

ÉCOLE JOHN McCRAE PUBLIC SCHOOL

189 Water Street, Guelph, Ontario
Phone: 519-824-0028 FAX: 519-824-0028

Principal: Cheryl Van Ooteghem
Vice Principal: Randy Dewey

Office Co-ordinator: Kathy Lambkin
Vice Principal: Janet Parr

January 2012

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

September 2011 brought a great deal of change to John McCrae Public School. As we begin a new year, I would like to thank all our families, students and staff for the patience, trust and commitment they have demonstrated during the past four months.



Every single one of us has experienced some form of change in the past year and many of us have learned the meaning of the word resiliency.

Resiliency refers to our ability to quickly recover from change or the unexpected. It is synonymous with buoyancy and the ability to "bounce back." Human beings have a naturally resilient nature, although it must be nurtured or it will be lost.

While as parents we naturally want to protect our children from the curve balls that life sometimes throws us, we also understand the importance of teaching our children to look at life with a glass that is half full instead of half empty. We also know that in our ever-changing, fast paced technological world, children need to learn how to be resilient in order to succeed in life.

There is a familiar saying that states; "We need to prepare our child for the path, not the path for our child." During the past four months at John McCrae our path has taken many twists and turns. Many of us have learned what it means to be resilient and many of us have learned some valuable life skills that will serve us well.

Socrates once said, "The secret of change is to focus all your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new." With your help, I look

forward to continuing to build our new K to 8 John McCrae Public School in 2012. It is an exciting place to learn, to grow and to trust, that change can have positive outcomes. Welcome to 2012 and a New Year at John McCrae.

Cheryl Van Ooteghem

NEW STAFF MEMBER

Welcome to Mme Julie Paton who joins the staff at J.M.C. as the new grade 3, 4, 5, 6 English planning time teacher. Mme Paton comes to us with many new and innovative teaching ideas. We look forward to her being part of our staff. Welcome Mme Paton!



SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Please join us for our next School Council meeting on Tuesday, January 17th at 6:45 p.m. We will be formalizing our School Council Mission statement and look forward to the input of all our stakeholders. If you have children who require childcare that evening, please contact the office.

SCHOOL LOCK-DOWN DRILLS

As you know, lock-down drills are a regular part of our yearly safety plan to help keep our students safe and knowledgeable about these procedures. We will be having our first lock-down drill in January. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these routine drills, please do not hesitate to call the office to speak directly with Mme Van or M. Dewey.

VISITOR/VOLUNTEER BADGES

Most of our badges have gone missing. Please check your coat pockets or at home, and kindly return them to the office.

FAMILY DAY

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

ALLERGY REMINDERS

Please remember that we have a number of students with life-threatening allergic reactions to many different kinds of foods. Please follow the requests of your child's classroom teacher to help keep all our John McCrae students safe.



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

John McCrae School Council invites you to a movie fundraising night on Friday, February 3rd, 2012. Colour Houses will be awarded points based on participation! Bring your blankets and wear your pj's and house colours.



Mark the date! We look forward to seeing you!

5:30	Doors open, social time, donations accepted. Popcorn, juice, water and cookies \$1.00 each. Please bring correct change.
6:00	"The Smurfs (PG)" All students and family members are invited. Students MUST be accompanied by an adult for this family movie.
7:45	Doors open for Grade 7 & 8 movie. Popcorn, juice, water and cookies \$1.00 each. Please bring correct change.
8:00	"Sherlock Holmes (PG13)" for Grade 7 & 8 John McCrae students only
10:15	Grade 7 & 8 movie finishes

Admission is free. Donations would be greatly appreciated. All funds raised will go to school projects (i.e. technology, playground, sports equipment, emergency food, special programs and

trips). For every \$5.00 donated, your name will be entered in a draw for great prizes!

Thank you to our generous sponsors Metro, Bunsmaster, and the Guelph Storm for sponsoring this event and donating prizes. If you have any questions or can offer your help, please contact Wendy Eastman (wenpat159@hotmail.com) or Ami Martell (ami.martell@ontario.ca)

FUNDRAISING THANKS!

Thank you to Jarzie's for assisting with our fundraising efforts! Thanks to all families who participated.

CURRICULUM CORNER



This month in Curriculum Corner we will be focusing our attention on the importance of students having accountable conversations in the classroom. A growing body of evidence affirms the important role that oral language plays in learning. As children practise listening and speaking skills, and acquire knowledge of how language works, they build not only basic literacy but their capacity for critical literacy as well.

Students do not enter such exchanges naturally; those new to the dialogic process need instruction on the ground rules and protocols. Although most students have lively and natural social language, the ability to think aloud and share ideas (and to think again!) is not universal and is not necessarily linked to academic intelligence. Most students need some help to discover what dialogue is and to develop grand conversation skills.

How Teachers and Parents Can Support Grand Conversations

When teacher and parent talk dominates the dialogue, students may rely on the teacher or parent to be the expert rather than learning that they can work out their own solutions and learn from each other. Teachers and parents can provide students with organized and facilitated times to talk about and listen actively to one another's thinking, justify their thinking to others and reflect on what they are learning. These organized and safe discussion forums encourage students to share and challenge ideas. Students find that their voices, ideas and experiences are valued and contribute directly to the learning.

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Our Colour Houses demonstrated a great deal of initiative, a lot of competitive spirit and above all compassion during the holiday season. When the totals were finally tabulated, the results indicated the following:

Kids Ability (Red House)	\$570.00
Red Cross (Green House)	\$825.58
New Beginnings (Orange House)	\$382.11
Sick Kids (Yellow House)	\$3010.00
Guatemala Family (Purple House)	\$113.86

Regardless of the amount raised, the feeling was that together we had obtained something bigger than all of us. If you missed the article in the Guelph Mercury, be sure and stop by the office to read about the great news coverage John McCrae students received.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATON



REMINDER: Junior and senior kindergarten registration for the 2012-2013 school year will be held February 6-10. Students must be 4 years old by December 31st, 2012 to register for Junior Kindergarten. Please spread the word to neighbours and friends!

HEALTHY EATING

Keeping Warm in the Kitchen!

Looking for a fun indoor activity on those frigid cold January days? Why not get your kids cooking in the kitchen!? Although it can be a bit messy, it's tons of fun, and teaches them skills such as *following instructions, math and food safety*. It also provides a feeling of accomplishment as they taste their finished masterpiece.



You might wonder what is appropriate for your child to do in the kitchen. Here are some guidelines to follow from the Food Network:

Four and five-year-olds can:

- Squeeze the juice from citrus fruits
- Mash soft ingredients, such as bananas and avocados

- Measure dry and liquid ingredients
- Beat eggs
- Mix ingredients together
- Place cheese and toppings on pizza

Six -year-olds can:

- Help choose the menu and help with grocery shopping
- Make their own sandwiches
- Decorate cookies and cupcakes
- Spread frosting on a cake or cupcake
- Peel cooked eggs
- Crack eggs into batter

Seven to Ten-year-olds can:

- Help read the recipe
- Follow a simple recipe largely, with your help
- Stir an item on the stove with your supervision
- Grate cheese with a child-safe grater (one that attaches to the top of a container is best.)

Ages Eleven and up:

At this point, kids are really ready to start cooking, but do still need to be supervised. Ask them to:

- Plan meals
- Make salads and pizzas
- Carefully cut fruit and vegetables
- Shake and coat meat or vegetables in bags
- Assemble and mix most ingredients
- Assemble ingredients in a slow cooker and turn it on
- Follow slightly more complicated recipes, with your help

And older students can make dinner!

So next time you're looking for something to do, think about getting them in the kitchen for some quality time together!

Source: The Food Network:

<http://www.foodnetwork.ca/guides/kids/mini-sous-chefs/8607/story.html>

By: Amy Skeoch

STREET AND BUS PATROLS

One of the hardest volunteer jobs at our school is being a street or bus patrol. Please help support these young leaders by stopping when requested, crossing only when permitted and modeling the respect and kindness we want our students to demonstrate. Thank you to all our street and bus patrols for getting our students to school safely everyday. Your commitment to JMC is noticed and appreciated.



Congratulations to Helen M., Calvin M., and Jessie C., JMC's outstanding patrollers for our first term!

GR 8 PARENT NIGHT JOHN F ROSS

REMINDER: Parents from John McCrae are invited to the J.F. Ross **PARENT NIGHT FOR GRADE 8 STUDENTS**. Parents will receive a general overview and then have opportunity to visit with specific program departments.

Where: E.L. Fox Auditorium, J.F. Ross

When: Thursday Jan 19, 2011

Time: 6:30-7:00 p.m. Refreshments

7:00-7:45 p.m. Presentation in EL Fox Aud.

7:45-8:45 p.m. Department Visits

GRADE 9 COURSE SELECTIONS

Grade 8s will be receiving information about their course selections on Friday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. A representative from John F. Ross CVI will be here to assist them.

GRADE 7 TRIP FUNDRAISER

This coming week grade seven students will be receiving New Orleans pizza coupons. Each coupon has a cash value of \$10.00 and is valid for one year. Money raised through the sale of these coupons will go toward the individual cost of each student's trip. Thanks for supporting our grade seven students.

SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR

With the exception of the Youth Under Armour orders, the school spirit wear arrived in time for the holidays. If you did not get your order (other than youth Under Armour) or it was incorrect, please contact the office between January 16 and 20. If

you are interested in purchasing some school clothing, we have some extra items available and will be placing another order after January 20th.

GRADE 6 GARAGE SALE



On Wednesday, December 21st, the grade sixes held their annual garage sale. They sold their toys, games, books, movies, cards, baked goods (just about anything you can think of) to raise money for their Mansfield trip. It was fun, a little bit stressful to plan for, and very busy with all the shoppers. Thank you Mdle Leslie, Mme Jones and Mme Mercure for your support and help in organizing this event!

By: Elleri and Samantha

VOLLEYBALL TEAMS SERVE IT UP BIG

The intermediate girls' volleyball team, with its dedication, teamwork and school spirit, brought home first place. The final games against the competition were exciting, as the girls worked their way from third place to the top! Merci Mdle Gauvreau, your coaching motivated and strengthened the team to victory!



By: Jasmine and Alisa

The boys' volleyball team went through many obstacles to achieve greatness at the volleyball tournament. They placed third after a gruelling match against the competition in the semi-finals. Even though they missed school, they learned about teamwork and effort. Merci Monsieur Remillard for helping the team throughout the tournament and motivating us to play!

By: Graham and Ilya

INTERMEDIATE SCIENCE FAIR

Parents are invited to come to the Grade 7-8 Science Fair in the gym on Wednesday, January 25th anytime from 5:30 - 7:30pm. Come by and see the fantastic projects our students have put together. You'll be amazed!



JUNIOR CHOIR

We are pleased to announce that the Junior Choir is starting up again! Students in Gr 4, 5 & 6 are welcome, even if they've never participated in choir before. Parents, please discuss this opportunity with your children so that they understand that if they sign up for choir, it is a commitment of at least one Nutrition Break per week. We will be doing a combination of French and English choral pieces and are thrilled to have M. Moore helping us this year! Come join us and add a little harmony into your life! We will begin on Wednesday, January 18th, first break, in the music room. Bring your lunch! Listen to the announcements for further information regarding time and place. Merci!

Mme Sinclair, Mme Griffiths, Mme VanderSteen et M Moore

PRIMARY CHOIR

Primary choir will start next Wednesday, January 18th. Interested students should meet Mme Farquhar and Mme Lambkin in Mme Farquhar's room at recess of 1st nutrition break. We will run a 6-7 week session, then start up again after March Break. Students should listen to morning announcements for reminders and more details.

The Driven to Quit Challenge is here

Quit smoking or using tobacco this New Year and you could qualify to win incredible prizes like a hybrid car!

- Set a good example for your children
- Be healthier in 2012
- Get free support at Smokers' Helpline 1-877-513-5333 or www.smokershelpline.ca

Gear up to quit this New Year. Visit www.driventoquit.ca for more details.



Public Health

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health
1-800-265-7293 | www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca
info@wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca

CHILDREN & YOUTH WINTER PROGRAMS 2012

HELD
AT
WELLINGTON CENTRE FOR
CONTINUING EDUCATION

1428 Gordon St., Guelph

To register call: **519-836-7280**

Programs	Age	Dates & Times	Description	Fee	
ART	Art Medley	7-12	Thurs. Jan. 26, 5:50-6:50 pm., 8 Wks.	Variety of mediums used in class.	\$60
	Cartooning	7-12	Thurs. Jan. 26, 7-8 pm., 8 Wks.	Techniques of drawing cartoons.	\$60
	Young Artist	4-6	Thurs. Jan. 26, 4:45-5:45 pm., 8 Wks.	Variety of art mediums used in class.	\$60
All About Acting	8-12	Tues. Jan. 24, 7-8 pm., 5 Wks.	Acting classes for the young actor.	\$35	
Babysitting	11+	Fri. Jan. 6, 9-4:30 pm., 1 Day Mon. Jan. 23, 9-4:30 pm., 1 Day Sat. Feb. 25, 9-4:30 pm., 1 Day Fri. Mar. 16, 9-4:30 pm., 1 Day	Red Cross, certificate course. Learn basic skills in order to care for infants & children up to school age.	\$60	
Badminton	9-14	Thurs. Jan. 26, 6-6:50 pm., 10 Wks.	Learn skills and be prepared to rally.	\$60	
Baking	7-10	Wed. Jan. 25, 5-6:30 pm., 8 Wks.	New recipe every week.	\$70	
	9-14	Wed. Jan. 25, 6:40-8:10 pm., 8 Wks.			
Basketball	7-10	Thurs. Jan. 26, 5-5:50 pm., 10 Wks.	Improve your skills.	\$60	
Chemistry for Girls	8-12	Tues. Jan. 24, 7-8 pm., 8 Wks.	Make your own soaps and more.	\$60	
Creative Writing	8-12	Tues. Jan. 24, 5:50-6:50 pm., 5 Wks.	Create stories and poetry.	\$35	
Dance	3-4	Sat. Jan. 28, 10:30-11 am., 8 Wks.	Introduction to movement to music.	\$45	
	4-6	Sat. Jan. 28, 11:10-11:40 am., 8 Wks.			
	4-6	Wed. Jan. 25, 4:30-5 pm., 8 Wks.			
	5-7	Wed. Jan. 25, 5:10-5:50 pm., 8 Wks.			
Guitar for Youth	10-15	Wed. Jan. 18, 6-6:50 pm., 8 Wks. Location: J.F. Ross C.V.I.	Learn the basics. Guitar needed.	\$80	
Hip Hop	7-10	Wed. Jan. 25, 6-7 pm., 10 Wks.	Learn Hip Hop and Jazz steps.	\$60	
	10-15	Wed. Jan. 25, 7:10-8:10 pm., 10 Wks. Location: Priory Park P.S.			
Make Up for Teens	13-17	Tues. Jan. 31, 5:30-6:50 pm., 4 Wks. Location: J.F. Ross C.V.I.	Learn to apply make-up. Kit included.	\$70	
Musikgarten	3-5	Sat. Jan. 28, 9:50-10:20 am., 8 Wks.	Creative movement music program.	\$45	
Rocket Science	5-7	Tues. Jan. 24, 5-6 pm., 8 Wks.	Hands on Science Experiments.	\$60	
	7-10	Tues. Jan. 24, 6-7 pm., 8 Wks.			
Soccer-Indoor	5-7	Tues. Jan. 24, 5-5:50 pm., 10 Wks.	Learn the fundamentals and rules.	\$60	
	7-10	Tues. Jan. 24, 6-6:50 pm., 10 Wks.			

View course Guide online at:

www.ugdsb.on.ca

www.ugdsb.on.ca/kids

**Most students in Grades 5 & up are on Facebook
Their average "Friend List" count is over 175
Formspring is the fastest growing site among students
Who are they REALLY sharing with, online?**

An absolute **MUST-SEE** event as described throughout Ontario's
School Boards, by parents and police services.

Mark your calendar for this **one-of-a-kind** presentation:

**Wednesday, February, 29th, 2012 at 7pm
Laurine Avenue Public School, Guelph**

facebook. **101**

plus

twitter & **formspring**

with Chris Vollum

recognized authority on Facebook, Twitter & Formspring



**** As of September 2011, Facebook 101 has been delivered to more than 180,000 students throughout 22 Ontario School Boards and independent schools.**