



PARNALL PIRATE'S TREASURE

THE NEWSLETTER OF PARNALL PUBLIC SCHOOL

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MR. R. SALTER, PRINCIPAL

DECEMBER 2011

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Very quickly the Christmas season has come upon us and Parnall is suddenly taking on the glitter, sights and sounds of Christmas. As we enter this season, we are impressed by the strong sense of community which is demonstrated by our students and their families. A number of students raised funds for their favourite charities during the Vendor Fair. Many families have already made donations to Community Care.



A hat, scarf, mitten and sock tree will be on display in the hall. All donations made to the tree will be delivered to Gillians Place.

On behalf of the staff and students, we would like to extend our wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year. During this season, it is important for all of us to enjoy our family and friends while remaining aware of those less fortunate.

LOST & FOUND



Due to the large amount of clothing that turns up in the Lost and Found, we are suggesting that parents label their children's clothing so that their misplaced coat, sweater, etc., may be returned to them. All clothing will be on display in the hallway this week.

CONCERTS



Our primary students are busy preparing for their concert "*The Littlest Reindeer*", which will be taking place on **Tuesday, December 13th at 1:00 p.m.**, and **Wednesday, December 14th at 6:30 p.m.**

A note will be sent home with the kindergarten children letting the parents know when their Christmas presentation will take place.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Many students get excited about giving their teacher a gift at Christmas. The staff appreciate the thoughtfulness, however, in place of a gift for a teacher we are asking that donations be made to the Parnall Library. If you wish, you may purchase a book for the library or purchase a gift card from a book store such as Chapters. Labels will be placed on the books acknowledging the family who made the donation.

CALLING ON FAMILIES FOR HELP!

We need to borrow some Hallowe'en costumes that would be suitable for "toys" in our Christmas play. The boys and girls who would be wearing these costumes are in grade 3. We have 3 boys and 2 girls who have the role of toys in our Christmas musical. Please contact Mrs. Penner if you can help by loaning us a costume or if you would be interested in making something for this.

JUNIOR BOYS VOLLEYBALL



The junior boys volleyball team has had a fantastic season so far. The boys went undefeated in the season, winning 3 games and tying 1. The boys have worked hard and their volleyball skills, teamwork and sportsmanship have developed along the way. The team won the first playoff game against a very tough team from Ferndale and the boys will meet Prince Philip in the semi-final game. Good luck to the team as they finish off their great season! Team members are: David Picard, Christian Shugan, Josiah Esau, Matthew Jackson, Evan Watton, Ethan VanZalen, Spencer Scholtens, Oscar Rivas, Jakob Strobbridge, Michael Mazzarella, Zachary Morningstar, Spencer Stone, Troy Holowchuk, Ben Meier, and Hunter Reid.

PARNALL SCIENCE FAIR

Congratulations to the following students who have signed up to participate in this year's Science Fair! Don't forget that the Science Fair will take place on **Thursday, February 2nd, 2012**. Circle your calendar!



For more information go to www.activehealthykids.ca or www.participaction.com



PARENT INVOLVEMENT LEADS TO STUDENT SUCCESS

Parent engagement matters. Study after study has shown that student achievement improves when parents play an active role in their children's education, and that good schools become even better schools when parents are involved. It is recognized that parent engagement is a key factor in the enhancement of student achievement and well-being.

Students are more likely to be motivated, to earn higher grades, to have better behavior and social skills, and to continue their education to a higher level when their parents are actively engaged in supporting their success at school.

It is equally important to recognize that parent involvement takes many forms:

- Serving on school councils and Parent Involvement Committees (PICs)
- Volunteering for field trips and school activities
- Making sure there is a quiet place set aside to do homework
- Helping with the homework
- Meeting with the teachers
- Talking to your child about their day at school

These are all examples of engaged parents. They are all contributing to their children's education. To make it easier for parents to get involved, government funding is available to encourage parent involvement. Find out more about parent involvement in schools at: Parents Reaching out Grants,

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/schools.html>

TOP 10 TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH MATH

1. **Connect math to daily life** – Let them know the importance of math! Talk about how you use math in your day-to-day life (at the store, in your job, around the house).

ECO CLUB

The Earthworms Eco Club had the opportunity to send 9 students to the Eco Summit earlier this month. The students had the opportunity to interact with members of eco clubs in other schools and see what they are doing as well as sharing the things we are doing at Parnall.

We continue to have Litterless lunches every Wednesday, daily lights off check, daily eco-friendly announcements, weekly paper and plastic recycling as well as some larger projects planned. Already our garbage on Litterless lunches has been reduced by more than half! We ARE making a difference. The Earthworms Eco Club generally meets every Wednesday at lunch.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Did you know that Canadian children/youth ages six to 19 spend an average of 8.6 hours per day, or 62 per cent of their waking hours, being sedentary?

Here are some ways to help your children meet the recommended 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity each day:

- Limit recreational screen time to no more than two hours per day
- Encourage children and youth to play outdoors
- Play outside with your children:
 - Go for walks, hikes, build snowmen, go tobogganing
 - Introduce your child to skates or skis so they can learn to slide
 - Play catching games using a wide range of soft objects



2. **Counting can be fun and entertaining** – Show them math can be fun! Sing songs (One, Two, Buckle my Shoe) and play games (card games, hopscotch, board games, Dominoes, chess).
3. **Start Easy and Work Up!** – For example, after they've got counting by 1s, talk about skip counting and count by 2s, then 5s and 10s. Don't jump ahead too fast.
4. **Use household items for practice** – Practise adding and subtracting with objects from the house like spoons or pots and pans.
5. **Tap into your child's curiosity** – Go on a number hunt in your house.
6. **Talk about time** – Talk about seconds, minutes, and hours, then count days and weeks. Ask them questions: How long until bedtime? How many "sleeps" until the weekend?
7. **Practice mental math using coins** – Count money or have them show you how much an item costs and practice making change for when they're at the store.
8. **Play the estimating game** – Estimate measurements, distances, time and grocery bills and then compare to the actual.
9. **Sports and math** – There is a lot of math in sports such as batting averages, points per game and save percentages (discuss these as you watch the games or read the newspaper).
10. **Computers + Math = Fun** – (there are lots of great computer games available to explore math).



requires a person to constantly think and monitor meaning. It is a strategy for ensuring the words and pictures read make sense and match the letters on a page.

How can you help your child with this strategy at home?

1. Listen to your child read. When they come to a word they are unsure of, remind them to cross check. Ask:
 - Does the word you are reading match the picture of letters written? (they cross their right arm over their body)
 - Does it sound right? (their left arm crosses over their body making an X)
 - Does it make sense? (both arms come down with hands pointing to the ground)

*Doing physical movements with each question helps children to remember the questions.

2. If your child is having difficulty with this strategy at home, break down the process:
 - Have them stop reading when meaning breaks down.
 - Tell them to look at the letters and say the sounds or look for word chunks in words.
 - Remind them to use the pictures to help.
3. To make your child aware of using this strategy, give them a piece of paper and tell them to make a tally mark each time they use the **cross checking** strategy.

Thank you for your continued support at home!

JUNIOR GLEE CLUB

The Junior Glee Club will be performing at the Pen Centre on Tuesday, December 13th, from 1:15 – 1:45 p.m. Members are reminded to wear black pants and a white top. Keep working on memorizing those lyrics!



GOVERNOR SIMCOE PRODUCTION

The following students will be participating in the Governor Simcoe production of "Oliver!" in April. They have been working on 3 songs to perform: "Food, Glorious Food", "Consider Yourself" and "Who Will Buy?".

OLIVER CAST: Rachel Anderson-Fancy, Kamryn Christensen, Abbey Jarrett, Alaina Kelly, Hanna Kelly, Jennika McIntosh, Ben Meier, Mackenzie Morningstar, Chris Richardson, Mackenzie Sumbler, Seoin Wang, Kaitlyn Weeks, Madison Wegener, and Claire Wilson.



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH READING AT HOME



When reading a book for pleasure or for information, chances are you will come to a word or two you are unsure of. You probably will use the accuracy strategy of **cross checking** without even thinking about it, because it is second nature to you as a reader to read accurately. Accuracy, is not second nature to children learning to read. It is something that needs to be taught using a variety of strategies.

It is important to slow readers down when they come to a word they don't know and teach them to apply the strategy of **cross checking** so they are able to fix the meaning and not just skip the word. **Cross checking**

WINTER MURALS

Congratulations to the students in Mrs.Chuchman's, Mrs. Tallman's and Mrs.Coveney's classes who created beautiful winter murals! They are on display downtown in different windows at 80 King St. Well done, Parnall!

NOVEMBER SUPER STARS



JSA1 – Mrs. Chiarelli

Lily Sun
Simonne LaBute
Ashlynn Caverly
Ryan Cormier

JSA2 – Mrs. Pringle

Sarah Huges
Hailey Jacques
Marshall Sumbler
Amanda Addie

1-1 – Mr. Pickett

Kennedy Ruthven
Donovan Losier

1/2 – Mrs. Penner

Jamie Addy
Aidan Wellman

2-1 – Mrs. Hughes

Colton Rothney
Jingyue Wu

3-1 – Mrs. Cosby

Jaden Lennox
Kyle MacLean

3-2 – Mrs. Cogswell

Kaileigh Wegener
Cole Morningstar

4-1 – Mrs. Chuchman

Samantha Ranucci
Alexandra Smith
Tyler Snure

4/5 – Mrs. Tallman

Adrian Fochtberger
Maya Jackson
Dane Sedore
Katy Tees
Ashley Brady

5/6 – Ms. Erwood

Spencer Scholtens
Jackson Wyatt

6-1 – Mrs. Coveney

Lindsay Morrison
Oscar Rivas
Claire Wilson

SESN – Mrs. Unger

Devon Botbyl
Kassidy Hamelin

CHARACTER TRAITS

The character traits are explicitly taught and reinforced at Parnall School. This month the character trait is Responsibility. Review how your child can show responsibility at home. Some ideas include: being responsible for chores, helping a parent or sibling, lending a hand to someone in need, taking care of personal belongings and preparing for school (agenda, library books, supplies, homework, permission forms).

NOVEMBER RESPONSIBILITY WINNERS

JSA1 Nora Alek, Reid Oates, Katie Chatwin

JSA2 Andrei Tureac, Grace Birnie

1-1 Orlin Chowdhury, Bernd Fochtberger, Kylie Pallante, Ethan Pryer

1/2 Thomas Davidson, Virsavia Tureac

2-1 Damen Graham, Victor Fedj

3-1 Rocky Pepe, Chloe Meleon

3-2 Danielle Jackson, Jared Dyck

4-1 Dante Kellar, Danielle LaPlante, Olivia Losier

4/5 Kailey Harvey, Michael Payne

5/6 Josiah Esau, Seoin Wang

6-1 Kaitlyne Brady, Jacquelyn Campbell

SESN Kassie Golden



COMING SOON...

“Parnall Night” at Cheeky Monkeys’ Indoor Playland :
January 17th from 4-8PM.

This event is by invitation only. Invitations will be coming home soon. Be sure to invite your friends, neighbours and cousins, so EVERYONE can come and have a great time!!!!
See you there!

CAN TABS UPDATE

“How many CAN TABS can you collect over the holidays?”...



The collection is going well, and there are a few classes that are SO CLOSE to filling their buckets, don't give up. The collection is not over until Earth Day in April.

Have a “CAN-TABulous” Holiday and see you in the New Year.