

Mount Pleasant Public School

September, 2016



www.granderie.ca/mountpleasant

From the Principal's Desk....another year begins!

Hello MPS! Another school year is upon us.....I hope you had a fantastic summer...with access to a pool or lake! We could have used a pool or lake at the school this week! What a hot start to the school year!

Over the summer, beyond the regular cleaning that occurs, we had two significant changes. The gym was painted and looks amazing! In addition, the library began its transformation to a learning commons. While it is not complete, our hopes are that it will be ready to accept students within two weeks.

There are a few staffing changes to announce, as often happens through the summer. We welcome Mrs. Jenn Guest who is teaching grade 3-4, and Mrs. Emily Black who is teaching grade 6. Mrs. Brittney Bain will be our new, half time prep teacher. Mr. Nick Corrigan

returns to the grade 7-8 class to cover Mrs. Corrigan's mat leave (no...they are not related!) Mrs. Daly, our DECE in the Kindergarten program, will be taking the year off to prepare for a new addition to their family. We welcome Mrs. Colleen Erwin to the Kindergarten team. We also have a new custodian...Miss Krista Cunningham. Please join me in welcoming our new staff members. I'm sure they will experience a great year!

At this time of year, it is always necessary to review school procedures to ensure that the school operations run smoothly. All students have received agendas....they are a valuable organizational tool and form of communication. Each agenda has an insert which includes school procedures and information. Refer to it when you have a question. The \$5 cost of the agenda can be paid through the

cashless system.

I am also sending home, via email, forms which need to be completed and sent back to the school as soon as possible. The last page of this newsletter has a list of the items which we need to be returned. If you would prefer to receive a hard copy of these forms, just write a note to your child's classroom teacher and we will send them home. Please complete all forms and return them to school as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to these management items. I look forward to working with you and your children this year. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to call or drop in to see me.
Sincerely,

Mrs. Linda Symons

Your 2016-2017 Staff

Mrs. Linda Symons.... Principal
JK/SK: Mrs. Kimberley Case,
Mrs. Sharon Misiuda and Mrs. Colleen Erwin
Gr. 1: Mrs. Jessica Minutillo
Gr. 1-2: Mrs. Lauren MacPherson
Gr. 2-3: Mrs. Jenn Henderson
Gr. 3-4: Mrs. Jenn Guest
Gr. 4-5: Mr. Scott Archer
Gr. 6: Mrs. Emily Black
Gr. 7: Mrs. Judy Gardner
Gr. 7-8: Mr. Nick Corrigan
French: Mme Nancy Bazilli
Primary Prep: Mrs. Jenn Carson
and Mrs. Brittney Bain
LRT: Mrs. Jill Hughes
EA: Mrs. Trudy Jackson
Mrs. Sandy Watts....Secretary
Custodian: Miss Krista Cunningham

Dates to Remember

Tue. Sept 13: School Council Meeting

Thur. Sept 15: Meet the Teacher Night....6:00—7:30

Fri. Sept 16: PA day...no school

Mon. Sept 26: Picture Day!

Wed. Sept 30: Mustang Rodeo Assembly

Pizza Days...Sept 15, 23, 30

Mt. Pleasant connects with Social Media

This year, most of my communication will be through Facebook. This program is easily accessible to all and is easily updated with information and pictures. Search "Mt. Pleasant School" on Facebook and request to be a friend! It will be a private site. In addition, teachers will be using a variety of social media tools to communicate with parents about the happenings in the classrooms. The school website will continue to be used as an access point to class websites. Welcome to the 21st century!! :)



School Council
Meeting and Elections on Tuesday September 13
6:30 to 8:00
Babysitting is available.

The School Council meets on the second Tuesday of every month, from 6:30—8:00.

This month we will be having elections for key positions, including **chair, vice-chair, secretary, fund-raising coordinator, volunteer coordinator**, all nomination forms need to be in by Monday September 14th. If you would rather not have a key position, please consider becoming a voting member of this important group by participating in the meetings. Nomination forms have been sent home electronically and can be found on the school website.

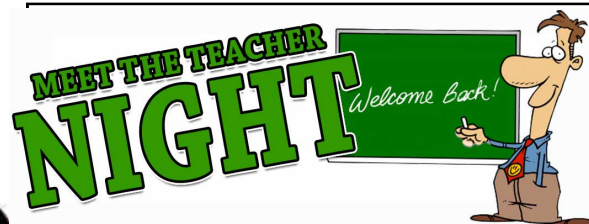
Feel free to email me at linda.symons@granderie.ca with your intentions.

Mustang Rodeo Days

Our monthly celebration assembly will continue on the last Friday of each month. Classroom awards for academics and leadership will be presented. We encourage parents to come and be an audience. These assemblies are high spirited and a celebration of the hard work done by students in all areas.

Please feel free to join us!!

These will be followed by special activities for students to celebrate their hard work and achievements.



Our Meet the Teacher night
will be held on
Thursday, September 15, 2016.
6:00 to 7:30 PM

Visit classrooms.
 Meet your child's teachers.
 Meet your School Council.
 Choose volunteer positions.
 Get your police check forms.
 Check out the Learning Commons.
 Support the United Way.

And of course, see neighbours and friends....because an evening at Mt. Pleasant School is always a social event!



Volunteering at MPS

We have a solid group of volunteers who come into the school and perform a variety of amazing duties for our staff and students. Our school would not be as strong without them! If you have some free time, or know of someone in the community who is looking for some volunteer opportunities (we have several seniors in the community who volunteer on a regular basis), please contact Mrs. Symons (linda.symons@granderie.ca) or our volunteer coordinator Mrs. Sherry Erskine. Please remember that valid police checks (within the last two years) are required for all volunteers.

- Snacks and Hot Lunches Safe Schools Team Classroom helper
- School Council Fundraising
- Special Skills and areas of interest Strong Start Coach

Neighbourhood Walk Permission Forms

During the school year, there are times when the students will be walking in the neighbourhood. This may be part of the curriculum programming (like science or social studies) or school spirit activities (like the Terry Fox walk, Halloween Parade). These activities are often weather dependent and often the teacher wants the flexibility to pick a nice day. Students are always under the supervision of the teacher when they participate in any of these neighbourhood walks. Please sign the attached permission form and give us your consent to take your child off of school property for this type of activity.



Student Accident Insurance Policy

This is a low cost policy providing excellent coverage for losses that result from accidents at school and at home. Plans can be purchased very inexpensively per student per year. Additional information flyers have been sent home with your child. Please look closely at the options.....while we work hard to keep the school safe, accidents can happen and parent often regret not purchasing the insurance when dealing with physiotherapy costs.

Eco-Green School!

Last year we earned our Gold status in the Eco-Green program. We have a keen group of students and staff who are motivated to maintain this status! Our Green Team and Garden Club will be starting up shortly. We will continue to encourage litterless lunches, recycling, composting and reducing energy consumption.

We hope each family will consider the packaging that is coming to school and step up to be litterless!



Grand Erie District School Board

Education Centre: 349 Erie Avenue, Brantford, Ontario N3T 5V3
(519) 756-6301 | granderie.ca | info@granderie.ca | Fax: (519) 756-9181

Student Accident Insurance

Student accident coverage is **recommended** and **voluntary** for parents to consider for their child. It is important for parents to understand that the Board **does not provide** insurance for students against any accidental death, disability, dismemberment or medical expenses that might occur as a result of accident during school activities, including sporting events and field trips.

Insure My Kids protection plan is made available to parents, at low cost, to provide benefits for dental injuries and other accidents which may occur through participating in school activities. In fact, there are options in the package for coverage outside of school hours including holidays and weekends. Please see the brochure for information or visit www.insuremykids.com.

Parents may have accidental coverage as part of their employers benefit plan. It's important for parents to review their plans to make sure they have the necessary coverage for accidents that may occur during school activities. Parents may want to consider purchasing additional personal coverage through Insure My Kids.

The Grand Erie District School Board requires that all parents declare whether or not they have accident insurance. A declaration form is attached for parent/guardian review and signature.



Technology and Cell Phones at School

Please make sure your family reads the insert in the agenda regarding the use of technology and cell phones. We have very strict expectations that technology is only used for instructional purposes with teacher permission. Unsupervised technology activities pose a threat to personal privacy and safety as images and files can be uploaded very quickly to the internet. This means use of technology is not permitted outside at recess or during nutritional breaks.

In addition, all cell phones are to be turned off when on school premises. If you need to get in touch with your child, please call the school office. Please encourage your child to refrain from using their cell phone during school hours. Technology which is being used without permission will be immediately confiscated and parents called.

Items to return to school:

- Insurance declarations form
- Acceptable Use of Technology Forms
- Neighbourhood walk Permission forms
- School council nomination forms (voluntary)
- \$5 for agenda

These items have been sent electronically. If you need paper copies, please contact the school.

Student information sheets with emergency contact information will be sent home shortly and will also need to be updated and returned promptly. Thanks for your prompt attention to these items!

KEV Cashless system

Wouldn't it be great if you didn't have to write cheques, or scrounge around for exact change, and then risk sending it to school with your little one who lose everything on a regular basis??

That is why KEV is so exciting.

You can pay for school events from the comfort of your home.

We have over 75% of our families using this system. Thank-you!

If you are one of the 25% not using it, what are you waiting for??

Our goal this year is 100% participation!

Here is a one minute movie clip that will give you a brief overview of the registration and online shopping experience.

<http://www.kevsoftware.com/movies/ParentRegEnglish/>

Register Online:

Step 1: Please click on this link:

<https://XXX.schoolcashionline.com>

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps.

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the 'click here' option, login in and add each of your children to your household account.

Convenient Safe Secure

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any questions during the registration process or while shopping online, please select the **GET HELP** option in the top right hand area of the screen.

Currently on the Cashless System:

- **Pay for agendas!!! \$5 per agenda.** These are valuable tools that every class is using to help students organize their priorities and are also a valuable communication tool between parents and teachers.
- **Pizza orders for September:** \$1 per slice. Pizza days are on Sept 8, 16, 23, 30 Orders can be placed on the KEV system until midnight **Tuesday, September 13th.**
- **Pizza orders and milk orders for October;** will be placed on the KEV system in mid September, for your convenience.