintains a strong average and demonstrates passion in the course of study.

Technology & Innovation Award

The recipient of this award is a student who shows significant interest, positive attitude and growth in the area of technology and innovation. Technology continues to evolve exponentially, and with it, young adults must accept and adapt to innovative trends that mold the new, computerized world of the 21st century.

STUDENT RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

GRADE 6 GENERAL PROFICIENCY AWARD

INTERMEDIATE SPEECH FINALIST

JUNIOR SPEECH FINALIST

GRADE 6 E.T.F.O. PERSEVERANCE AWARD

GRADE 3 E.T.F.O. CITIZEN AWARD

GRADE 4 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

JUNIOR CITIZENSHIP AWARD

GRADE 4 PATRICK LANG MEMORIAL AWARD

EXCURSIONS

Off-site excursions requiring transportation may be available to your child throughout the school year. From time to time you may be asked to give permission for your child to travel in a private vehicle. All drivers transporting children in private vehicles must meet Board and school requirements.

Two types of excursions may be made available to your child. Day or half-day trips frequently arise throughout the year as teachers learn of opportunities to enhance their programs. Extended trips (or sleep over trips) are reserved for our Junior/Intermediate students. ALL OFF-SITE TRIPS REQUIRE SIGNED PARENTAL PERMISSION.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Both extracurricular and intramural activities are available to students. Check the monthly newsletter for details. Volunteering within the school is also encouraged: bus patrollers, office helpers, library helpers, etc.

NEWSLETTER

During the first week of every month, an East Garafraxa School newsletter will be sent home with the designated mail carrier (the youngest or only child) of a family.

FUNDRAISING

Each year parents and the community contribute thousands of dollars to the school through fundraising activities initiated by Student Council, Parents' Council and the School to support school activities for our students. These funds are used to:

- offset the cost of school excursions
- subsidize less fortunate students
- purchase instructional materials for special projects
- provide funds to enhance the climate at the school
- provide funds to support capital projects (e.g., playground equipment)

The students at the school benefit significantly from fund raising initiatives. It is not, however, our intent to overburden the community.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student leadership is key to the success of any school. Each September, a Student Council is established with Intermediate students holding executive positions. Primary students are represented by a Junior or Intermediate student delegate.

VOLUNTEERS

You are welcome to get involved as a Parent Volunteer at East Garafraxa Public School!

Volunteers can:

- a) give teachers additional help for individual pupils;
- b) enable teachers to broaden the regular program and enrich student experience;
- c) assist the teacher-librarian in many non-teaching duties and tasks;
- d) take advantage of an opportunity for interested community members to participate effectively in our school program;
- e) strengthen school-community relations through positive participation.

Could You....

Help in the Library?

Listen to children read?

Type?

Go on field trips?

CALL THE SCHOOL AT 855-4484, we would love to have you help.

Volunteers are required to fill out a Volunteer Information Form. This form must be completed and signed by the Principal prior to volunteering in the school.

BE A GREAT RAIDER!!

Respect

Show respect for individuals and property.

Attitude

Demonstrate a positive attitude every day.

Integrity Do what you say you will do. Live by your word.

Determination Persevere, Stay focused on your goals.

Excellence Strive for excellence. Do your best at all times.

Responsibility Be responsible for your actions.

Self Discipline Control your actions, behaviour and conduct.

YOU CAN DO IT!!!