

CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

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December 2011 Newsletter

Principal: S. Preston

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

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

November was another busy month here at Central Public School. School Council's Silent Auction and Family Movie Night was a great success again this year. Not just in terms of the money raised for school projects but also as fun community event.

Our Remembrance Day assembly was also well attended by members of our school community. It was a very moving ceremony which included poems and readings of remembrance by students. We will be having a special celebration of the season starting at 6:00 on the evening of Wed., Dec., 21st. Kindergarten classes and Junior Choir will be performing some special songs during our annual family carol sing that night. We hope that all our Central families can join us.

We would like to send out a special thank you to the Guelph Police Services for their ongoing support of our student Safety Patrollers and the Grade 6 VIP (Values, Influences and Peers) program. Officers Robin Clark and Frank Kecskemeti also present a wide variety of safety lessons to our students from Kindergarten to Grade 6. The subjects they cover include traffic safety for Kindergarten and Grade 1, stranger safety for Grade 1, seat belt and air bag safety for Grade 2, street proofing for Grade 2 and 3, computer safety for Grade 3 and 4, bullying prevention for Grade 5 and bicycle safety for all students Kindergarten to Grade 6.

As you read on in this newsletter you'll find more news and information on special events coming up at Central Public School.

MITTEN TREE

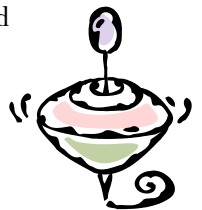
Once again this year we are collecting donations of mittens, scarves and hats to



donate to a local shelter for woman & children in the community. There will be a tree set up in the front hall of the school at the beginning of December. Families who wish to donate home-made or bought items can send them with their children. The children can then add them to the mitten tree. Donations will be accepted up until the night of our **Family Carol Sing on December 21st 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

A SPECIAL FOOD AND TOY DRIVE

This a time of year when we are perhaps a little more aware of the importance of reaching out and helping others in our community. In addition to our mitten tree we will also be collecting food and new, unwrapped toys to be donated through **Guelph Food Bank** to families in need. We feel these are opportunities to help others and to help our students develop their sense of community and social responsibility. We will be accepting donations at the school until December 19. Please consider helping out. Thank you.



BEST WISHES TO ALL

As the Christmas break approaches we would like to extend best wishes to our Central Public School community and we hope to see everyone out for our **Seasonal Family Carol Sing** beginning at 6:00 p.m. on the evening of **Wed., December 21st**.

FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN

Beginning in September next year, we will introduce full day Kindergarten at Central Public School. In order to have the best and most efficient facility for the JK and SK students who will be at school all day, the Board has approved an interior renovation for our school. The current Continuing Education area on the first floor will be turned into two

purpose-built kindergarten classrooms, and as a bonus - an accessible washroom for the school. Our Continuing Education students have been good neighbours, and we wish them all the best with their move to the Continuing Education facility at the former Brock Road School. While the timing of the construction project is not finalized yet, our two new Kindergarten rooms should be ready for September next year!

NEWSLETTER SIGN UP:

This year Central P. S. is participating in a pilot project to help improve communication with parents by enabling us to send out an email notification to you every month when the school newsletter is posted on our website. Our hope is to reduce the amount of paper that comes home with the students. So, please sign up if you would like to be notified when the newsletter is posted each month on our website. Look for the sign up button on our school website:



- ✓ You are not limited in the number of family members who can sign up.
- ✓ If your email address changes, just come back to this page on the website and subscribe again.
- ✓ If you wish to stop receiving emails, simply click the “unsubscribe” link which will appear at the bottom of every email we send out.
- ✓ By self-managing your own subscription you help school office staff make better use of their time, and improve the accuracy and efficiency of our mailings.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Everyone is welcome to attend our next School Council meeting on Tuesday, January 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the library. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. You may also want to consider volunteering to be on one of the School Council committees.

Our executive for this school year is:

Co-chairs: Melissa Beacom & Michelle Vanderwindt

Secretary: Beth Haworth

Treasurer: Tony Bier

Playground Chair: Sara Kaune

Fundraising Chair: Michelle Vanderwindt

Message from Fundraising Chair

“Thank you to everyone who participated in our **Greeting Card Fundraiser**. It was a huge success! Unfortunately, there was an error in the note sent home with the forms. Parent Council had decided to have parents **pick up** the cards rather than send them home with the students. The cards will be ready on **Friday, December 9th at 3:15 by the main entrance**. If your child attends morning kindergarten, the cards can be picked up at 11:15. If your child walks home, he or she can come by the main office to pick them up. If you are not able to pick them up that day, please let me know and we can make alternate arrangements. I can be reached at 519-767-6553 or michelle@slp4kids.ca.

Thank you for your support! Michelle Vanderwindt”

WINTER HOLIDAYS

Friday, December 23rd will be the last day of school this year!

Dismissal is at the regular time of day - 3:15 p.m. We will be welcoming our students back to school on Mon., January 9, 2012.



UG2GO

Our board has a wonderful resource for all of our students that can be accessed 24/7 from school or from home. It’s called UG2GO and includes Learn360 (educational video streaming), Student Link (a site children use at school that gives them access to web sites that are kid friendly and relate directly to their current units of study), Tumblebooks (a site that has hundreds of books children can click on and have read to them), Noodletools (gives children help making bibliographies), Knowledge Ontario (a variety of approved encyclopedias, magazine articles suitable for elementary students), and much more. When students are at home they can go to the main address:

<https://www.ugdsb.on.ca/ug2go> which will prompt them to enter the same Windows username and password that they use at school to get onto the school network. Once they enter their Windows username/password they will enter the site and they can then click on any of the resources and be taken directly to the individual resource without the need to login.

Please take a few minutes to explore the site with your child. It is an important tool that will aid them in their education,

and may make your life easier when it comes to homework and projects. We are excited that students will be able to access information from anywhere and at anytime in this information age!

BUTTONS, BUTTONS

Mrs. Powell and Mrs. Suffern are collecting buttons for a special class project. If you have any buttons we would love to have them, we will need lots! Please send them in to school with your child and he/she can bring them down to Mrs. Powell or Mrs. Suffern's room. Thank you!



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for new students planning to attend Central P.S. in September 2012 (children born in 2007 - JK; 2008 - SK) will take place in early February 6-10, 2012. If you have a child, or know of someone with a child, living in our school area please pass on this information or have them call the school at 519 821-7990.

KEEP US INFORMED

In addition to calling in daily absences, please telephone Mrs Greisman in the office regarding new telephone numbers, a change of address or any change in emergency contacts.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please remember that it is a parent's/guardian's responsibility to determine whether or not it is safe for their children to leave for school in inclement or severe weather. Although all our students walk to school, we can be affected by bus cancellations. On days when busses have been cancelled due to extreme weather field trips requiring busses are also cancelled. On rare occasions schools may be closed due to **extreme weather conditions**. Parents should listen to local radio stations on mornings where weather is severe or predicted to become severe to ensure that the school is open to receive students. **CJOY, Magic 106, 105.3 FM, CHYM** are local stations which will broadcast this information. Information regarding closures can also be found on the Board's website <http://website.ugdsb.on.ca/> Please speak with your child/ren regarding any arrangements that you have made for inclement weather.



P. A. DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Dec. 26 to January 6th - Holidays
Jan. 23 - P.A. Day
Feb., 20 – Family Day Holiday
March 12th to 16th - March Break
April 6th & 9th - Easter Holidays
April 23rd - Professional Activity Day
May 21st - Holiday
June 8th - P.D. Day
June 28 - Last Day Of Classes

LOST & FOUND

There are many items in our lost & found. Any time you are in the school, please take a minute and check for any items which might have been misplaced by your child. Hopefully, we will be able to clear the Lost & Found out before the holidays!

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.

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. Junior Kindergarten parents will be invited in for an interview with the teacher in February. Both Senior and Junior Kindergarten students will receive a written report card at the end of the school year in June.

PIZZA AND MILK ORDERS We will continue to offer pizza and milk to our students over the remainder of the year. Order forms for second semester should be arriving the week before the holiday break and are due back before we break for holidays on Fri., Dec. 23rd.





We continue to collect Zehr's tapes as one of our fundraising initiatives.

Each year this program brings in financial support for our school. Please continue to send in any tapes you have collected and we will pass them along to our ever helpful parent volunteer, Stephanie Tucker.

LIBRARY NEWS

Central students will be participating in the **Forest of Reading** programs again this winter. Silver Birch is open to grades 4, 5 and 6. If you are interested in the titles, you can search the internet for Forest of Reading, 2012. The books are also available at the Guelph Public Library. Ms. Brennagh will meet with interested students in January. Students in JK-3 will participate in the Blue Spruce program as part of their weekly Library class time.

DRAWSTRING CONCERNS

Health Canada is warning Canadians about the potential danger of children being seriously injured or strangled by drawstrings on children's outerwear. Drawstrings, especially on snowsuits, jackets and sweatshirts, can become caught on playground equipment, fences or other objects.

Parents and caregivers are advised to check all children's outerwear for loose drawstrings and:

- ✓ Remove all drawstrings from the head and neck area of children's outerwear.
- ✓ At the bottom of children's outerwear, either remove the drawstrings completely or trim the exposed length to 8 cm, with the garment fully stretched.
- ✓ Make sure the end of the drawstring is free of knots, loops or toggles, as they can also get caught.
- ✓ To keep it from slipping through its channel, make sure the drawstring is tacked to the garment.
- ✓ Ensure that new purchases of children's clothing have alternate closures to drawstrings. These include elastics, buttons, velcro, or snaps.

OUTDOOR RECESS

It is getting chilly out and the snow may fly soon! Please remember to assist your child in wearing the proper

clothing to school. This includes a warm jacket, hat, mitts and waterproof, footwear. Thanks for sending extra socks in your child's backpack just in case! All students are expected to participate in outdoor recess, as this important, active break aids concentration and success in the classroom.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Exhibition Park Neighbourhood Group together with other Guelph neighbourhood groups, will help build healthy, helpful and inclusive neighbourhoods by offering programs and events that encourage community participation and involvement.

➤ SKATE WITH SANTA

Exhibition Park Arena – Thursday, December 22, 2011.

6:00 to 6:50 - free skating

6:00 to 8:00 - Letters to Santa / Christmas Card Making, Pictures with Santa, Entertainment, Refreshments and more.

Everyone Welcome – Monetary and Unwrapped Gift Donations greatly accepted.

➤ HOLIDAY HAMPER'S

The Holiday Bureau is a collaboration between the Salvation Army, Neighbourhood Groups, Ontario Works, ODSP, Lakeside Church and other agency partners, that come together to make the Holiday Hamper Process more accessible and non-intrusive to community members.

➤ NON-CUSTODIAL AND GRANDPARENT GIFT PROGRAM

This program is sponsored by Exhibition Park Neighbourhood Group and provides gifts for Non-Custodial Parents (parents who do not have permanent custody of their children, but will have them at Christmas time) and Grandparents (who are living on tight budgets such as CPP) who are not eligible for gifts from the Holiday

Bureau Hamper Program, but would like to have gifts for their children and grandchildren.

➤ **FREE CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Trinity United Church Community Children's Choir is about to commence for its second session and the first practice will be on Sunday, October 23rd, 2011 at 12:00 noon at 400 Stevenson Street. All boys and girls, aged 5 to 10 years of age are welcome and the focus of this choir is on the joy of song, rhythm and fun.

There is no cost for this choir. To register your child or to get more information contact Andrea at 519-824-8171 or Barbara Moldenhauer at 519-824-6172.

CONTACT INFORMATION - Barb McPhee –
Neighbourhood Support Coordinator
Phone: 519-767-5750 or Email: epng@bellnet.ca.
Donna Mokren – Special Events Coordinator at
jfrgrad64@hotmail.com

MEDICATION

Please remember that all student medication must be stored and administered from the office. In order to give any medication we must have the appropriate form 509-1 completed and signed by a parent.

SILENT AUCTION & MOVIE NIGHT

The **Fundraising Committee and Parent Council** would like to extend a HUGE "THANK YOU!" to all the Central families that donated items for the auction and to those that came out to support our Silent Auction and Movie Night. It was a fantastic success !

A special "Thank You!" to the canvassers, without whom there would be no auction, and, to the volunteers the night of, that keep it running smoothly.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank the following businesses and families for their generous support of this year's Silent Auction and our School. We encourage our school community to support these businesses.

Acqua Salon	City of Guelph	Golden Rule
Agnew, Kate	Classic Photography	Goldfinger
Aldershot Travel	Coach House Florist	GoodLife Fitness Clubs
Apple Salon	Coco Latte	Guelph Music
Artzii	Coriander	Guelph Storm Hockey Club
Bag It	Creative Edge	Guildcraft Duvet and Pillow Co.
Barber Glass	Devonhill	Haworth, Beth
Beacom, Melissa	Diana Downtown	Herdman, Anita
Beaucoupe	Dis-A-Ray	Howell Family
Benham, Miss	DIYode	Humble Home
Breathe Rejuvenation Studio	DLR	Hush Salon
Brydges Landscape Architecture	Duncan McPhee	IF Shoes
Bunny Safari	Eagles & Auricles Spiritual Gifts	Johnston, Sheila
Butterfly Salon	Edward Jones	Jonescu Family
Camp Wanapitei Co-ed Camps Ltd.	Fire the Imagination	Joy, Caroline
Capistrano Caffe Bar	Fischer, Christina	Knarr Jewellery
Carribean Cuisine	Folkway Music	Krysta Whitney RMT
Central Public School	Get Juiced	La Luma Academy
Chat Noir	Global Pet Foods	Latino's Restaurant

Little Shop of Guitar
Magic Mountain
Maknoni, Afshin
Market Fresh
Meow
Michael Robinson RMT
Michelle Vanderwindt
Millennium Clothing Company
Moksha Yoga
Motives Cosmetics
Nutty Chocolatier
Old Orchard Farm
Olivander Wands
Olympic Honda
Ouderkirk and Taylor
Peirson Family
Petsquisite Salon
Pickfield, Danielle
Pierre's Poutine
Play with Clay
Polestar
Pretty Chic Boutique
Red Brick
Rimkus Family
Roberts Family
Royal City Carleson Travel
Sara Ness Interiors
Simply Wonderful
Skyline Apartment REIT
Soccer Fanatic
Sukha Yoga
Susan Chick
Sushi Choice
Sweet Violets
The Bookshelf
The Casual Gourmet
The Children's Art Factory
The Flour Barrel
The Mortgage Company
The Stone Store
The Woolwich Arrow Neighbourhood Pub
Touchstone Carvings
Two Plus Pizza
Tyson Family
Vicanie's
Vicky Canham Acupuncture
Wellington Cakes
Wood, Eoin
Wyndham Arts