



# MONCK PUBLIC SCHOOL

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## MARCH NEWS 2017



Principal: Caroline Pattison  
Head Secretary: Sandy Martin

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Trustee: Steve Binstock

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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

March's Character Education Theme  
Sportsmanship / l'esprit sportif

Happy Spring!

It is hard to believe Spring is around the corner. Over the last month our students have engaged in many amazing numeracy, literacy, sporting and arts learning experiences.

The dedication, growth and passion for music here at Monck was shared with many Ontario schools on March 2nd when our Jazz and 7/8 Concert bands travelled to Collingwood to perform in Music Fest, achieving a Gold and High Silver while there!

As a culmination to our learning during Black History month, we had Babarinde Williams, a drummer, joining us to share and intertwine music, character development and storytelling workshops...an incredible experience for Monck students!

We had many Junior and Intermediate teams for the "Battle of the Books". Over the past number of weeks, teams have been competing, answering questions about the Battle books they have read. Prior to March break, winning teams will be announced. These teams will then compete with other Muskoka schools. Great job, Monck!

Our students have been engaged in math learning that is focused on key ideas or understandings. An example of a key idea or understanding in the younger years is subitizing. Subitizing is when you can look at an amount of something, for example the face of a die that has 5 dots on it, and instantly recognize the amount of dots is 5 without having to count each dot.

In March, our character trait focus is Sportsmanship. We are talking to students about how Sportsmanship means to play fair and with respect whether you win or lose. Positive sportsmanship can be linked to self-awareness and anger management by sharing messages such as, "When you get angry playing a sport, stop and count to ten so you can calm down". Together, let's build our children's understanding of Sportsmanship.

We wish you a safe and happy March break and look forward to exploring and talking math with your children when they return!

C.Pattison, J.Richter, L.Dursley  
Monck Administration Team



This newsletter is available on the Monck TLDSB website at <http://mon.tlidsb.on.ca>

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## 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. At Monck, the Ready for Kindergarten event is May 4th.

While Monck P.S. is hosting a *Welcome To Kindergarten* event to help familiarize your child with our Kindergarten teachers, the classroom and their new routine, *Ready for Kindergarten* will help 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 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. 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 Monck P.S. 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. Each family who attends will receive a free *Ready for Kindergarten* gift.

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 at 645-2412 Ext. 467 or email [bboothby@muskoka.on.ca](mailto:bboothby@muskoka.on.ca).



## LOST AND FOUND

Please remember to put your child's name on their personal items. Labels will help keep track of their clothing, toys, etc. Check out the Lost and Found for your children's clothing before the March Break. Anything left in the school will be donated to the Red Bin.



## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

30 Junior Teams and 8 Intermediate Teams (160 students in total!!!) are participating in the **Battle of the Books** this year. Teams of four students have each read 10 books and then answer 15 questions as they "battle" against other teams. Our Monck final battles for each division will take place on March 9th at the school assembly. Winners will represent Monck at the Rene M. Caisse Theatre on March 28th and 29th. Congratulations everyone for promoting reading at our school!

Lisle Terry

Grade 6 / 7 Teacher, Monck Public School

Trillium Lakelands District School Board

## 4 Ways to Share Mindfulness with Students

### MINDFULNESS OF BREATH

Focus your attention on the sensations of breathing.

### MINDFULNESS OF THOUGHT

Notice thoughts arising and passing without getting involved in the story.

### BODY SCAN

Focus on each body part in turn, from head to toe.

### KIND WISHES PRACTICE

Foster caring feelings for a loved one, for yourself, for others, and gradually the whole world.



[www.MindfulSchools.org](http://www.MindfulSchools.org)

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## ATTENTION SPORTS FANS...

### X-COUNTRY SKI RACES



This year students participated in a 2 cross-country ski races at Arrowhead Park. We were fortunate to have great weather and everyone put forward tremendous effort. Congratulations to all participants!

### GIRLS & BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Grade 7/8 girls and boys volleyball action continues into March with the Regional Tournament being held on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Good Luck! All teams have done extremely well. Special thanks to coaches Mr. King, Mrs. Yeo, Mrs. Seymour, Mr. Wright & Mr. Clayton.



### MARCH PHYS ED

March Phys Ed will include volleyball & badminton tournaments. Gymnastics for grades JK-6 will be after the March Break. Proper gym attire is a must in the gym. Students should bring home gym clothes to get washed.

## MATH AT MONCK!

At Monck, we love learning about the key ideas in Math! An example of a key idea or understanding in the primary and junior grades might be representation. This might look like a number such as 121 represented in different ways:  $100+20+1=121$  or one 100 base block, two 10 base blocks and one unit base block or 11 groups of 11. With our older students, an example of a key idea or understanding might be proportional reasoning. Proportional reasoning involves thinking of a number in relative terms, or how that number relates to another number, rather than absolute terms.

When would we use proportional reasoning?

We use proportional reasoning when we recognize a group of 3 students that grew to a group of 9 students is a more significant change than a group of 100 students growing to 150, since the number or amount tripled in the first case and did not even double in the second case. You might hear or see some of our students use proportional thinking and unit rate when they are working on a question that is asking them to determine what is a better buy at a grocery store given the advertised cost for the fruit as 3 for \$3.99 at one store and 5 for \$5.25 at another store.

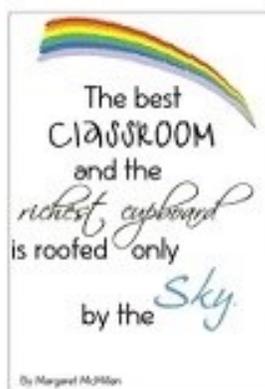


When students are learning in their classrooms about math, they may tell you that they are doing some talking with each other and their teacher. A lot of this talk will include math terms or vocabulary such as *less than* or *more than* in the kindergarten years, *surface area* or *amount covered* in the junior years and *negative* or *positive* amounts (integers) rooted in real world examples such as temperatures, below ground level or touchdowns/yards made in the intermediate classrooms. They may also be explaining how they were thinking about the math.

At home, you can ask your child to tell you what they have been learning about in math. If they share an example of a math question or task they have been working on, see if they can explain to you how they arrived at their answer and why they believe their answer is right....their thinking is incredible!

At Monck, we love learning about Math!

## Growing Young Learners



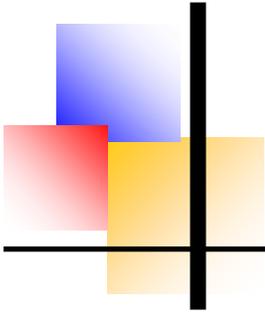
During the month of April, the school will take part in a Little Caesar's Fundraiser to support our Young Learners. Money will be spent on enhancing our outdoor areas, providing a safe, engaging environment, to support an inquisitive mindset.

Your support with this initiative is greatly appreciated.

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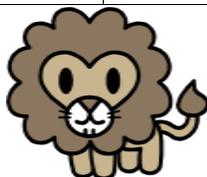
# MARCH 2017

## MARCH'S CHARACTER EDUCATION THEME

Sportsmanship / l'esprit sportif



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 	2  Collingwood Music & Jazz Festival Grade 7/8 & Jazz Bands	3  Cross Country Ski Race
6 9:00 a.m. Babarinda Williams Assembly & Drums	7 9:00 a.m. Babarinda Williams Assembly & Drums	8  Volleyball Tournament All Day in the Gym	9  9:10 Assembly 10:00 Staff vs Student Volleyball game	10 <b>PA DAY</b> <b>NO Classes</b>
13 First Day of March Break 	14 	15 	16 	17 Last Day Of March Break 
20 	21	22 	23  Author Visit: Philip Roy	24 
27	28	29 	30 	31 



Pizza   
Lunch   
Hamburgers, Pitas & Subs 

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