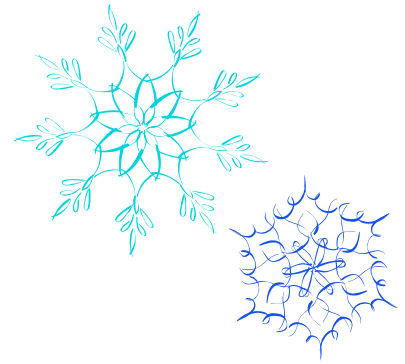


# Central Public School

97 Dublin St., N, N1H 4N2

Phone: 519-821-7990 Fax: 519- 821-8270

## January 2012 Newsletter



Principal: S. Preston

Office Coordinator: S. Greisman

website: <http://website.ugdsb.on.ca/central/>

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### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

It's great to see everyone back after the holiday break. I hope all our families had an opportunity to enjoy special holiday activities and time together.



December of course was a very busy month, particularly the last week of school.



Our 'Mitten Tree' was beautifully decorated with hats, mitts, scarves and gloves which will be donated to a local family shelter.



There was also a wonderful response from our families to the food and toy drive. Thank you to everyone who helped out.



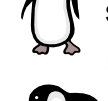
We are looking forward with much



anticipation to the new year. It's hard to believe, but we are almost at the half way point in the school year. We have many



special events and activities coming up including our Junior volleyball tournament at



Willow P.S. on January 24<sup>th</sup>. The players and their coaches have been practicing hard in anticipation of this day and we wish them the best of luck at the tournament.



Read on for other special events and important dates and please consider joining us at our next School Council



meeting on Tues., Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.



### CENTRAL STUDENTS TO TOUR NEW MUSEUM

To quote Tuesday's Mercury: "Some will get a sneak peek... students at Central Public School will be the first to see the new space as museum staff offer a few pilot tours to the neighbouring school next week." As part of our ongoing partnership with the Guelph Civic Museum we have set up a schedule of class visits to the museum next week for grades 1 to 6. These will be 1 hour tours which will include opportunities to explore the new museum and experience some of the interactive programs and displays. This is a very exciting opportunity for our students and teachers as we will be the first in the community to see this wonderful resource right next door to our school!

### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER, 2012

Our registration for next year's kindergarten program will take place **throughout the week of February 6 - 10th**. Children born in 2007 or 2008 who will be **FOUR or FIVE** years of age in 2012 are eligible to enrol in our kindergarten for the fall of 2012. If you have a child, or know of someone with a child, who is eligible to register, please pass on this information or have them call the school at (519) 821-7990 and speak to Mrs Greisman.

### KINDERGARTEN REPORTING

All Kindergarten parents were invited in to speak with the teacher during the months of November and December. Senior Kindergarten students will

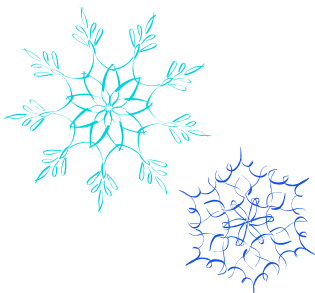
receive their first report card of this school year in February. Both Senior and Junior Kindergarten students will receive a written report card at the end of the school year in June.

### THANK YOU PARENT COUNCIL

Thank you to Parent Council and our entire parent community. At this time, staff and students would like to thank our Parent Council for all of the work that they do for our school each year. The tasks our Parent Council accomplishes have an ongoing, positive impact on our school community. The fundraisers planned and carried out by our Parent Council help to fund many projects and programs. The entire community contributes to the fundraisers and for this, we are very grateful.

This fall, our Parent Council has approved spending in the following areas: technology upgrades for the classrooms, playground maintenance and upgrades, home reading books, Scientist in the School presentations for each classroom (these presentations will happen throughout the year—as scheduled by the teacher). Parent Council has also approved the spending of funds on food baskets for the classroom (to supplement student lunches), books for the Silver Birch Reading Program and gym equipment.

Further decisions about fundraising will be made at upcoming Parent Council meetings. Agendas and minutes for School Council meetings are posted outside the office on the School Council Info Board.



### INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION

The months of January and February can bring us some of our worst weather. To determine whether schools are open or closed during or after severe weather, tune your radios to one of the following stations: **1460 AM CJOY, 106.1 FM CIMJ**. These radio stations provide regular updates, throughout the day, of local weather conditions as well as school closures.

*If you want to check the school board website you can go to <http://homer.ugdsb.on.ca/>*



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- January 23 - P. A. Day
- February 20 - Family Day
- March 12-16 - March Break
- April 6 & 9 Holidays ( Good Fri., & Easter Monday)
- April 23 - P. A. Day
- May 23 - Victoria Day Holiday
- June 3 - P. A. Day
- June 28 - Final day of classes

### MOST VALUABLE PATROLLER

Our safety patrollers are out every day before and after school, regardless of weather, helping our students safely cross the busy streets in our neighbourhood. We appreciate their dedication and the support of Mr. Jackson, the Safety Patrol Supervisor. Each term, the patrollers recognize one of their own for his or her commitment to this very important job. The term one **Most Valuable Patroller** selected by his peers, is **Tabitha Martin**. Congratulations to Tabitha and thank you to all our student Safety Patrollers for the great job you do every day!

### PARENT COUNCIL MEETINGS

This is an opportunity for parents to have a strong voice in the education of their children. You are more than welcome to be a part of any Parent

Council meeting. Come out and share ideas or concerns, assist in the Playground Rejuvenation projects, Fund Raising programs, or participate in the Social/Special Events.

All meetings are held in the school library and attendance is open to all.

#### **Upcoming Meetings:**

Tuesday, January 17, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, April 17, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, May 15, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, June 19, 6:30 pm

#### **FAMILY DAY**

The Upper Grand District School Board will be observing Family Day on **Monday, February 20, 2012** and our school will be closed. We hope you enjoy the day with your family.

#### **FIELD TRIP PERMISSION FORMS**

Just a reminder to parents that students participating in any approved class field trip **must have a signed permission form** returned to their classroom teacher on or before the scheduled date of the field trip. Students will not be able to participate in field trip programs without signed parental approval.

#### **ZEHRS TAPES**

We continue to collect Zehr's tapes as one of our fundraising initiatives. Each year this program brings in much needed financial support for our school. Please continue to send in any tapes you have collected and we will pass them to our ever-helpful parent, Stephanie Tucker.

#### **CHANGE OF PLANS**

If your child is not to go home as they normally would after school, please inform us in writing. It is quite hectic at the end of the day, and phone messages are often difficult to relay at

this time.

#### **BE PREPARED**

With the unpredictable weather we have experienced lately, it is particularly important to ensure the children have adequate clothing to wear when they are out on the playground during recess. Please help your child come prepared for the winter weather by providing them with **boots, winter jackets and snowpants, warm mittens, scarves and hats.** Remind them to check the lost and found if anything goes missing while at school and parents are welcome to check the lost & found at any time. It's located outside the gym on the lower floor.

#### **FUN IN THE SNOW**

The OPP and other police services remind us to make our children aware of the dangers of building snow forts and tunnels close to roadways. Snow plows are loud and their visibility is limited, so please remind your children that the edge of the road is not a play area. This includes the snow piles in front of the school near the road and the parking lot.

#### **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY & PROGRAM**

The Upper Grand District School Board places a high priority on the safety of our students. The Child Abuse Prevention Policy is evidence of our commitment to this priority. The following is a quote from the policy:

*"Every citizen in the community shares a responsibility for our children. School officials and teachers share this collective community responsibility for creating safe and nurturing environments for children. Under the Child and Family Services Act, this responsibility includes*

*the legal requirement to report to the local Children's Aid Society any suspected child abuse or other situations where a child may be in need of protection. Teachers and other Board employees have a special opportunity to know and understand children during their most influential years of development. They are in a unique position to be able to see early signs of maltreatment, and to know or hear about the abuse and neglect that is often suffered by children."*

As required in the Policy, we will be teaching age-appropriate lessons to help our students identify abuse and protect themselves from abusive situations. The goal is to provide children with the tools they need to keep themselves safe. The lessons cover a broad range of safety issues including bullying, stranger danger and abuse by a known and trusted adult.

These lessons will occur during the month of February for grades one, three and five. The lessons will be taught by classroom teachers. There is no formal program in grades two, four and six, although the safety concepts are reviewed by classroom teachers informally. We encourage you to discuss with your child at home, the concepts taught in the Child Abuse Prevention Curriculum.

For more information regarding the Child Abuse Prevention Policy and/or Programs, please contact Mr Preston, Principal or your child's teacher.