



Erin Public School / L' École Publique d'Erin Newsletter

January 2012

Principal: Mitch Zuk

STUDENTS, PARENTS AND STAFF WITH PURPOSE

Vice-Principal: Sean Singh

Happy New Year,
Best wishes for a safe, healthy, and rewarding 2012. I hope all our families had a great holiday, enjoyed the change of pace, and spent quality time with friends and family.

January marks the beginning of many changes for our students, especially for our eldest and youngest "soon-to-be-students." Both high school and kindergarten orientations will occur over the next few weeks. Information for these events is included in this newsletter. Your efforts to share EPS Kindergarten orientation with new families is greatly appreciated. It's hard to believe, but staffing for September 2012 is based on projected enrolment numbers I sent to the Board during the next month. If you know of any families moving into the area from now until June, please call the office (833-9685 ext 221) and let us know.

I am very proud of our students and staff at Erin PS. Our staff is highly committed to working as a team and focusing their instructional strategies on learning activities that increase your child's literacy and numeracy skills across all subject areas. Staff spent much time collaborating and teaming to ensure that student needs are met though applying the tenets of differentiated instruction, multiple intelligences, and higher order thinking. Teacher professional development at EPS is ongoing. Rest assured, your children are in good hands!

School Council has been instrumental in supporting our staff. Our staff has communicated to Council that they would like to have more technology based resources such as Smartboards (an interactive large white board that enables students to complete computer based learning activities in a collaborative/interactive manner) data-projectors, computers, and tablets. Council has responded by ensuring that the majority of fund-raising for this year will go towards helping our teachers implement more technology in their classrooms.



Thanks to the many families who sent items in to support our annual East Wellington Community Services Hygiene Drive. Six large boxes were filled to the brim with various hygiene items. Names of students' who donated an item were entered into a draw for books. Student Council also presented EWCS with a cheque for \$600 to help support families in the Erin Township.



Cheers! Mitch Zuk, principal

Grade 8 Trip to Ottawa

Over one hundred and twenty five grade 8's will embark for our nation's capital on Tuesday, February 7 and returning on Friday, February 10. This year we have secured the services of Educational Tours, a company with 45 years of national and international experience. However, without the planning efforts of our teachers and their commitment to be away from their families for four days, a trip like this would not occur. Thanks to the following teachers who have freely given of their time to support this trip:

Ms Waddell, Mr. Primeau, Mrs. Holliday, Ms Girard, Mr. Wain, Mrs. Reilly, Mr. Fleming, and Ms. Lower. A special thanks to the additional parent volunteers/chaperons who are helping out.

Grade 8 High School Visits

Name of High School	At High School (for parents + students)	At EPS (students only)
EDHS	Thursday, Jan. 19 7:00 (cafeteria) Inclement date is Jan 26.	Thursday, Jan. 27 1:30
College Heights	Wednesday, Jan. 18 6:30 pm (cafeteria)	Tuesday, Jan. 17 1:30

Be certain to book these dates on your home calendar. Students are encouraged to attend the high school information evening with their parent. The visits at EPS are meant for students only.

2012-13 Kindergarten Registration

Registration for the September 2012 Junior Kindergarten class will be during the week of February 6 to 10, 2012. If your child was born in 2008, he /she is eligible to attend Junior Kindergarten. Contact Mrs. Atkinson at 833-9685 for further information. If you know of any family that may have kindergarten age children, please share this information with them. Early registration aids the staffing of the classes.

School Council

QSP

Welcome back from holidays! We have lots in store for the new year including our annual dance-a-thon in February, another parent speaker, and more! Our next council meeting is **Monday, Jan. 30, 7pm in the School Library**. We will be discussing these events and fundraising. All are welcome to attend - we would love to see you there!

Andrea Cuthbert

Alana's Take! A Monthly Feature

The most important event this December was the Christmas Open House. Mr. Zuk and Mr. Singh handed out piping hot apple cider and Student Council held a bake sale with all the funds going to the Me to We Foundation. There were delicious cookies, brownies, cupcakes and tons of other tasty sweets! We raised over \$600! A big thank you to everyone who helped with the bake sale.



Students from all grades participated in a fun and entertaining Christmas show. The show opened with the school band playing a few Christmas favourites. They played wonderfully and set a festive tone for the rest of the show. The school choir sang *All is Well* and *Hallelujah*. Then, along with a few junior classes, they performed *Where are you, Christmas* and *Simple Gifts*. Taylor, a grade eight student, sang a spirited rendition of *Last Christmas*. In addition, Bradley played the fiddle and Kiersten serenaded the audience on the violin. The second half was a fashion "trashion" show. The students from 8C, 8D, F8A, 7\8B, and 8E put on a fashion "trashion" show. They had made clothing made out of recycled items in Mr. Mclean's art class, and gallantly showed them off to an amazed crowd. There were dresses made out of pop caps, outfits made from cardboard, and many other stylish and eco-friendly clothes.

Everyone went home with a taste of Christmas in their mouths and smiles on their faces. Happy holidays.

