

Mariposa Elementary School Newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone enjoyed March break and Easter. March has really passed us by quickly. Our students are back into the swing of learning and steadily showing growth in all academic areas. Thank you to everyone at home and in our community who support our students.

As well as academics, we continue to have many extra-curricular events in progress. Competition for gym time is very fierce as we have entered volley ball and skipping seasons. Numerous teams have visited other schools for "friendly" games and we have hosted quite a few. Many thanks to all parents and volunteers for pitching in and transporting students.

We also have fun leagues running for Junior and Intermediate students, M.A.D. Monarchs, Me to We, Right to Play, Home Ec. Club, Social Club, Girls Club and many others being supported by staff and student leaders. It is wonderful to see so many young people being physically and socially active. It shows that Feeding All Four (Mind, Body, Emotions and Spirit) is indeed a "way of being" at Mariposa ES. Also a very big THANK YOU to our committed coaches for their hard work and volunteer hours.

Finally, it seems that Spring has arrived. While we do everything we can to keep everyone clean and dry, those puddles are just too tempting for some of our students; even our older students can't resist. Please make sure everyone packs extra clothing (especially socks).

EXCITING NEW PROJECT – THE GATHERING PLACE

Our Making A Difference (M.A.D. Monarchs) are beginning an exciting new venture; "The Gathering Place - a mindful garden and outdoor learning space". Mindful gardens can be combined with outdoor learning spaces to create new environments for students. They can serve all uses a classroom would serve and reconnect students with the natural world and the true source of their food. The Gathering Place will embrace the "way of being" which underlies Feed All Four. The development of these spaces teaches students valuable gardening and agriculture concepts and skills that integrate with several subjects, such as math, science, art, health and physical education, and social studies, as well as several educational goals, including personal and social responsibility.

The design brief for this project encompasses the following:

- A teaching circle and a variety of table and seating configurations to support individual, group and class learning needs
- Outdoor chalk/white board to share learning experiences
- Mindful areas including active movement and quiet places
- Flexible garden spaces - for a variety of purposes
- Natural features (trees, shrubs, greenery, rock and log structures)
- Fitness and balance elements

But we need your help! Teachers are in the process of applying for grants, however, we know there is going to be a significant shortfall. We are looking for members of the Mariposa community who could help out with any of the following items.

- Site Preparation Grading & excavation
- Stone Seating: Armor Stones
- Learning tables: log seating & irregularly shaped granite counter top remnants
- Mature Trees
- Shrubs - Lilacs, Spirea, etc.
- Mulch ground cover,
- Small Greenhouse, 6ft x 8ft
- Outdoor Chalk Board: Water-proof plywood, Chalkboard Paint, hardware
- Raised Planting Beds Lumber & hardware
- Soil For Raised Planting beds and shrubs
- Plant materials - seeds, flowers, etc.
- Labour volunteers and in-kind
- Consulting Landscape plan, design & engineering

If you can help out in any way please contact Mrs. Skrabek or Mrs. Tindale



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Youth Mental Wellness - Parent Info. Night

Sometimes it can be difficult for adults to understand how difficult children's problems can be because we look at their problems through adult eyes and often think, "what's the big deal?" But the pressures of growing up can be very hard for children. It is important that we take youth's concerns seriously!

Join us on Thursday April 14th at 7pm in the MES Gymnasium to hear from guest speaker Jack Veitch from the Canadian Mental Health Association. This engaging and informative presentation will be about an hour, with plenty of time for a question and answer session.

Refreshments and Childcare available.

LIBRARY NEWS

A reminder that the Scholastic Book Fair will be held the week of April 11 – 15.

QSP MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER

Congratulations to our students, families and supporters for another great magazine campaign. This year we raised \$2681.54! Awesome!! This is our major school fundraiser and the money supports technology and music programs and equipment to help keep our kids active. We would like to thank everyone who placed orders online this year. Online ordering systems save our staff a lot of time. Thank you to Mrs. Jameson for taking on the logistics of the campaign. It was quite a learning experience for her.

School Council News

On behalf of the school council we would like to thank everyone who supported our Little Caesars Fundraiser, a big thank you goes out to Janette White for organizing this and to all other volunteers. The money raised will go towards our music program and other programs within the school. We are patiently waiting for the installation of a new projector for the gym. The grade 7 and 8 students will also have their fundraising efforts credited to their yearend trips. Stay tuned for our Parent Engagement night in May, details to follow

Thank you,
MES School Council



Great effort was demonstrated by the Intermediate Boys volleyball team throughout the season. The boys played some awesome volleyball, showing amazing skills and teamwork during the Zone tournament. We had some highs and a few lows, but even when the boys were down a match, they demonstrated perseverance and continued to work together. Even though we did not get the result we would have wanted you were good Ambassadors of the school and your coaches are proud of your accomplishments and hard work. Mrs. MacEachern and Mrs. Welch would like to thank the following team members: Matthew Brown, Connor Taylor, Brendan Quinn, Sean Mulvenna, Carson Chapman, Jakob St. Jean, Matthew Mulvenna, Thomas Marquis, and Andrew Wilimek. Hope you had fun on the court!

Senior Girls Volleyball

Mr. Griffiths and Ms. Tompkins want to thank the Sr. girls for another great season. The girls showed dedication and enthusiasm coming out to all the early morning practices. Your hard work paid off as we saw much improvement in your skills. Your ability to encourage one another and play as a team is to be commended. Although our goal of going to County was not achieved, you should still be proud of all you have accomplished this season!

The team consisted of Erica, Kara, Teagon, Tiana, Laine, Grace, Marissa, Sam, Jessyca, Rachel, Hannah, and Paige.