

Macaulay Newsflash



Macaulay Public School
1270 Cedar Lane
Bracebridge, Ontario P1L 1W9
Telephone: (705) 645-5410 Fax: (705) 645-0074
<http://mac.tdsb.on.ca>



Principal: Peter Edwards
School Trustee: Steve Binstock



Secretary: Jenny Rendall

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

December 2014

Principal's Message

I think 3 snow days in November must be a record! With the dusting we've received lately maybe the snow is now here to stay.

It was great to see so many parents in the school the past two weeks meeting with teachers about the progress of our students. It is important that parents and school are working together to ensure students are reaching their full potential. Our Junior/Intermediate teachers trialed a new interview format, a 3-way student lead conference. The feedback we received from most parents was that it was a very positive format and one we should continue with. I know some parents still prefer the traditional interview style and hopefully we will be able to accommodate those requests as well.

Macaulay is a very busy place with clubs, sports teams, extended Phys Ed programs, learning buddies, and Citizenship activities. Hopefully your child feels they are part of the school community; research has shown engaged students who feel a connection to their school consistently achieve more than those who are not involved.

Finally, as we move into the Christmas break, I would like to wish each family a safe and happy holiday and hope you spend time with family and friends.

Peter Edwards
Principal

Extreme Fall Fundraising

Macaulay students raised a whopping total of \$697.15 last month. The annual Manna Food Bank drive generated \$276.50. Riley's Rice Krispie fundraiser for the Angel's Catwalk Sick Kids Hospital Liver Transplant Program raised \$420.65.

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall fundraising efforts.

Holiday Assembly

Several primary classes will be performing Christmas songs at our regular assembly on Friday December 12th at 8:50. There is a special assembly on Tuesday, December 16th at 11:30 for various musical ensembles. We would love to have you join us for either or both assemblies, if you are available for our seasonal celebrations.



The Christmas Food/Toy Drive

The Christmas season is approaching quickly. Again this year, Macaulay Public School will be supporting the Salvation Army and its **Christmas Food/Toy Drive**. Macaulay families have been so supportive of this project in the past and we look forward to your continued participation and generosity.

We will be collecting non-perishable food items and toys beginning on **Monday December 1st** and continuing until **Friday December 12th**. Food and toys collected will be picked up at the assembly on **Friday December 12th**. Items may be brought in and placed in the large gift boxes in each classroom. Suggestions for food items include juices, pasta sauce, soup, tuna, vegetables, fruit, brown beans (no chick peas or kidney please), peanut butter, ketchup, macaroni / cheese, cereal, dry pasta, coffee, tea and sugar. Non-food items in need are toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo/conditioner, body wash, deodorant, laundry soap, tissues and toilet paper. The donated toys should be new and remain in their packaging.

In lieu of a gift for your child's teacher at Christmas, our staff is requesting that the school community support our December food/toy drive. It is our pleasure to teach your children and it would give us

greater satisfaction to see donations made to those in need. Thank you for giving to our community. Your donations are greatly appreciated and will help to make this holiday season brighter for so many.

Holiday Bazaar

Macaulay's Grade 7 and 8 classes are holding a holiday bazaar as a fundraising initiative in support of their upcoming trip to St. Donat, Quebec. This event will be on **Saturday December 13th, 9 am – 12 pm** in the gym and the library. The gym will feature crafts made by kids, for kids'. All items are under **\$5**. Grade 7/8 students will act as 'personal shoppers' to help younger kids find gifts for their family and friends. The library will feature 'a lounge and unique gifts' for parents to relax and shop while the little ones are in the gym. All proceeds will go directly to the grade 7/8 Quebec trip.



Boston Pizza

Proud sponsor of Macaulay Public School! Simply enjoy a meal at Boston Pizza, leave your receipt in the Macaulay Sponsor Box and they will donate a percentage of the sales back to our school.

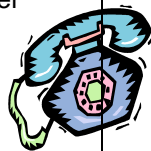
Winter Watch

The cold snowy winter weather has begun. Please remember to ensure that your child comes to school with a hat, mitts, warm coat and boots. All children are expected to enjoy the great outdoors at recess.

Remember to check the radio for school bus cancellations. If the busses are cancelled on a pizza day, there will be **NO** delivery of pizza. Also, if children are dropped off at school on a "no bus" day, parents are responsible to pick up their child by **3:15 p.m.**

Safe Arrival

Just a gentle reminder that if your child is going to be absent from school or late for any reason, we would appreciate a call to the safe arrival number **645-1918**. Please leave a message on the answering machine indicating your child's name and classroom, as well as an indication of how long they are expected to be absent. We check these messages between 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. each morning. Parents are also reminded that supervision on the yard does not begin until 8:25 – students should not be dropped off before that time.



Cross-Country Ski Club

There will be a student cross-country ski club starting after the holidays. Students can bring in their own equipment after the break. Otherwise, the school has equipment for them to use. Please stay tuned for more details.

Kindness Elves

Mrs. Allison's students have made it their mission to spread kindness and positivity around the school, households, and the community by hiding 'kindness elves' in each classroom every morning from December 8th - 18th. The 'kindness elf' will have a new message or challenge to encourage students to focus on being kind and grateful. Happy Holidays everyone!!!

TLAC 2015 –

Student Applications are now available!

What is TLAC? TLAC is an arts camp for Grade 7 through 12 students that will take place May 17 - 22, 2015! TLAC offers specialized instruction

for Music, Drama, Musical Theatre, Dance, and Visual Art within an exciting camp experience. The arts camp is set up as a typical high school day with four periods. There are evening concerts featuring performances from major artists, a presentation from a local visual artist, and art display. This enriched arts experience is enhanced by the summer camp atmosphere.

The deadline for applications is December 12, 2014.

Application packages are available online or in your school office. Visit <http://tldsbc.ca/students/tlac/> for more information or contact Wendy Browne at 1(888) 526-5552 x22104 or wendy.browne@tldsbc.on.ca. Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis. A waiting list will be kept for any forms received over and above our maximum capacity. Applications that are not complete will be returned, so time and complete all sections accurately! We are very excited about the new programs in this year's schedule!



Kindness Week Activities

During our week of Kindness, students were involved in creating messages for each other and placing them in their mailboxes. More students enjoyed giving the letters compared to those receiving them. All in all, it was well received. Students also learned about empathy after watching a short video clip of a dog and elephant friendship. The Circle of Peace worked very hard to get the Compliment Wall going and print more Got-chas (positive notes like Stormtastics). We will continue to work on kindness things throughout the year.

Snow White Performance

Students from JK- Grade 2 recently attended the local play "Snow White" at the Rene Caisse Theatre. Our students were tremendously positive ambassadors for our school. All children enjoyed the wonderful performances of the young cast including our own budding thespians - **Jorja Moore, Emily Clifford and Audrey Moore.**

Basketball

The boys and girls basketball teams have been practicing during their recess times and playing games after school in preparation for next week's tournament. Good luck to both teams on **Dec.10th**.

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to all who supported our book fair. The fair generated approximately \$2500 in sales and as a result, a generous amount for our school to acquire new materials. Mr. Bush has already begun to select and purchase new additions to our library. Thanks Macaulay families!

*Wishing you a very
Merry Christmas and
a safe holiday!*



*Make a difference in
the lives of children
and youth:
say 'yes' to participate
2014 Ontario Child
Health Study
and School Mental
Health Surveys*

The 1983 Ontario Child Health Study told us that **1 in 5 children and youth experienced serious mental health challenges.** This estimate is outdated as is much of what we know about child and youth mental health in Ontario. The 2014 Ontario Child Health Study will tell us about the mental health status and needs of children and youth living in Ontario today.

From October 2014 to May 2015, Statistics Canada will be inviting 7,000 families with children aged 4 - 17 years to complete an interview in their home. At the same time, McMaster researchers will be conducting School Mental Health Surveys in 240 Ontario schools to help us learn new ways of promoting and addressing student mental health needs.

*Together, these studies will be the first of their kind
in Canada
to examine the influence of family, community and
school environments
on child and youth mental health.*

The results will be used to develop programs and services to improve the mental health of young people in Ontario. Results from the 1983 Study were partially responsible for over 3 billion dollars of investment in federal and provincial programs and services, resulting in the creation of programmes such as the Ontario Early Years Centres.

Participation in the 1983 Ontario Child Health Study was over 90%. Make sure you are heard in 2014 as well. Let's make our province a better place for children and youth. If invited to participate, please say 'yes' to the 2014 Ontario Child Health Study and School Mental Health Surveys.

www.ontariochildhealthstudy.ca