KITCHENER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2019

Principal: Ms. D. Taylor

Head Teacher: Mr. C. Phillips

Principal's Message:

...and then it was October! The first month has flown by! All our students seem to be happily settling in to their new classrooms and are building new learning communities.

We hoped you enjoyed the 'Parents as Partners' meetings and although they were short, I hope it was the beginning of many conversations with your child's teacher(s). Please feel free to contact them for a meeting time, whenever you have concerns or questions. You can also contact them at the school, and they will return you call when their instructional day is done! Please let us know if there are events occurring at home that may be unsettling and affect your child's ability for focus or attend to work outside their usual manner. This information will better help us to support your child(ren).

Just a reminder that or counselor, Ms. Marrello is at our school on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. She works at University Highlands on Monday and Wednesdays. However, if there is any emergent event where Ms. Marrello' s support would benefit, she can change her days to meet student's needs. We have a reciprocal understanding about this with University Highlands.

I hope many of you were able to attend and enjoy the Community Barbeque that your PAC hosted last Wednesday! Thank you to the many volunteers who helped to make this such a successful community building event.

On Wednesday, October 2nd at 6:30pm the PAC and School are hosting a parent presentation on Vaping. Vaping and its effects on our children's lungs has been prominent in the news. If you are available, please come for the most current information. The presentation will take place in our small gym.

On Friday, October 4th at 1:00pm, our staff and students will gather in the gym to honor Terry Fox, before we embark on our Terry Fox run. Please join us if you can and please send a Toonie to donate to the Terry Fox Foundation with your child on Friday.

As I look back on the message from last year, it seems that October is a time to announce changes. After a 22 year career in teaching in the Public-School System and a 25-year career in Nursing education, I have decided that it is time to retire. I will be leaving Kitchener as of December 31st. The new principal will not be appointed until November and I will inform you of who that lucky person is as soon as I know. It has been a sincere privilege to have been Principal of Kitchener over the past 3 and half years. This learning community is incredible of which parents and guardians are important members. I believe that Kitchener will continue to grow and flourish because of this strong community.
I will miss you all!

Sincerely,

SCHOOL NEWS

FALL WEATHER

At Kitchener School we believe it is healthy for children to get outside throughout the day for fresh air and exercise. Living on the West Coast we know that our climate contains a consistent amount of rainfall especially throughout the winter months. It makes sense that in our climate we are well prepared to be outside in the rain.

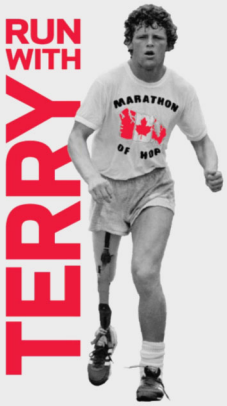
Please help your child be prepared for the elements by ensuring they have warm, water resistant coasts and hoods or hats to keep dry. You may consider keeping a change of clothes at school for your child. A slip and fall at this time of year adds up to one very wet student. Thank you in advance for your help in planning ahead for the weather.

SICK STUDENTS

For the protection of your child and other children, please keep your child at home if he/she has:

- a fever, is too sick to participate in school activities, or has a suspected or known communicable disease (i.e. chicken pox, strep throat, pink eye, or any undiagnosed rash).

Please keep your child home until they are no longer infectious.



TERRY FOX RUN

All our Kitchener students will be participating in our school wide Terry Fox Run which will begin with an assembly on **Friday, October 4th** at 1pm celebrating Terry Fox and his Marathon of Hope.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT SERIES 2019/2020

For over 40 years, the Burnaby School District has offered an annual concert series for students in grades 4 - 7 held at Michael J. Fox Theatre.

On October 8th our students will be attending Groupo America: "*Las Americas*" the 1st series of our Young People's Concert .

This Vancouver based dance troupe has been dazzling international audiences with their spectacular Latin Dance show. Las Americas highlights the 3 main influences in dance from Latin America: Spanish, African & Native. The program starts by showing the influence each dance has. Dance that are drum based show Africa. Dances that have strings like Spanish guitar showcase the Spanish influence. Dances with wind based instruments show the Native influence. Dance history is narrated through each dance.

FAMILY PHOTO NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Monday: October 28 and Friday: November 1
(Library) (Large Gym)

Mark your calendar!

HT Photography has offered to provide family photos at the school on the above dates from 4 - 8pm each night. Each session is 15 minutes.

Each session is a $25 sitting fee with proceeds benefiting Kitchener Elementary School. HP Photography will provide a complementary 8 x 10 photo of your choice.

Forms will be coming home shortly.

FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT

Grade 4 and 7 students will participate in the annual *Foundation Skills Assessment* this month. This is a provincial assessment of reading, writing and numeracy skills. All students, except beginner ELL and special education students are expected to write the assessment. Parents will receive results some time in December. Please contact the Principal, Ms. Taylor if you have any questions or concerns. For more information please use the following link: http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/

SCHOOL NEWS

HAWKS READING PROGRAM

"HAWKS READ Begins October 1st. Each night your child reads with you or alone for a minimum of 15 min. Sign off on the HAWKS READ sheet. After 25 nights of reading return the form to the School for the next 25! "

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day	Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day	Student "C" reads 1 minute each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year
1,800,000 words	282,000 words	8,000 words
90th percentile	*50th percentile*	*10th percentile*

By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school…and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

Monday, October 14:
Thanksgiving Day

Friday, October 25:
Professional Day