

November 2021

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@MPSSFootball
@MPSSLibrary

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<http://www.granderie.ca/schools/mpss>



905-765-4466
s-mck@granderie.ca



McKinnon Park



A Message from the Vice-Principal

It's a privilege to have joined the McKinnon family and to share a few words with you here. Two words in particular resonate for me at this time – connection and opportunities. This past year or more has underscored for me in particular how connection, whether it be in-person or online, is and will always be so important. We have a tremendous staff who are committed to the success and well-being of our students, and the return to extracurriculars has certainly been welcomed by students and staff alike. Their return provides opportunities for students to connect with one another, and other schools, to test and develop their skills perhaps in new areas they may never have tried before. These opportunities may be in D & D, students' council, field hockey, basketball, cross-country, football, volleyball, hockey or more. With the end of Quadmaster 1, and the start of Quadmaster 2, new learning opportunities have also opened up with new courses, and each day and week provides those opportunities for us all. I wish our students the very best with the start of the new Quad, and hope that you will make the very most of these opportunities for your success and well-being! Aside from seeing you in the halls, classrooms, or throughout the school, our office door is always open should you wish to drop in and connect.

~ Mr. Brochu

A Message From the Principal

It has been a pleasure to join the team of amazing students and staff at McKinnon Park and I am looking forward to growing and learning with the members of the school and the community.

I was amazed at how, even after such a tough year last year, the school community has come together and is working to move forward. As you may know, things are getting "back to normal". We have sports, extracurriculars and school field trips that are running. We are still working out the kinks with regards to dances, but we are hoping to have something in place soon. I would personally like to thank the students and staff for their work with Orange shirt day and Commencement.

Education is not preparation for life;
Education is life itself.

John Dewey

Those were huge undertakings and the participation was incredible. The first quadmaster is finished and we are into the second. There is talk of semesters is happening but nothing has been decided yet. When it is, we will inform you as soon as possible. If you have not provided the school with your email address please do so. It is the most efficient mode of communication for us. Again, I am excited to be at MPSS and I look forward to working with all of you.

~ Mr. Malcolm



Parent Portal

The Parent Portal is a great tool to see your student's attendance and classes. Please email s-mck@granderie.ca to get your username and password and get set up for the parent portal today!

D & D Club



This year at McKinnon Park we have had the exciting opportunity to start a new D & D club. Twelve enthusiastic and passionate students join us in the library after school on Wednesdays to play Dungeons and Dragons. Our club is currently running two campaigns, which allows students to

explore character development and exercise their imaginations, while fostering communication and team building skills. Our club members feel welcome and included, and they encourage new students to join. Our meetings are filled with laughter and friendly debate as strategies and tactics are discussed. Ultimately, they must determine their fates by the role of dice.



Mr. Oppertshauer's Kinesiology class created model human joints

Over 18 Students

By law, any student who is 18 years of age or older must give consent for any school related information to be released to parents or guardians. There is a "Release of Information Form" that must be signed and is available in the guidance office and online. We encourage parents to convince their sons/daughters to complete this form. The form can be found below:

<https://granderie.ca/schools/mpss/stude>



The Green Industries class ran another dual credit with Fanshawe College this year, and we are very happy to say it was a former MPSS student who is now the professor for Fanshawe College. Jennifer Williams completed the Specialist High Skills Major Horticulture and Landscaping course at MPSS with Mr. Runhart. She then went on to the University of Guelph where she took many horticultural related courses. She taught the Introduction to Horticulture College course, and did an amazing job. She was so professional, and knowledgeable. What an amazing experience for the students to receive a Fanshawe College credit and a high school credit in the same class! MPSS Green Industries - we keep growing for our students!

**2021-2022
YEARBOOKS**

**Remember this
year for years to
come!**

\$30

BUY ON
SCHOOL
CASH
ONLINE



Math & Computer Science Contests



MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE 2021/2022 CONTESTS
NORTH AMERICA AND SOUTH AMERICA

The CENTRE for EDUCATION in MATHEMATICS and COMPUTING

BEAVER COMPUTING CHALLENGE
November 8 to 19, 2021

CANADIAN SENIOR AND INTERMEDIATE MATHEMATICS CONTESTS
Wednesday, November 17, 2021

CANADIAN COMPUTING COMPETITION
Wednesday, February 16, 2022

PASCAL, CAYLEY AND FERMAT CONTESTS
Wednesday, February 23, 2022

EUCLID CONTEST
Tuesday, April 5, 2022

CANADIAN TEAM MATHEMATICS CONTEST
Thursday, April 7, 2022 (at UWaterloo)
Friday, April 8, 2022 or later (in schools)

FRYER, GALOIS AND HYPATIA CONTESTS
Tuesday, April 12, 2022

GAUSS CONTESTS
Wednesday, May 18, 2022



Tam created the mosaic shown using a regular hexagon, squares and equilateral triangles. If the side length of the hexagon is 20 cm, what is the outside perimeter of the mosaic?

 cemc.uwaterloo.ca



PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES



Breakfast / Nutrition Program

A huge thank you to all of the community members who have donated to our daily breakfast program. Milk, cereal, fresh fruit, cheese, muffins, and yogurt are just some of the items you have helped to provide. Any contributions are appreciated and we will continue to accept donations via cash online throughout the year.

Snow Days – Zone 2



In the event of bad weather, information about school closings can be found on the following websites. The Board posts information by 6:30 am. Do not check too early. If school transportation is cancelled then SCHOOL is CLOSED for the day!!

www.stsbhn.ca - School Transportation Services closures
www.granderie.ca - Schools and Board Facility closures
Grand Erie's Twitter Account (@GEDSB) and Facebook - www.facebook.com/GEDSB
Closure information is also shared with local radio and television media. The Board's Inclement Weather Policy can be found <https://bit.ly/2HoCIYX>



ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCES

Q: Do I need to call the school if My child is absent, leaving or late?

A: Yes, If the student is under 18.



Please call the school at 905-765-4466 if your child will be absent from school. All absences should be accounted for on the day of, or at the latest, the day that follows the absence. Please remember to include the reason for the absence in your message.

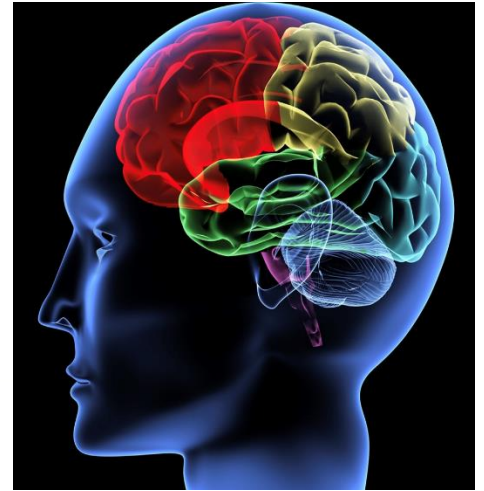
If your child needs to sign out throughout the day, please call the office as early as possible, preferably **prior to 9:00am**, so that the teacher can be notified in advance. This will minimize classroom interruptions.

Future Grade 9 Student and Parent Information Night

Preparing for secondary school is an exciting time! There are many decisions for students and their parents to make, including: which school to attend, what classes to take, and what extracurricular activities to join.

That's why Grand Erie District School Board has designed a series of information nights to help students and their families make the best possible choices. For the full schedule visit www.granderie.ca.

M.P.S.S. will be hosting Grade 8 Information Night & Open House January 5, 2022 from 6:30 to 8:30. Registration packages will be available prior to Christmas Break. Students who are not currently enrolled in the Grand Erie District School Board, should contact the school for more information.



A Message From Our Students' Council Prime Minister Hannah Latimer

A message from the PM:

There we have it, Blue Devils and family, a successful first Quadmester at McKinnon Park! This is all in thanks to our spirited student body, positive teachers/staff and relentless Students' Council. September and October were great successes. In September, we pulled off two high-energy grade spirit days: Grade Nine and Ten Day, with a special appearance of the "Blue Devil" himself. Also in September, many students participated in the annual "High School Challenge" at the Caledonia Fair. The odds were in our favour that night as we definitely were the most spirited school – and even better, we won against our competitor schools Cayuga, Hagersville and Dunnville! September was brought to an end with a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation walk around the track during lunch that was organized by Ms. Mitchell, our cultural advisor. As Students' Council helped with this event, I can speak for everyone when I say that it was truly heartwarming to see hundreds in the school community come together in orange to show their support.

As the leaves began to change in October, Students' Council ran "Change for Change" during Secret Path Week where students donated their loose change to the Downie-Wenjack Fund. Students' Council matched the proceeds and we raised about \$450.00 for the foundation! Later on in the month, Students' Council worked tirelessly to pull off our first ever "Halloweek" spirit week. The last week of October was filled with events such as a movie day, trick or treating, a whiteboard decorating contest, teachers singing over the announcements, an orange and black day, a costume contest, and even pumpkin carving.

A special shoutout goes to the Hogwarts and Scooby-Doo crews, a spooky scarecrow and Zehrs Caledonia for ever-so-kindly donating all of the pumpkins for our carving contest! As the quad came to an end and the student body was working diligently to get all assignments in, we created a "Send-A-Smile" initiative where students could send a smile to their friends to cheer them up during the trickiest time of our courses!

This month, we had our very first school fundraiser of the year with a company called "Phil's Fudge". Fudge orders were available on School Cash Online. We appreciate the support for this first fundraiser. Additionally in November, we had a Spirit Day on the 19th to keep this month fun and exciting. The Spirit Day was called "Anything but a Backpack Day" where students' were asked to carry their books in anything...but a backpack! The month of December will be kicked off with our annual "Twelve Days of Holidays" during lunch we will celebrate every day leading up to the winter break with different events similar to the way we ran the successful "Halloweek". As this year is not as "normal" as past years, my hope is for the school year to be filled with as much joy and memories in the safest way possible. Personally, I have noticed a great change in the school community in comparison to last year – high school is starting to feel like high school again. As we are still living through a pandemic, it is important for all Blue Devils to participate in extra-curriculars and school events to make as many memories as they can this year. After the last whirlwind of a year and a half, the Blue Devils deserve the most this year. Masks may still be worn, however, smiles are still there!

BENEFITS OF READING FICTION

- **Develops Brain Connectivity**
- **Improves Vocabulary and Learning Skills**
- **Enhances Memory and Mental Stimulation**
- **Better Focus and Concentration**
- **Advances Analytical Skills**
- **Boosts Empathy and Emotional Intelligence**
- **Increases Tolerance**
- **Reduces Stress**

Where to find a GREAT book...

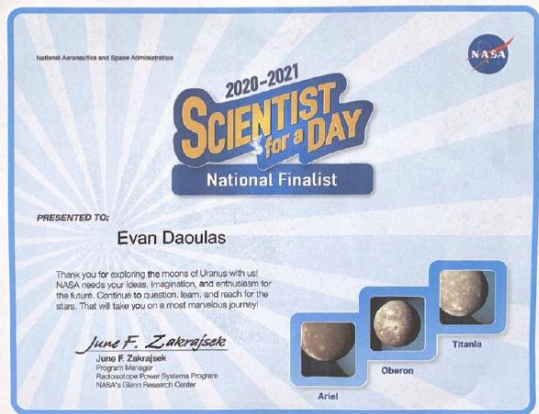
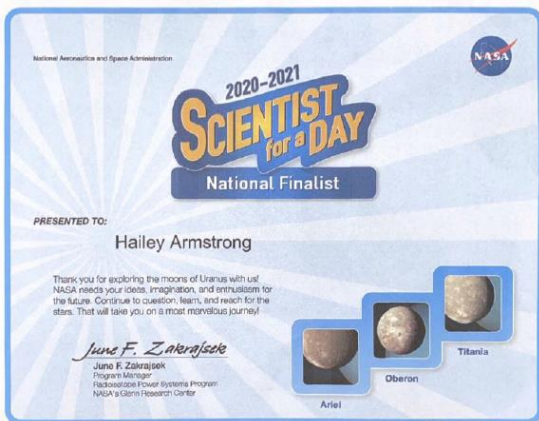
- Visit the MPSS Library Learning Commons.
- Visit the Haldimand Public Library.
- Visit Sora e-books online:

<https://soraapp.com/welcome>

School Cash Online

Please be advised that the method of payment that we use is School Cash Online at <https://www.schoolcashionline.com/>. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, which have to be approved by the Principal, all payments must be done online.

Instructions for school cash online can be found on our website :
<https://granderie.ca/schools/mpss/more/cash-online-step-step-instructions>



Grade Nine Students Gaze at the Sky with their Mind's Eye

Have you ever thought of exploring space? What about the outer planets of our Solar system? The great ice giants Neptune and Uranus sport more than three dozen moons between them. Uranus, named after the ancient Greek god of the sky, husband of Gaia and grandfather of Zeus, is a giant planet weighing 15 times that of Earth. Uranus lies on its side, orbited by 27 moons, two of which, Oberon and Titania, are the seventh and eighth largest in the Solar system.

Last June, it was revealed that two McKinnon Park Students, Hailey Armstrong and Evan Daoulas, formerly of Dr. Mašlikowski's 2020/2021 grade 9 science class were National Finalists in the Canadian International Edition of the NASA Scientist for a Day contest. In their essays, Hailey and Evan captivated readers with their discussion of why scientists should explore Oberon or Titania. Despite being so far away that it takes light from the sun two hours and 46 minutes to travel there, and having a surface temperature less than -200 degrees Celsius, both Oberon and Titania may contain liquid oceans beneath their frozen shells. Where there's water, there may be life. And who doesn't want to know if they have distant cousins a mere three billion kilometres away?

Congratulations Hailey and Evan on a job well done!

Homework Help

Homework help is available to all students on Mondays and Wednesdays afterschool until 4:30 in Learning Services. This is a great opportunity to catch up on missing work, get extra help and support, study for tests, and get organized!



The Giving Tree

Devils for Diversity will be starting our annual GIVING TREE warm clothing drive this month and into December. We collect new outerwear items to donate to a local charity for families in need.

Mittens, toques, scarves, snow pants, jackets, and boots of all sizes are needed. If you would like to donate, please leave items in the schools front office, or feel free to donate to the GIVING TREE via Cash Online through the school website.

A Message From Co-Op

As we come to the end of the first Quadmester, I'd like to send a big THANK YOU to all our Co-op employers and community business partners. In a time unlike any other, these employers have been able to offer amazing workplace opportunities across many different pathways for our M.P.S.S students. I'd also like to thank all of our Quadmester One students for their participation and engagement in their placement opportunities. A quick reminder to future Co-op students to make an appointment with Mr. Forster or Ms. Vaslijevic to arrange a placement for your upcoming Co-op experience. Lastly, if you are a parent looking for information regarding our Experiential Learning programs, or a local business owner looking for information regarding how to register for a potential Co-op student, please feel free to contact the Co-op department at 905-765-4466 ext 732223. Have a great day! Mr.Forster and Ms.Vaslijevic.

Your Portrait Session

Times may be uncertain, but you can certainly carry on the tradition of marking this accomplishment with a classic portrait! Your professional portrait session includes traditional gown and sash poses on contemporary and traditional backgrounds.

**Sit fee details available online when you book your session.*



More Options

Your safety and comfort is our top priority. We're working with each school to offer options that work best in your area. Your sitting options may include: more poses, casuals and Vintage Hollywood poses. **View details on all your sitting options at bookmygrad.ca**

B.Y.O.P

As part of our commitment to protecting students' health, Edge will not be providing props during your photo shoot. Please feel free to bring your own flowers, books, etc. to be photographed with during your session. For more information on our Covid photo day health & safety procedures, please visit edgeimaging.ca/FAQ

**poses and backgrounds may vary*



Graduating Class Composite

Just like the one on your high school walls, you'll receive your own copy of a graduating class composite. Composites are typically handed out at Convocation or at the end of the school year.

A traditional portrait with a blue background will be provided to your school for the composite and yearbook.

**Composite size and folder inclusion vary by school. Details provided upon booking.*



GRADUATION PHOTOS

Graduation Photos can now be booked online for the week of December 6th. Go to www.bookmygrad.com Enter school code MKI. Please note that a \$30 sitting fee will apply.



A.A.B.H.N. Jr. Boys Volleyball Champions. Congratulations Jr. Boys Volleyball Team. This team went undefeated. The boys had 14 wins and 0 losses!! Great season boys! A special thanks to Coach Gerritsen!

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING FOR GRADE 12 STUDENTS

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)	School to Work Transition Planning
<p>Find out how you qualify and apply to be an apprentice in a skilled trade.</p>	<p>St Leonard's : As your last school year comes to an end, you may have chosen work as your next step.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How apprenticeship works • Explore the trades • How to prepare for an apprenticeship • How to start an apprenticeship • Money for apprentices • How to complete an apprenticeship • Related 	<p>The Caledonia Employment Centre and St Leonard's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resumes/Cover Letters/Interviews • Job Search & Follow Up • Apprenticeship Information & Job Trials • Job Coaching & Support <p>If you are not returning to school in September, they want to hear from you! Call the Caledonia Employment Centre to set up an appointment! (289) 285-0133 or text at 289-442-8747</p>
<p>https://www.ontario.ca/page/start-apprenticeship</p> <p>http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/teachers/studentssuccess/PathwayApprenticeFS.pdf</p> <p>https://oyap.com/myths-faq/#faq-intro</p>	<p>NPAAMB provides skills development and training opportunities for urban Indigenous youth in Southern Ontario.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills development and training opportunities for urban Indigenous youth in Southern Ontario. • Develop and motivate young Indigenous talent by respecting their diverse cultural identities and working closely with the communities they serve. <p>https://npaamb.com/ 519-751-8333 bsandy@npaamb.com</p>

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING FOR GRADE 12 STUDENTS

Ontario UNIVERSITY Applications Center OUAC 101 https://www.ouac.on.ca/ouac-101/	Ontario COLLEGE Application Services (OCAS) https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/
<p>A. Begin your research: Browse Universities Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> View Program pre-requisites & admission requirements Register for upcoming campus tours Research residence and meal plans Explore scholarships, finances & budget <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/</p>	<p>A. Begin your Research: Browse College Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> View Program pre-requisites & admission requirements Register for upcoming campus tours Research residence and meal plans Explore scholarships, finances & budget <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/programs</p>
<p>B. Attend Fall Previews, Virtual Open Houses & Webinar's:</p> <p>These virtual events are free and anyone may attend – no pre-registration required. Learn about the universities of your choice and ask questions. You can also request to receive information directly from Ontario universities.</p>	<p>B. Attend Virtual Events:</p> <p>Every Monday in October and November, there will be four panel groups running simultaneously from 4-7 pm on Zoom, each made up of six to seven colleges. Every week you'll be able to meet a small group of College representatives to learn about their programs and to ask your questions in breakout rooms.</p>
<p>C. UNIVERSITY APPLICATION: Important Dates</p> <p>OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2021: Visit OUIInfo to find university virtual events and tours, webinars, chats, videos and more. You can also request to receive information directly from Ontario Universities</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/</p>	<p>C. COLLEGE APPLICATION: Important Dates</p> <p>Early October 2021: Online Application Opens</p> <p>In early October, access to the online college application becomes available for programs beginning in the following academic year (August to July). You may create an account and being your application https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply</p>
<p>JANUARY 13TH, 2022: Deadline for Ontario high school students to submit their completed applications to the OUAC. The initial application includes all final grades from completed Grade 11, 12 courses, and a list of all current-year courses in progress. Note: The OUAC still processes applications received after this date and distributes them to the universities; however, specific university deadlines will apply.</p>	<p>November 1, 2021: Earliest Offer Date</p> <p>This is the earliest date that colleges may begin to send offers of admission to programs for the upcoming academic year. Offers will continue to be issued until programs are filled or wait-lists are established.</p>
<p>MAY 5, 2022: Target date for Ontario universities to receive all midterm/final grades available for 4U/M courses and interim grades for full-year courses from the OUAC. Grades the OUAC receives earlier than the deadline will be sent to Ontario universities when received.</p>	<p>February 1, 2022: Equal Consideration Date</p> <p>Apply on or before this date in order to receive equal consideration for admission to programs starting the following fall. After this date, colleges consider applicants on a first-come, first-served basis until programs are full. Note that applications to <u>Highly Competitive Programs</u> must be received by this date in order to be considered. As these programs receive a high volume of applicants, all seats may be filled by February 1.</p>
<p>MAY 27, 2022: The latest date all high school applicants who submitted their application by the January application deadline can expect a response from an Ontario university. This includes an offer of admission; a refusal; or a deferral, once additional information is received.</p>	<p>Applicants are encouraged to complete their applications well before the Equal Consideration Date, as website volumes on the online application are at their highest at this time. Many programs continue to accept applicants after February 1. Use our Find a Program tool at any time to find programs that are still open.</p>
<p>JUNE 1, 2022: The earliest date an Ontario high school student may be required to respond to an Ontario university offer of admission and give a financial commitment (e.g., registration deposit, residence deposit, etc.). All other admission-related elements, including scholarships, other forms of student assistance or financial incentives, and offers of residence are considered part of the offer of admission. Therefore, a student may accept these other offers before June 1, 2022, but Ontario universities will not</p>	<p>May 1, 2022: Deadline to Confirm Offers of Admission Applicants must confirm their acceptance of an offer of admission by this date. Log in to your ontariocolleges.ca account to confirm your offer. Colleges may extend offers of admission after this date. Each college will set the deadline to confirm offers made after May 1, and this deadline will be communicated to you with your offer.</p>



Girls Field Hockey

MPSS Girls Field Hockey finish with 1 win, 3 losses at OFSAA Championship.

These ladies won the inaugural A.A.B.H.N. Girls Field Hockey Championship, it was the 1st OFSAA Girls Field Hockey berth in McKinnon Park History and 1st win at OFSAA Girls Field Hockey Championship.

Congrats Girls! Great Season!!

A Special thanks to Coaches Mrs. Bothwright and Mrs. Klassen!!

