

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

October 2013

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Guardians,

October was a busy month! We continue to stress respectful, responsible behaviours amongst our student body. Clairlea students are immersed in a wide array of activities which collectively support and engage them in the learning process.

Our teachers have all been involved in focused planning for Literacy and Numeracy. Professional development of our teaching staff is ongoing at our school as it positively impacts student learning and achievement.

We are in the midst of completing the progress reports and look forward to the opportunity to meet with parents during our upcoming parent/teacher conferences.

The safety of our students is of paramount importance to us. I would like to engage your support in helping us keep the parking area and bus drop off zone as safe as possible. We need to be assured that our parents will abide by the rules and park in designated areas of the school compound.

We would like to thank our School Council for their tireless efforts in supporting us; feedback from school staff across the T.D.S.B. have commented on how well organized our events are executed and how well planned our teachers are for events we have hosted. We thank them for a successful Halloween Howl event and their continued fundraising initiatives!

Thank you for checking in and adhering to our school protocol of signing in at the main office.

I would like to thank you for your kind encouragement as we continue to work on making our school a fantastic place to learn and grow. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

T. McGilvray

### **STUDENT AND STAFF ALLERGIES**

Many of our students and staff have allergies and some are life threatening. As a community, we must work together to provide a safe environment for all. We ask you to ensure that no peanut or other nut products enter our building. Seafood & shellfish also pose a threat to some of our students.

Please take the time to read the list of ingredients carefully on all products. Thank you for your understanding and continued cooperation with this very important matter.

### **No loading and unloading in the staff parking lot**

We ask that you **do not drive** up the side of the school into the staff parking lot to pick up or drop off your child. The laneway and parking lot needs to be accessible to staff, Board employees and emergency vehicles at all times.

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### **Tues. Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>:**

Sight & Sound  
Picture Retakes

### **Wed. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>:**

Convenant House presentation for Gr. 7 & 8's

### **Thurs. Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>:**

Gr. 4/5 legislative Assembly trip  
Art Club

### **Tues. Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>:**

Progress Reports go home

### **Wed. Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> – Fri. Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

Book Fair

### **Fri. Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>:**

P.A. Day- no school for students

### **Wed. Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>:**

Parent Presentation Homework Help in French @ 6:15 pm

Parent Council Mtg. @ 7pm

### **Fri. Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

Movie Night 6-9

### **Thurs. Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>:**

Art Club

### **Wed. Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>:**

Pizza lunch

### **Fri. Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>:**

Panther Assembly – Diwali presentation  
Superhero Day



## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Cross Country

What a spectacular Cross Country season! We had over 50 students from grades 1 – 8 participate in the first meet at Thompson Park in early October. We had a huge contingent from Clairlea at this event, including students, staff and family members. We all gathered under the purple tent and had an awesome day.

Twenty-two students qualified for the next round of competition held the following week again at Thompson Park. Our students did a wonderful job representing our school and six students qualified for the City Finals held at Centennial Park. These students made us very proud with their sportsmanship and achievement at such a high level of competition. Thanks to all students who came out for Cross Country and to all the parents and fans that cheered us on at the events. A huge shout out to our coaches...MS. Bauman, Ms. Callahan and Ms. Carson for their work with our runners.

### Halloween Howl

The annual Halloween Howl at Clairlea was a spook-tacular event on October 26<sup>th</sup>. We had over 550 people in through our building. It was terrifyingly terrific to see so many from our community enjoying this fun-filled afternoon. A big hooowwwwwlllll for all our parent and community volunteers who worked so hard to make sure this event was a success. Special thanks to our Parent Council for their leadership with the Howl. We look forward to scaring you next year!

### Kearney

Our grade 6 students recently made the trip to Kearney for a fun-filled four days of outdoor education, games, delicious food and fun. From the various games such as Predator and prey to the bus ride up and back, everyone had a superb time. A special thanks to our teachers, Mr. Mitkovski, Mr. Fils-Aime, Ms. Vincent and Ms. Callahan who took time from their own busy lives and families to spend the weekend with our kids at Kearney. They really did go above and beyond the call of duty!!! As such, the grade six students made memories that will last for always!

### PD SESSIONS

Our staff members have recently been involved in a variety of professional development activities here at the school and elsewhere. Teachers have participated in workshops on blogging, special education, writing IEPs, teaching critical pathways as a means of best practices and assessment. We look forward to a great year ahead as we work together to support every child and their learning.

### Intermediate Boys' Volleyball

Volleyball season is back! The intermediate boys' volleyball team looked fierce starting off the season with a win. Stay tuned for more volleyball action as the boys continue their season.

## **Boys Baseball**

After having won last year's championship and all but 3 returning players graduated, this year's team was in a rebuilding stage. The players on this year's squad did not get that memo. After losing their opening game, the boys rattled off 4 wins and a tie to finish at the top of the division and earned home field advantage for the quarterfinals. With the playoffs being new territory for many of the players, the jitters were evident. After 2 of the 6 innings were played, the Panthers found themselves in dire straits, down 9-0. With their mettle being tested, the boys did not fold. The rally was on. Over the course of the next three innings, this determined Panther squad tied the game 10-10. However, this is where our heroic tale ends. In the final inning, Courcellette scored one run and in our half, we could not match them. Our boys fell 11-10 in what was a thrilling game. Hopefully our players have learned something to take away with them in the future.

Mr. Church & Ms. Gousis

## **World Cup and Primary Cup**

This year's tournaments returned with much fanfare and wonderful attendance, to the tune of 225 students participating! The grades 4 through 8 played their games over a 2 month timespan during the lunch hour and the grades 1 through 3 gave up their recesses for their 6 week tournament. As has been the case over the last 12 years, there were many mountainous highs and some devastating lows. The action was intense and for the most part, sportsmanship reigned supreme. A big congratulation goes out to all of this year's players for their hard work and dedication. It must be said that the majority of all games played this year ended in either a tie or there was a one goal differential. In the playoffs, the trend continued with many of the matches needing penalty kicks to settle the outcome. This speaks to the parity of the league and the equal opportunity for any team to win. Here is a list of this year's championship teams: The Kangaroos, The Amphibians, The Carpenters, The Aborigines, Germany, Argentina, The Netherlands and Russia. From everyone here in the Commissioner's Office, we look forward to seeing you all again next year!

The Commissioner

We would like to wish Mme Trott all the best as she welcomes a new baby into her family. She begins her leave at the beginning of November and we wish her health and happiness.

## **Remembrance Day Assembly**

We will be hosting our Remembrance Day Assembly on November 11<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:30 in the morning in the gym. We look forward to marking this important date here at Clairlea.

## ***LOST & FOUND***

Please stop by and check for any missing items over the next couple of weeks. Everything will be on display until November 15<sup>th</sup>. After that, any remaining items will be donated to a local charity.