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MARCH NEWSLETTER 2010

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Principal

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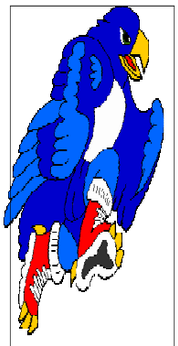

A N D R E W H U N T E R

Sports Corner

Congratulation to the Intermediate Girls Volleyball team for a great season. The girls worked well as a team and showed improvement in their skills. Mrs. Leigh and Mrs. Thurlow had a great time and enjoyed working with each of you. We encourage all the graduating students to try out for the high school teams and continue to work on developing your volleyball skills. Good Job Ladies

The Intermediate girl's volleyball team showed outstanding sportsmanship and pride in their school as hosts to a recent zone tournament. With a 3-game loss, these Hawks are all winners when it comes to team and school spirit!

The Grade 7&8 boy's basketball team put in an awesome effort at Holly Meadows with a 60–20 win over Ecole Secondaire followed by a 38–-24 loss to Emma King. Great job guys!

We're very proud of the way our teams represent our community!

Intramural Volleyball will begin after March break, so start practicing those serves.

Classroom News

Ms. Gagnon's Kindergarten class was spotted doing the freeze dance! At regular intervals throughout the day, these young students are encouraged to move their bodies, and that makes their brains work more efficiently. We love to see these active kids learning in a fun environment.

Mrs. Johnston's SK/Grade 1 class have earned a reward for good behaviour in class and will be going skating in March. Time and money units are the current focus for math, and an author study on Eric Carle is coming up in March. Parents will surely be the recipients of some great Carle-like artwork during this unit.

The Olympic Games have been an important topic of study in February for the grade 2 students in Ms. Mount's room. They have used photos from newspaper reports to sharpen their inferring skills to identify the athlete's emotions.

Room 144 had a big surprise for their teacher in February. They celebrated "We Love Ms. Ellsworth Day" with cupcakes, cookies, and gifts of art and cards for the star of the day. Ms. Ellsworth was indeed surprised! Black History month has been an important theme in February, and the students have learned valuable lessons in discrimination. March will bring a "100 days party with the students presenting their 100's projects. This is such a fun way to learn math! Parents continue to enjoy weekly poetry readings at home from the students who are sharpening their reading and memory skills.

Posters of pioneer occupations are on display outside of Mrs. Bacher's classroom where Grade 3's have been concentrating on our history with a focus on the pioneers of our country. A trip to the Simcoe County Museum will occur in the spring and will reinforce the knowledge these students have gained during this segment of study. Upcoming social studies units will center on urban and rural geography and students will use their new skills to map our community.

Mrs. Teskey's students are delving into the world of poetry. March will witness learners involved in reading, writing, memorizing and presenting all types of poetry. Perhaps another Robert Browning or Elizabeth Barrett Browning may be discovered and will hone his or her skills on Browning Trail!

Mrs. McDonough's Grade 3/4 have been busy writing scripts about light, forces and the effects of smoking. They performed their shadow puppet plays for classes in the primary division. What a great job they did of integrating science, language and drama!

Mr. Carron, Mrs. Thurlow, and Mr. Thomson are often seen in the hall during transition times throughout the school day, conferring and ensuring that lines of communication are open. While not a formal school lesson, this in an invaluable skill they are modeling to our intermediate students, on teams and how teamwork is important in both academic and professional environments. Kudos go to this dynamic trio for showing this skill in real life to Andrew Hunter's upcoming graduates.

In other Intermediate news, a bake-sale fundraiser held in February will assist in funding for a trip to Brock University in May. The Haiti "Loose Change" event raised a total of $696.00, given to the Canadian Red Cross, which provides emergency disaster relief.

Mrs. Woodlock's classroom is a busy place! A media literacy study utilizing the Toronto Sun and Toronto Star, with a focus on the Olympics, is currently underway. The spotlight on Black History Month will culminate in viewing the movie "Race to Freedom". February saw this class celebrate the "100 Days of School", and the students attended a Toronto Maple Leafs practice at the Air Canada Centre. After receiving "lucky vibes" from our students, the Leafs won their game against the New Jersey Devils later that evening.

The students in Mrs. Harrison's room is participating in a Dr. Seuss author study. This group of sports fans has also been enjoying an opportunity to learn while studying the Olympics. Recent science emphasis has revolved around liquids and solids.

In library news, Ms. MacAdam reports that a new computer system will be installed, and will allow our school access to new search engines such as Knowledge Ontario.

Our very active Mrs. Kelly reports that the Fitness Club, for grades 4–8, will continue to run until April. Outdoor Club, also for grades 4–-8, will start after March Break. This club will target group-work skills in an outdoor setting, and is sure to provide much fun and exercise. More information will follow. Thanks to Mrs. Kelly for undertaking these initiatives to keep our Hawks active!

Ms. Mount advises that the Primary students will enjoy an upcoming Aboriginal Play Day. Junior and Intermediate grades are working together to ensure a great time for the youngest students. More information will be coming your way in the coming weeks.

The Drama Club, under the leadership of Ms. G., is proceeding well. Our thespians will be ready to perform "Kindness", a family drama that takes place in a school environment, in April. Please stay tuned for more information on performance dates.

Castles are everywhere in Mrs. White's class, where medieval and ancient structures take centre stage this month as part of the ongoing Middle Ages unit. Habitats and the human body, with a focus on the digestive and circulatory systems, are the current science areas of study for this grade 4/5 class. The Olympic theme has been an important one for phys. ed., where these active kids have held their own Olympic games.

After a busy unit on Aborigianl Studies, Mrs. Packard's Grade 6 class will be switching gears and starting a science unit about electricity and energy conservation.

Andrew Hunter Elementary School

Student Transition

As students progress from elementary school to secondary school, important personal student information is shared which eases the students' transition to secondary school. Sharing this information also improves our ability to program effectively to benefit all students. Select student information will be shared at different times as appropriate. The collecting and use of personal student information for such purposes is authorized under sections 170, 171, 190 Part X and Part X 111 of the Education Act. Please note that all information used for the transition process is limited, secure and protected at all times. Please contact Phyllis Hili Superintendent of Education for this area, if you would like more information about the transition process at Andrew Hunter E.S.

Your Child's Immunization Record!

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required by law to keep complete immunization records on every school aged child in Simcoe County and the District of Muskoka.
Unfortunately the health unit does not receive immunization information directly from doctor's offices; **it is the parent's responsibility to give all immunization information to the health unit.** If your child's immunization record is not complete, you may receive a notice from the health unit requesting dates for immunization or proof of a valid exemption. You will also be advised that your child may be suspended from school if the health unit does not receive this information. Please check to make sure that your child's immunization information is up-to-date and that the health unit has record of it. If you have any questions or concerns, please call your Health Connection at (705)721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

OPEN HOUSE
@
Andrew Hunter E.S.
Monday, March 8th
from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
for Hillcrest Families coming to our school.

March Break Reminder
There will be no school March 15-19

Student Safety

We need your assistance to ensure the safety of our students. Please do not park in the fire route. It creates a safety hazard and blocks access for our buses. When using the main parking lot, please do not park in front of the designated handicap parking space. Please do not stop or park on Leacock Drive in front of the primary yard.
Supervision for students begins at 8:55 a.m. Staff who are outside prior to that time are assigned to special needs students who arrive by bus and are not available for general supervision.
Please remember that dogs, even small ones, are not permitted on school property.

Jump Rope for Heart

Last May, students raised just over $3600.00 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Andrew Hunter received a cheque for $360.00. Gym equipment (70 nerf balls, 5 dozen beanbags) and outdoor equipment (mini sticks and steel mini sticks nets, soccer balls) have been purchased with theses funds. Great work Andrew Hunter students!
This year's Jump Rope for Heart event takes place on May 27.

Parents,

Cell phones, like many other electronic devices, can be a distraction. Students need to learn when and where a cell phone can be appropriate. As a school, we are reminding you that the use of cell phones and other electronic devices is not permitted on school property. Devices used at school will be confiscated and stored in the office. A parent will be responsible for picking them up at their convenience. If your child needs to use the phone during school hours they can get a phone pass from their classroom teacher. Please feel free to refer to the SCDSB policy in the front of your child's agenda if you have any questions regarding this board policy.

A set of car keys were handed into the office. They have two Honda keys and several other keys on the ring. If you lost your keys please claim them at the office.