

VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL

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NOVEMBER 2010

Principal's Message

Another busy month has passed for the students, staff and families of the Victoria School community. As we move forward through this first term we will continue to be involved in a variety of activities that support the education and development of our students, your children.

Our Hallowe'en activities were enjoyed by all who took part. Thanks go out to the staff, parents and community members who supported our parade and cross graded activities as well as our fundraising for UNICEF. It is great to see this support for the school!

Student Progress Reports and Interviews

We are using new reporting guidelines in Ontario. The first report card will be sent home on November 15th with all students in grades SK – 6. This is a progress report. It will give you information about how your child is doing with the curriculum being taught and their learning skills. Parent-teacher interviews for this report will take place Thursday, November 18th in the evening and Friday, November 19th from 12:00 – 3:30 p.m. Interview times will be sent home with the report card. If you have a conflict with your scheduled time, please contact the school and we try to arrange a more suitable time.

Good News Assembly

At our October Good News Assembly, the following students were recognized for their contributions to their classes and the school:

Katie-Ann Wolfenberg
Christian Kang
Katelyn Stark
Cheyenne Chesham-Lee
Avery Sones-Watts
Carter MacKinnon
Victoria Collee
Catherine Ball
Erik Penny
Abygale Kray
Gavin Simpkin
Faith Williams
Owen Devine
Benjamin Colbeck
Austin Soltesz
Kyle Bauer

We will continue to recognize the great work and attitudes of our students at the November Good News Assembly on November 29th at 2:30 p.m.

Star Students

We are very proud of the following students who have been recognized this past month as Star Students for their outstanding contributions to the positive atmosphere at Victoria School.

Avery Sones-Watts	helping others
Trent Hunter	citizenship
Sophia Bonaldo	help
Joshua Haworth	responsibility
Jonathon Haworth	responsibility

Great job! Keep up the good work!

Remembrance Day Assembly

We will hold our Remembrance Day assembly on November 11th at 12:00 p.m. in the gym. Parents and community members are welcome to attend this assembly with our staff and students. We ask that all people attending please be on time to avoid interruption of presentations during this solemn occasion. We also ask that all people attending remove their hats and shut off their cell phones and other electronic equipment in respect of the brave Canadians we will be honouring. We will observe a moment of silence at 11:00 a.m. in memory and appreciation of the men and women that have served our country in the past and continue to do so today

Soldier On Fundraiser

We are honoured to be taking part in fundraising for Soldier On which is a program designed to benefit ill and injured soldiers and their families. This program is designed to help soldiers reintegrate into society after illness or injury, through activity and athletics. Proceeds raised are used to purchase equipment such as sledges for slegehockey, basketball wheel chairs, specialized ski equipment etc, as well as providing opportunities for training. 100 % of donations are used to support injured soldiers.

We will be holding a hot dog lunch on November 12, 2010, and proceeds from this event will be donated to this cause, with

more events being planned. We hope you will take this opportunity to give back to our troops.

Time to Change the Batteries

Daylight Savings Time is on Sunday, November 7th – I hope everyone enjoys an extra hour of sleep! This is also a great time of year to remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Keep safe!

EQAO at Victoria

The results of the 2009/10 assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics for grades 3 and 6 were released by the Ministry of Education. Last month the individual results were sent home with the students who wrote the assessment.

There are four possible achievement levels for these assessments. The Provincial standard according to the Ontario curriculum is level 3. The graphs below illustrate the percentage of students at Victoria that achieved or exceeded the provincial standard in each area as compared to the results for the D.S.B.N. and the province of Ontario. Please remember that this is only a “snapshot” of achievement on a selected set of tasks. The Victoria staff is using these results along with other assessment data to create our school growth plan for this year.

Bus Cancellation & School Closures

We are entering into the season of unpredictable weather—hopefully not too soon. It is very important that the school has on file accurate contacts and phone numbers in the event of an emergency or a closure. Please take the time to update this information with Mrs. McGrath. Any bus cancellations (Laidlaw is the company that the services Victoria School) or school closures will be announced on the radio (e.g. CKTB 610, CJRN 710) or on CHCH TV prior to 7:00 a.m. Please do not call the school for this information.

M & M Meats Fundraiser

M & M Meats has designated Tuesday, November 23, 2010 as Victoria School appreciation day. The school will receive 10% of each sale when the customer identifies themselves as being affiliated with Victoria School. Friends, neighbours, family, mere acquaintances can help Victoria School by buying their M & M products on November 23rd and saying “Victoria School”. What a great fundraiser—great food, no work and good results!

The Great Penny Weigh

Victoria School will donate \$323.50 to UNICEF, mostly in pennies! Thanks to everyone who contributed to this worthy cause. A special thank you goes to the grades 1,2 and 3 students who helped Mrs. Del Gobbo count and roll over 30,000 pennies. Great job!

Spirit Day

Spirit Day will be Friday, November 12th. On this day, students are asked to wear red to show support for our Canadian military troops (past and present)!

Fred Penner Concert

On Wednesday afternoon, November 24th, students in JK/SK and grades 1-3 will be attending the "Fred Penner" concert at Bethany Church in St. Catharines. Fred Penner is a well known and well loved childrens' entertainer best known for his television show Fred Penner's Place and his songs including "The Cat Came Back".

Recycle for Education Program

Victoria School is registered in the Staples Business Depot's Recycle for Education Program. For every eligible ink and toner cartridge that is dropped in the bin at Staples a dollar will be donated to participating schools across Canada. In May, this dollar amount will be divided among participating schools and our school will receive a cheque based on number of schools participating etc. This is an easy fundraiser for our school, so we ask that you either drop your cartridges at Staples, or if you prefer you may bring them to the school office and we will take them there for you. This is good for the environment and good for the school!

MS Read-a-thon

The students in grades 1-6 at Victoria School will be taking part in the MS Read-a-thon in January. Our kick-off assembly for this event will be January 19th. This activity not only supports the work that the students and staff are doing with reading at Victoria School, but also helps to raise money to help fund research to cure Multiple Sclerosis. Your support for this worthy cause is much appreciated.