



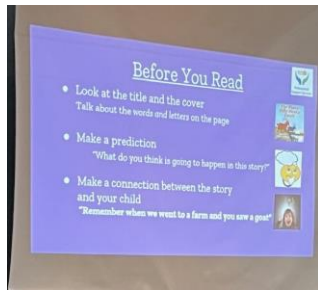
December 2023

Administrators' Message

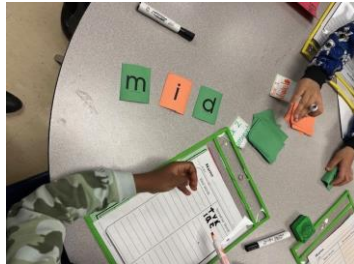
In December, our Character Trait is Kindness and Caring – a very fitting trait for this month as we celebrate many holidays and traditions. It is a time for holiday traditions, giving to others and spending time with family and friends.



Thank you to our families who attended our Snuggle Up and Read Event. This event provided families with a variety of ideas and activities to support their child with building their literacy skills. Our evening began in the gym as students gathered and Ms. Parsons read them a



story. Our school Speech and Language Pathologist, Lindsay Taggart, attended this event and shared strategies to support reading and phonemic awareness skills, and a variety of activities/resources were provided by our teachers for a fun interactive experience. The evening ended as everyone gathered in the library and families received a book and a reading strategy bookmark, as well as a snack to enjoy at home.



As we prepare to head into winter break, we would like to wish all of our Malvern JPS families a happy winter holiday season! We hope that you have a wonderful winter break.

Staffing Update

We would like to thank Ms. George-Patrick for her dedication to Malvern JPS over the past two and a half years. Ms. GP is a passionate educator and a dedicated leader which she has demonstrated throughout her time at Malvern. She will be missed by our students, families and staff. We wish her all the best as she transfers to her new school in January. In January we will welcome Mr. Lewin, a retired administrator, as our Acting Vice Principal. Mr. Lewin will be working with us starting in January until the end of March.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Ms. Kaloutas to our office team! Ms. Kaloutas has been working in our office in the afternoons and has now officially become our permanent afternoon secretary.

School Council

Thank you to our School Council for their work on planning our first fundraiser, and for their support for our school events, such as Snuggle Up and Read.

On **Wednesday, December 20th**, School Council will be hosting a **Bake Sale** to help raise funds to pay for school buses for excursions. Our school's goal this year is for every class to have the opportunity to go on a field trip to extend/build on their classroom learning. We encourage our families to support this fundraiser by either donating a pre-packaged, nut free baked good, or by coming to the Bake Sale – or both!



Making the Best of Winter Weather at School

Principals are often asked how we decide whether it is too cold to allow our students out in the schoolyard for recess.

Fresh air and exercise are important for children. It keeps them physically active, and helps them stay alert through the school day.

Parents/caregivers can help by making sure their children come to school prepared to spend time outdoors.

Hats, mitts, boots and a warm jacket are important to keep students comfortable during lunch, recesses and outdoor play and exploration time for students in Kindergarten.



Extreme cold can be dangerous, and we understand that parents/caregivers want to know that their children will be safe. When the temperature is predicted to drop below -15C, the City of Toronto may declare a cold weather alert. Schools are very sensitive to the needs of our students and pay close attention to the weather, especially when the wind chill is below -20C. The TDSB Severe Weather Protocol is flexible, so that every principal can make a decision that meets the needs of their school. It sets guidelines for when to allow students outside for recess, when to make outdoor breaks shorter, and when to keep students inside altogether.

Canadian winters can be wonderful but when the weather is cold, school staff keep an eye on the temperature and on the needs of our students, a perfect balance of fun and safety.

Winter weather conditions sometimes warrant indoor recess, lunch and pre-entry periods for the safety of students and staff. Refer to the following guidelines:

When temperature and/or wind chill factor indicates -28C or lower, students will remain indoors due to risk of frostnip and frostbite. When temperature and/or wind chill factor indicates -20 to -28C, recesses may be shortened to 10 minutes and lunch

recess to 20 minutes depending on local conditions. Students should be monitored for signs of frostnip, frostbite or difficulty breathing.

Free Glasses for Students

We are able to help families get free eyeglasses for students as long as we have a copy of your child's prescription. It is important to note that you are able to, and are encouraged to take your child(ren) to an



optometrist for a yearly vision check. This is at no charge to parents/caregivers as it is covered by OHIP for children. If your child needs glasses and you do not have coverage, please call the school and let us know and we will assist you.



P.A. Day	December 8
Boys' Volleyball Tournament	December 11
Girls' Basketball Tournament	December 12
Mining Matters Workshops	December 12
Grade 3/4 and 4/5 Classes	December 12
Kearney Parent Session	December 12
Kindness & Caring Assembly	December 20
Bake Sale	December 20
Pyjama Day	December 22
Winter Holidays	December 23-January 7

Principal	Andrea Lane
Vice Principal	Michelle George-Patrick
Superintendent	Monday Gala
Trustee	Yalini Rajakulasingam
Office Administrator	Grace Romeo
Secretary (p.m.)	Mary Kaloutas
Head Caretaker	Quang Lao

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