

UNIONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL
300 Main Street,
Unionville, Ontario
(905) 477-1824

Principal: P. Carew



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

The return to Fall activities is an especially busy time for many people and places and UPS is no exception. We have already completed our Terry Fox Run, while X-country, band, 50k club, golf, volleyball, Markham Fair preparations and various class trips are well under way. In the midst of these many activities we were able to greet a large number of our families during our Meet the Teacher BBQ.

This is also a time of the year when we begin looking at various aspects of our school plan in order to establish goals for the year. Our current school plan like other schools in York Region focuses on *Curriculum & Student Achievement*, *Effective Schools* as well as *Parent & Community Involvement*.

This year we will continue to look at various aspects of *Character Education*, as we strive to make UPS an even more effective school. This program deals with the development of character traits in our children such as; respect, responsibility, honesty, empathy, fairness, initiative, perseverance, integrity, courage and optimism. This will be taught using the various lessons from the SECOND STEP program and supplemented by other initiatives such as our Healthy Child Certificate program.

As a school we will continue to develop initiatives in the area of *Parent & Community Involvement*. An electronic newsletter, an extra curricular calendar, expanded use of our internet site and a more extensive approach to support those in need in our community will represent some of the ways in which we continue to involve our community in the education of our children.

There will be a shift in one aspect of our SPCI (School Plan for Continuous Improvement) as we move our focus in the area of curriculum from Assessment to Literacy. We will continue to find ways in which to ensure that all students acquire the literacy skills necessary for them to be successful in the future.

As we move through the school year we hope that you will feel a part of our school community. We welcome your ideas and invite you to share them with us as we work together to create life long learners in our community.

Trustees: G. Unitas (905) 940-9814

B. Crothers (905) 640-1759

Superintendent: Ms. V. Bismilla (905) 640-7800

MEET THE TEACHER BBQ

Many thanks to Deb K. and a number of volunteers for doing such a wonderful job organizing the BBQ part of our evening. Thanks as well to our teachers for sharing with parents various aspects of their programs for the upcoming year. If parents have any concerns or issues that need clarification please contact your child's teacher at school.

ELECTIVES

Once again after discussion with both Unionville Staff and the School Advisory Council we are pleased to present our UPS students with the *Electives* program. This program allows students the opportunity to participate in a variety of different life skills that they may not get to experience otherwise. Electives will run during the 4 Wednesday afternoons of February. A brochure outlining the program will be sent home in early November. Should you have any suggestions for suitable electives please contact Mr. Carew as soon as possible.

UNIONVILLE BAND

Our UPS Intermediate Band is off to a great start. Nearly 60 students have begun meeting twice a week with Mr. Wigglesworth who works with this group on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Often joining the group are former UPS students who now attend Markville S.S. We look forward to hearing from the group throughout the year.



ARTS YORK AUDITIONS

Forms will be available after October 15th for those interested in applying to the Arts York Program at UHS. An information session will follow on Tuesday, November 4th. Complimentary tickets must be reserved for all sessions. Please call the Markham Theatre Box Office starting October 8, 2003 at (905) 305-7469 between 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. The application deadline is November 28, 2003. Each application received by the deadline is guaranteed an audition. Late auditions cannot be guaranteed an audition time, they will be scheduled if time permits. Auditions will be held at UHS from January 23-29, 2004. For additional information please contact the ARTS YORK office at (905) 479-2787 ext. 249.

ENVIRONMENTAL

COMMITTEE

The Environmental Committee is off to an exciting start. Projects have included the following:

- Due to the generous funding provided by EARTH RANGERS our grade three classes were able to have "hands on" experience in planting our new Dry Meadow—fondly named Margaret's Meadow (named after our York Region Environmental lady who has supported us in many ways throughout the years.) Students learned about soils, and then were able to plant and learn about the meadow wild flowers used in our garden. Children each received an EARTH RANGERS T-shirt. Thank you Earth Rangers.
- Much needed mulch was laid in Boag Forest, to help control ongoing weed problems. This is a delightful place for children to play.
- The Communication Class under the direction of Ms. Webber has taken on the responsibility of the school's entry way planters. They have planted fall mums and will help with regular care and watering.
- Pizza Lunch Litter Pick-up is back again this year due to popular demand. Beginning on October 10th students can help pick up litter. Their efforts will be rewarded by earning house colour points. Appropriate gloves and bags will be provided, as well as parental supervision.
- Our "I WALK TO SCHOOL DAY" will take place on October 8th. Please join us to make this event a success. The Schad Foundation has also sponsored this event by providing key fobs for our children's back packs to readily identify participants. Bus students will be brought to Unionville Library where they will be walked to school by volunteers. Parent volunteers will be identified by hats provided by the board. Let's join the many others and show our kids the merits of walking. Our local firehall has also agreed to jump on the bandwagon.



NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, October 14th @ 9:00 a.m.

ALL WELCOME!

VOLLEYBALL TEAMS

Both our girls and boys volleyball teams have now been chosen. The teams will compete in a number of exhibition games leading up to the area tournaments in late November.



HOUSE COLOURS

Once again UPS students will compete to gain points for their various house teams. Points are awarded for a number of different activities with participation being the key factor.

CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to our cross country team. The team is the largest it has been in a number of years. All members of the team have participated in our own "time trials" and will compete in the Area Meet as well as our own UPS meet. In addition, runners who qualify will compete in the E.T.Crowle Crawl and the regional meet. Many thanks to Mr. Carlisle, Ms. Dilworth and the many parent volunteers who have helped with the various events.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR

CALENDAR

We encourage you to check the extra-curricular calendar outside the gym and the music room, as well as posted on the website, to help organize your various activities. Please remember that these calendars are subject to some change.



ELECTRONIC PAWPRINTS

As mentioned last Spring we are hoping to distribute Pawprints electronically to as many families as possible. If you are interested in helping us with this initiative, please send your contact e-mail directly to paul.carew@yrdsb.edu.on.ca. It is our hope that by the end of this year Pawprints will be entirely distributed via e-mail, with hard copies only made available in the note caddy outside of the office.

UPS GOLF TEAM

Twenty young UPS golfers competed at Rolling Hills recently for the right to represent our school at the second UPS Invitational to be held on Tuesday, October 7th @ St. Andrew's Valley in Aurora. A number of teams will compete in this year's tournament. Special thanks to Mr. Carlisle and Mr. Leon and a number of parents for helping with the team.



SAFETY WEEK

A number of safety initiatives have been carried out during the last few days. Amongst them was a "CODE RED" drill which took place on Wednesday, October 1st. This drill was well rehearsed with students and simulated the procedures necessary when confronted with severe weather or an intruder. Below you will also find some additional safety information shared in order to make UPS an even safer place.

Keeping Our School Safe & Orderly

(We have been instructed to share the following message with our community.)

In accordance with the principal's responsibilities under the Education Act to ensure a safe and orderly learning environment, the school has the right to search school property, such as lockers and desks, without notice to or permission of any person. From time to time, the police may be invited onto school property to conduct their own searches and these searches may be conducted without notice or permission of any member of the school community as per our Joint Board and Police Protocol. When conducting a search of school property, persons or personal property, the police are responsible for conforming to all legal requirements with respect to searches.

Stranger Proof

Without making your child overly anxious it is a good idea to talk to him/her about what to do if approached by a stranger. Talk to your child about recognizing potentially dangerous situations and about using the buddy system (walking with a friend).


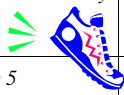









Other Reminders

Parents are asked to drop off or meet children outside their designated entry/exit doors. Parents and visitors must sign in at the office upon arrival at the school. We also ask that you refrain from using the bus loop during bus pick-up and drop off times. It is now possible to drop off students on the west side of Main St. Finally, we ask that all students cross with the crossing guards as this will help keep all children safe.

ENTRANCE ARTWORK








You will soon notice a different appearance in our main hallway. Artist Janice Garel has been working at creating an historical scene which will eventually include one of the first Unionville school houses. This work has been made possible as a result of the financial support of Ceridian Canada.

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Day 1	2 Day 2 Markham Fair	3 Day 3 Markham Fair	4
5	6 Day 4	7 Day 5  UPS Invitational Golf (St. Andrews)	8 Day 1  Walk to School Day	9 Day 2  UPS X-Country Meet	10 Day 3  Pizza Lunch	11
12 	13 Thanksgiving	14 Day 4	15 Day 5  Area X-Country	16 Day 1	17 Day 2  Citizenship Court McDonalds Lunch	18 
19	20 Day 3 	21 Day 4 Laidlaw Bus Ed (K-4) School Council	22 Day 5 Reg'l X-Country	23 Day 1	24 Day 2  Pizza Lunch	25
26	27 Day 3	28 Day 4	29 Day 5	30 Day 1 Gr 7—Hep B	31 Day 2  Sub Lunch Hallowe'en	1



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 Day 3	4 Day 4	5 Day 5	6 Day 1	7 Day 2  Pizza Lunch	8
9	10 Day 3 	11 Day 4 Remembrance Day	12 day 5	13 Day 1	14 Day 2  McDonalds	15
16	17 Day 3	18 Day 4 School Council	19 Day 5	20 Day 1	21 Day 2  Pizza Lunch Reports Home	22
23	24 Day 3	25 Day 4	26 Day 5 Area Boys V-ball	27 Day 1  Area Girls V-Ball Parent/Teacher Interviews	28 PA DAY Parent/Teacher Interviews	29
30	1 Day 2	2 Day 3	3 Day 4 	4 Day 5	5 Day 1  Pizza Lunch	6