

THE MUSKOKA FALLS WAY!!



Muskoka Falls Public School

Principal: Shannon Coles

Secretary: Kim Checkley

Trustee: Steve Binstock

December 2015

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

November has been nice to us at the school. We have been able to continue to use the yard to it's full potential and the students are excited that the nicer weather has continued. We have had 2 more benches added to our outdoor classroom, thanks to TLDSB for the funding to do so. The students enjoy spending time under the tree reading, playing at recess time on the benches and just enjoying the wonderful space that we have created.

I am beginning to think that I will never get my shopping done. I hope that all of you enjoy the holidays and we are looking forward to starting the new year off with some electives, at the end of month. Have a safe and healthy new year.

Shannon Coles

You will also notice that we are participating in a winter elective program in the new year. Please make sure that you send your forms in ASAP. Parents will be notified of their child's elective before the break. With the holidays just around the corner I



Inside this issue:

Principal's Message	1
School Council	1
Calendar	2

Dates to Remember

- 6—Santa Claus Parade: Brace-bridge
- 8—Chicken Soup Day
- 11—Elective forms are due
- 15—Christmas Concert @ 6:30pm
- 21-Jan1—Winter Break
-

Parent council corner

Hey Everyone!

I cannot believe how fast this school year is going with only 15 days until winter break. Thank you to all those who came out and supported our book fair in Nov. we made over \$1100.00 towards books for our school. We had the best turn out for our Science North Family Games night! I hope everyone had a lot of fun! We will be looking into doing something similar as a family event before the end of the school year.

Don't forget if you ordered from **TOP FUNDRAISER THE ORDERS WILL BE AT THE SCHOOL ON WED. DEC. 9TH FOR PICK UP.** Our next hot lunch will be Tuesday Dec. 8 and it will be homemade chicken noodle soup and it is only \$1.00 per bowl.

We are excited that our school will be doing Winter Electives after the winter break. Please make sure to

get you forms back to the school by Dec. 11. Once your child's elective has been finalized a letter will go home and money will be due the first week back from Winter Break. There will be 7 great choices!!

If you want to volunteer to help with the electives you must have a current police check on file in the office. Come to the office to get the letter required by the OPP. You can call the office to confirm we have an up to date check or to get more information on the requirements.

The Christmas Concert will be on Tuesday Dec. 15 @ 6:30pm. Hope to see everyone there. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday Jan. 12 @ 6:30pm. Hope everyone has a 'delicious' month of December.

Amy Trinko

This newsletter is available on the Muskoka Falls TLDSB website at <http://mfp.tlgsb.on.ca>

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Call the School When Your Child is Late or Absent 705-645-2463



Reading

Students and teachers have been completing various reading assessments, either Fountas and Pinnell or PM Benchmarks. These assessments help us to:

- determine reading levels
- form initial groups for reading instruction
- select texts that will be productive for a child's instruction
- plan efficient and effective instruction
- identify children who need intervention and extra help

[Fountas and Pinnell: Assessment Guide 1](#)

We also work on a variety of reading strategies to assist students when they are reading, at all grade levels. These might include:

- looking at the pictures
- sounding out the words, by looking at the first, middle and last sound
- read on and then come back
- pause after a section and retell what was read
- look for parts of the word that you know
- pay attention to punctuation

Numeracy

Some staff went to a professional development workshop by Alex Lawson, author of [What to Look For: Understanding and Developing Student Think in Early Numeracy](#). Many students come home with math work that parents do not understand or have a hard time reasoning why students are learning in this manner. In math students are encouraged to use a strategy that works for them and that will increase their proficiency in numeracy.

Some examples of these strategies would be, if you are answering the following question:

Electives

Electives are coming this year. We are offering up a number of options for our Grade 1-8 students. The prices vary between \$2.00 and \$192.00. Please keep the following in mind:

- * Registration is on a first come, first served basis, some activities fill up very quickly. Please submit the forms as soon as possible so that busing and staff can be arranged.
- * Forms are to be handed in directly to the office
- * A separate sheet MUST be filled for each student
- * When registering please note that all activities are assigned by grade-be sure to choose a grade appropriate activity for your child
- * Activities run every Wednesday for 4 weeks – January 20, 27 and February 3, 10. Students do the same activity for the 4 weeks
- * Register your child for 1 activity but include 2 other choices as alternatives. If other choices are not marked they may miss out on them as well
- * Incomplete forms will be returned home
- * Payment plans can be arranged through the office
- * All activities allow students to ride their regular bus home at the end of the day
- * Volunteers are always welcome but MUST have an up to date Police Check done BEFORE the activities start. Applications for Police Checks are available in the school office. We do need volunteers to allow electives to run. These are the ratios we must abide by: Primary 1:8, Junior 1:12, Intermediate: 1:15.

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Character Education Theme Compassion

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Parent Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm	2 	3	4 Elective Forms Sent Home	5
6 Brace-bridge Santa Claus Parade	7	8 Chicken Noodle Soup Day	9 	10	11 Elective forms due	12
13	14	15 Christmas Concert @ 6:30 PM	16 	17	18	19
20	21 Winter Holidays Begin	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26
27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve		



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