

# Mariposa Elementary School Newsletter

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Winter has finally arrived with snow and fun times. Our students are enjoying the snow and the new outdoor environment that our cold weather provides. We had a snowy owl visit last week and we challenge all of our students to be on the look-out for other winter visitors. We would love to see any pics they snap in the office!

This year we have a double celebration on the weekend of February 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>. Obviously February 14<sup>th</sup> it Valentines' Day and a great day to celebrate the richness that friendships bring to our lives. February 15<sup>th</sup> is also Family Day. This is a wonderful chance to enjoy the wonders of winter outdoors with your family.

## REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN NOW

# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Kindergarten Registration 2016 – 2017

Children who turn 4 by December 31st, 2016 are eligible for registration. Please pick up detailed parent information packages and registration forms from the school office.

To register your child in Kindergarten please bring:

- Proof of age for each child (birth certificate, passport)
- Child's immunization record
- Residence road name and 911 address
- Ontario Health Card number (optional)

It is imperative that we have accurate numbers of Kindergarten registrations by the end of January. Our school board staffs our school based on these numbers. More information about Kindergarten registrations can be found on Trillium Lakelands DSB's website at [tldsbc.ca/kindergarten](http://tldsbc.ca/kindergarten)

## QSP MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER

We are about to begin our annual magazine fundraiser. This is our main school fund raising activity and we appreciate all the support that it has received in the past. Money raised in this campaign is being used to supplement a variety of school programs. This year, we hope to replace aging projectors and SmartBoards, purchase technology resources and pay for some innovative furniture for some of our classrooms. If you regularly purchase magazine subscriptions (including s-magazines), this is a great way to save money for yourself and raise money for MES at the same time. Our kick-off assembly will be on February 20<sup>th</sup> with all sales to be returned to school by February 24<sup>th</sup>. Improvements to the program include a better, more secure process for online ordering. Please consider using this option as it saves a lot of time for our office staff. Procedures for doing this will be sent home with traditional order forms to ensure that MES gets credit for all sales.



Happy Valentines Day!



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Principal: Steven Roffe

Vice-Principal: Melissa

MacEachern

Trustee: Don Alton

### TERM 1 REPORT CARDS

It is that time of the year when teachers are drafting report cards. They are marking assignments, conferencing with students and making sure all assessment work is up to date. Please encourage students to get all outstanding work in to teachers. If you are unsure of what your child may need to turn in, please contact class teachers. Use the Class Websites tab on our MES website to check and see which teachers have this information posted. Term 1 report cards go home on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Term 1 report cards cover all student work from the beginning of the school year until now. The second, and final, report will be sent out at the end of June.

### MARIPOSA SPEAK-OFF

Junior and Intermediate students are busily preparing for our annual public speaking competition. This opportunity is not only an integral part of Language programming at Mariposa, it also builds self-confidence and the skills needed to communicate thinking and points of view. Classes will be holding speeches at various times over the next few weeks to select class representatives. Our Mariposa competition will be held on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and we welcome families and friends. MES will send 2 Junior and 2 Intermediate representatives to the Woodville Legion on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm

### PICK-UPS AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

As you can imagine, the end of the school day is a very busy time in classrooms. Teachers are trying to finalize lessons, organise agendas, issue home reading books and deliver general reminders for next day activities. Some classes have important learning circles at the end of the day as well. It is very disruptive to have many parents in the halls during this time as students are often very excited to see family members. Please remember, if you are at the school to pick up your child(ren), to wait in the foyer until the bell rings. Give the hallways 5 minutes to clear and you are then very welcome to approach teachers with any questions you may have.

If you need to pick up your child(ren) prior to the bell ringing, please check in with office staff. They will show you where to sign your child(ren) out, and be happy to call them down to the foyer for you. It is very important that all children who are picked up early be signed out. We rely on this information to make sure we know the whereabouts of all children. Buses could be held up waiting for students who are no longer at school.

### TRAFFIC IN THE PARKING LOT

Staff have some concerns about safety in our parking lot before and after school. Please remember that school buses have priority and drivers should yield to them in our parking lot. Avoid cutting in between buses as it is very difficult for young children to see vehicles between them. Our parking lot is one way traffic during busy times. Please follow the examples of our bus drivers. Enter the parking lot from the northern entrance (closest to Oakwood). Exit from the southern driveway (closest to Little Britain). Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as it makes traffic movements predictable. This is very important when we are dealing with young children whose movements can often be very unpredictable. Please share this information with family and friends who may pick up students from time to time

### FEED ALL FOUR



Our school board has developed the initiative *Feed All Four* due to our ongoing need to align teaching and learning with safe and accepting schools, mental health, healthy active living and student well-being.

At its heart, Feed All Four is a “way of being” that engages our students and staff in looking at wellness through the new lens of feeding the body, mind, spirit and emotions every day.

We have seen a ground-swell of interest: since being shared with a few schools early in the 2014-15 school year, we now see most TLDSB schools engaging staff and students in this balanced approach.

Research indicates that supporting the body, mind, spirit and emotions of an individual increases a sense of well-being, connectedness and resilience. It also improves student achievement. Each of these elements needs to be fed consistently to optimize achievement and well-being.

A visit to the tweets with the hashtag #feedallfour on Twitter demonstrates the many ways that educators and students are incorporating Feed All Four into their daily lives. Some examples feature students and staff being active, supporting each and sharing information about wellness that will support our entire community.

Community partners have been invited to incorporate Feed All Four into their organizations as well as into the work they do with students. At home, TLDSB families can use the concept as a checkpoint for discussions and activities centred on wellbeing. And Feed All Four is being shared widely across the province with positive feedback from all stakeholders.

TLDSB encourages everyone to Feed All Four – how you do this is up to you but there are lots of helpful resources on our website <http://puzzlepeace.ca>