



Macaulay Newsflash

Macaulay Public School

1270 Cedar Lane

Bracebridge, Ontario P1L 1W9

Telephone: (705) 645-5410 Fax: (705) 645-0074

<http://mac.tlidsb.on.ca>



Principal: Peter Edwards
School Trustee: Steve Bienstock



Secretary: Jenny Rendall

Macaulay Public School, touching minds, hearts and spirits to shape our future

April 2015

Principal's Message

As I was sitting down to write this month's message I glanced back to last year and noticed that I wrote about snowy weather and where had Spring gone. Well this year it seems like Spring hasn't even shown up yet! Eventually it will and all this snow will melt. When that happens, it will be a challenge for students to stay out of the puddles and mud. Please help your child by having appropriate clothing and footwear here at school.

We had our first Pasta Lunch in March and it was very successful with over 80 students participating. The feedback I got was almost all positive. We will be having our second Pasta Lunch on 21st. If you haven't ordered you still have time – please contact your child's teacher or Jenny at the office.

We are very early in the planning process for next year. It is critical for us to have accurate numbers for student registration. If you have a child entering JK next and have not registered them yet, please do so ASAP. Also, if you know you will be leaving the Macaulay community next September, please send in a note to the office. These two steps will help us with our planning.

The annual EQAO assessment is fast approaching. If your child is in either grade 3 or 6 we would ask that all appointments be made outside of the EQAO dates, May 25th to June 5th. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bring on the sun and some warmer weather!

Peter Edwards
Principal

School Council Meeting

The next School Council Meeting will be held on **Monday April 13th** at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Kindergarten Registration

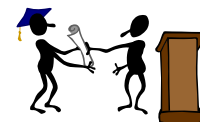
Thank you to all families who have brought their children recently to register for the upcoming 2015-2016 year. We are busily planning for September. If you have not yet had a chance to register your Kindergarten student, please give our office a call today! We are looking forward to seeing you!

Playground Improvements

School Council is getting ready to implement Phase 2 of the Outdoor Classroom by the north side of the soccer field. The stone table and stools were installed in the fall. Plans are to continue with the committee's previous ideas of landscaping the small area with a few natural elements. Suggestions are always welcome. If you have ideas that you wish to contribute, please get in touch with our school council by April 13th. Thank you!

Graduation Up-date

The Grade 8 graduation ceremony will be held on **Monday, June 22nd** at Macaulay Public School from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. with a photo shoot occurring at 6:00 p.m. The post grad celebration will be held at Riverwalk – Club 1 from 8:00 – 10:30 p.m. with a buffet dinner.



Grades 7/8 Events

The grade 7/8 classes will be participating in a Junior Achievement Program in their classrooms on

Tuesday April 14th. This program focuses on **Financial Literacy Skills.**

Two students from Robin Allison's grade 7/8 class will be representing Macaulay at the Huntsville Area schools **Ted Talks** event on **Wed. April 15th.** The entire class will be taking a trip to Riverside Public School to support their classmates and be exposed to motivating and inspiring students!

Auditions will take place for the **Macaulay's Got Talent' Talent Show** on **Friday April 24th.** Students from grade 1-8 are welcome to audition. Listen for announcements!

Scholastic Book Fair

The Library will be holding a Book Fair **April 29 – May 4th.** The Book Fair will be open **8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** daily and **Thursday until 7:30 p.m.** Please feel free to browse the huge selection of books on display.



Litterless Lunch Kits for Sale

School Council is offering exciting and unique lunch kits for sale. These kits are typically unavailable in retail stores. Please see the website for colour photos and descriptions of the available thermos, water bottle and litterless food containers. This is a School Council fundraising initiative. Order forms with payment are due on **Monday April 13.**

Textile Recycling Fundraiser

Consider bringing your unneeded clothing, plush toys, shoes, belts, purses and household linen to Macaulay for an Earth Day fundraising project. Please see our website to learn more about the destination of our donated items! The truck will be here on **April 21 at 10 AM** to weigh and take away all the donated goods. School Council is challenging us to bring in a total of **3 Tons!** Let's all get spring cleaning to help reach our goal!

Grade 3 & 6 Testing

Grade 3 & 6 testing will take place on May 25 – June 5th. Please avoid taking your child out of school if possible during this testing period.

Dress for the Weather

With warmer temperatures arriving, the snow in our playground is beginning to melt and with that puddles and mud are forming. Please ensure that you send your children



with boots and proper outdoor clothing for the weather.

Dates To Remember

- ◆ Good Friday → Apr. 3
- ◆ Easter Monday → Apr. 6
- ◆ Badminton → Apr. 23
- ◆ Auditions Talent Show → Apr. 24
- ◆ Book Fair → Apr.28- May 5
- ◆ Hep B & HPV needles → May 12
- ◆ Macaulay Track & Field → May 15
- ◆ Victoria Day → May 19
- ◆ Grade 3 & 6 testing → May 26-June 6th
- ◆ P.D. Day – no school → June 5
- ◆ Grad Day → June 22
- ◆ Last day of School → June 24



Is Your Child Ready for Kindergarten

If you have a child entering Kindergarten for the first time this fall, you will want to attend a **Ready for Kindergarten** event near you this spring. You are welcome to attend any of the three open houses regardless of where you live and which school you have registered at for the fall.

- April 9th – St. Mary Catholic School, Huntsville
- April 22nd – Muskoka Beechgrove P.S. Gravenhurst
- May 5th – Monck P.S., Bracebridge

Monck Public School is hosting our local **Ready for Kindergarten** event on **May 5th** to help familiarize your child and ensure your child is **READY** to learn on their first day of school. At **Ready for Kindergarten**, your child will have the opportunity to have their hearing and vision tested as well as undergo screening for developmental milestones. You can learn about how to pack healthy lunches, sample healthy snacks, speak to a dental hygienist, learn about immunizations, talk to someone about library and recreation programs, and even go with your child on their first school bus ride. The events run from 4 pm until 7 pm and you will need one to two hours to get through all the activities. If you have registered your child for Kindergarten, watch for their personal invitation in the mail! If you haven't, call Macaulay now to register your child for school! **Ready for Kindergarten** is a free evening of activities and gives families an opportunity to learn more about what services are available in Muskoka. Parents of other primary students new to the Muskoka area or who are interested in information regarding the many support

opportunities and organizations available to them are also welcome to attend. For more information, contact Brenda Boothby 645-2412 Ext. 467 or email bboothby@muskoka.on.ca.

Parent Engagement

Mental Health Minute — Getting Out the Door on Time

Ah, the morning chaos of a household waking up: cleaning, dressing, eating, and racing out the door... Any number of things can make for a stressful morning: lack of sleep, a child needing reminders every step of the way, the last minute lunches. The key is organization – and the place to start is with you! Be realistic about how much time you need to get ready in the morning. Time pressures add stress to everyone.

Key Steps

Get yourself ready first, before your child.
Go to bed at a reasonable hour so you wake up rested and ready for the day.
Plan ahead: pack lunches, find the mittens, and pick clothes the night before.
Keep the television off! Electronics and TV can be very disruptive first thing in the morning. If there is extra time, let them use it to read, chat, or help out.
Be clear and realistic about what your child can do.
Praising them when they do something well encourages them to do it again and gain new skills.

Finally, remember to have patience. Your child learns from watching you and you have the unique opportunity to show these skills. In time your child will learn to plan ahead, be organized, and develop patience. Now, let's have breakfast!

For more information visit
www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or
www.tripleontario.ca.

It's a Wrap!

Are your children tired of the traditional bread sandwich? Stock up on a variety of whole wheat

and multi-grain wraps, pitas, or tortilla shells - then let your imagination go! Tasty fillings include:

Beans, salsa, and shredded mozzarella
Hummus and grated carrot
Egg salad made with chopped celery and green onion
Salmon salad topped with shredded lettuce
Sliced turkey with honey mustard
Chopped chicken salad made with grated apple

Digital Citizenship

Powerful Presentation

There are many times when your child will be asked to present to the class, to parents, and to others. You can help your child practice oral speaking skills. Start with reading out loud. Children of all ages can role-play and read with expression and meaning. Children can practice the art of storytelling.

Challenge your child to think quickly and be creative using impromptu speeches. Taking a long trip? Keep a list of topics to draw from a hat.

Reciting poems, giving speeches, and making presentations for independent studies all require your child to speak in front of an audience. If you have a video camera, film them giving their speech or get them to practice in front of a mirror. If you have a computer with a microphone, they can record their presentation and listen to the recording. Presentation software often includes the voice-recording feature. Let them create a recorded slide presentation.

Source: "Parent Tool Kit" by the Council of Ontario Directors of Education.