

# ELGIN NEWS

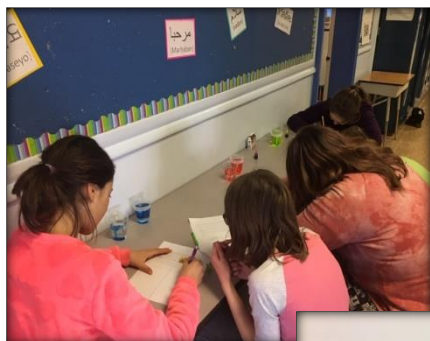
April 2019



Inspiration can be found anywhere, a few Elgin students found it in some broken sticks laying around the school yard.



Primary students enjoyed dancing reels and jigs during their March studies of Celtic & Irish music.



Grade 5 students found out that heat does affect the movement of particles and heat makes the particles move faster.



## MILKBAG PROGRAM

The Grade 4/5 class is overjoyed by the response of Elgin students for milk bags. Our great school has been able to collect over 2000 milk bags in just over four weeks. We have had great supporters in the community that have helped us to reach our goal and we give them a big thank you. The Grade 4/5 class is now hard at work cutting, making ropes and weaving all those milk bags into mattresses.



## UNLEARN VISITS ELGIN

Described as a new way to live your life, Unlearn “enables human connection and understanding that improves the quality of life for you and those around you”. Unlearn is also described as a social enterprise with a passion for inspiring critical thinking by design: “Unlearn uses clothing, posters and programs to provoke thought and discussion around social issues.” During the last week of March, Elgin students and staff had the opportunity to work with Unlearn staff to consider issues and attitudes towards stereotypes, racism, prejudice, oppression and discrimination. More information, including the unique sets of thought-provoking posters can be found at [unlearn.com](http://unlearn.com).



## SPECIAL EDUCATION SURVEY - WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

At Grand Erie, we believe all children have individual learning needs. Some children have exceptional learning needs, and may require additional resources to reach their learning potential.

Help us ensure *Success for Every Student* by reviewing our Special Education Plan here:

<https://bit.ly/2CKCfWQ>, and providing your input on our Special Education Feedback Survey here:

<https://bit.ly/2PYue8H>

## SOCIAL NETWORKING AND ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS

Grand Erie's Parent Involvement Committee (GEPIC) is hosting an important and timely social media and online safety information session for all Grand Erie parents on April 16.

Social Networking and Online Safety: What Parents Need to Know will be led by guest speaker Paul Davis who is an expert in social media, and brings more than 27 years of IT knowledge and experience to Grand Erie.

"Social media is an area of major concern for many parents," said Sarah Nichol, Chair of Grand Erie's Parent Involvement Committee. "Social media and other online activities consume a lot of our children's time. As parents, it's important for us to understand these platforms and to find ways to ensure our children and teens are safe when using them."

Davis is an expert in all of the latest social media trends. His presentation will cover cyberbullying, sexting, smartphones, digital trails, online security and other relevant topics.

"Paul's presentation is intense, so parents should come prepared," said Nichol. "He'll scare us, that's a guarantee. But, he'll also offer great tips and advice on how to deal with social media as well as concrete ways to manage and monitor online activities to ensure our kids stay safe. And, he'll give us strategies to communicate with our teens about keeping their online presence safe."

Social Networking and Online Safety: What Parents Need to Know takes place on Tuesday, April 16 at 6 p.m. in the Gord Paynter Theatre at North Park Collegiate and Vocational School (280 North Park Street, Brantford, Ontario).

Parents are asked to RSVP by Wednesday, April 10 to [kimberly.newhouse@granderie.ca](mailto:kimberly.newhouse@granderie.ca).

## GRAND ERIE SEEKS INPUT ON 2019-2020 BUDGET

As part of its 2019-20 Budget Consultation Process, Grand Erie District School Board is seeking input from a wide-range of stakeholders in preparing the Board's budget for the upcoming school year. The 2019-20 Budget Survey, which closes April 15, will gather information from students, staff, parents, school councils and community members. Responses will help the Board identify priority areas for 2019-20 as well as those moving forward.

Provide your input on the 2019-20 Budget Survey here:

<https://snap.granderie.ca/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=155291674010>. Grand Erie's 2019-20 budget will be presented to the Board of Trustees in June for final review and input.