

PAWPRINTS

September 2003

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

Principal: P. Carew



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

A warm welcome is extended to each and everyone in our community. A special thanks to Mrs. Ludski, Mrs. Davies and Mrs. Misch who have helped get us off to such a fabulous start. A special thank you as well to a group of former and current students who helped with the distribution of first day packages and agendas. Many thanks to Mr. Lamanna, Mr. Seapy and Mr. Speranza for their hard work during the summer preparing the school for students and staff. Appreciation also goes to all the teachers who have worked so hard during the summer months preparing for the new year through courses, preparing curriculum and preparing classrooms for students. One could only be impressed with the dedication of our teachers as they prepared for the upcoming school year during the past few weeks.

Like most school years, we welcome a number of new teachers and families to our school community. We encourage you to extend a warm welcome to all members of our community, especially those students, parents and teachers who are new to our school. If you are new, please make yourself known to us in the office so that we can be helpful in making your transition to our school a pleasurable one.

As part of York Region's focus on Character Education we will continue with our SECOND STEP program throughout the upcoming year. This is a proactive social skills instruction program that is designed to teach all children how to deal positively with conflicts when they arise. It is our hope that as we move through the year, students will become better at dealing with difficult social situations, resulting in UPS becoming an even safer environment where everyone has the opportunity to learn. More information will follow throughout the year.

On behalf of our staff we look forward to an exciting and rewarding year full of wonderful experiences for your children.

Paul Carew

Trustees: G. Unitas (905) 940-9814

B. Crothers (905) 640-1759

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



MEET THE TEACHER BBQ

Once again we look forward to this informal evening as it is a good opportunity for students to introduce their teachers to parents. This event will take place on Wednesday, September 17th from 6:00—8:00 p.m. The evening will allow you to enjoy a social time with other members of our community and then spend some time meeting individual teachers. Two opportunities will be given to meet with various classroom teachers. (7:00 -7:30 & 7:30—8:00) Look for more details to follow.

SCHOOL AGENDAS

All students in grades 1—8 will be bringing home a student agenda in which to record homework, assignments and notices for upcoming events. The decision to offer each student an agenda is one that has been supported by parents and staff and is an excellent tool for increased communication between home and school. Cost of the agenda is \$8.00. We would appreciate payment (cheques preferable) when you return the other completed forms.

NOTE: There has been a delay in the arrival of the grade 1—3 agendas.

ELECTIVES

Our elective program will once again take place during the month of February. Should you have any creative ideas for potential electives please feel free to share those with us in the office. Forms for elective sign up will be distributed in early November.

PAPERWORK FOR EVERYONE

We would appreciate your cooperation by completing the forms that we have sent home this week as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your support.



MILK PROGRAM

Milk will once again be provided for students staying for lunch, and to kindergarten students at their break times. If you wish to participate in this program please complete the order forms which will be sent home later this month. We would like to thank Mrs. Antunes, our parent volunteer, for her assistance with this program.



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

It is early fall and the gardens are looking lovely. A special thank you goes out to all those who volunteered with the watering and weeding over the summer. As well, thank you to the caretakers for their cooperation.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Thursday, Sept 11th—*Environmental Committee Meeting (9:00 A.M.)*

Come to the meeting to discuss exciting new projects for this year. Future plans include the grade 3 involvement in planting “Margaret’s Meadow,” to coincide with the science curriculum. As well, more colour and texture in the shade garden.

Wednesday, October 8th - *International Walk to School Day.*

Leave the car at home and walk your child to school or take part in our organized group neighbourhood walks from every area around the school. Look for more information to follow.

THANKS FROM OUR GRADE 8 GRADUATES.

On behalf of June 2003 grade 8 graduates and their families, we would like to extend a sincere thank you to the grade 7 students and parents who under the leadership of Bonnie Sullivan helped organize the food for the graduation reception - you did a fabulous job - ***thank you!***

Our thanks to Bonnie Sullivan and the following parents:

Debbie Armstrong
Karen Chow
Linda Haines
Evina Hui
Chirs Jans
Christine LeGrice
Arzina Somji

Our thanks to the following students:

Kim A.
Heather B.
Vivian H.
Jessica H.
Lindsay S.
Alisha S.

ELECTRONIC PAWPRINTS

As mentioned at the end of last year we are hoping to distribute Pawprints electronically to as many families as possible beginning shortly. If you are interested in helping us with this initiative, please send your contact e-mail directly to paul.carew@yrdsb.edu.on.ca.

STAFF ORGANIZATION

P. Carew	Principal
T. Ludski	Head Secretary
D. Bradler	Secretary
V. Lamanna	Head Caretaker
R. Seapy	Caretaker
M. Speranza	Caretaker
Y. Braybrook	CYW
R. MacDonald	CYW
P. Schultz	CYW
E.J. Dewberry	JK/Prep
J. Ballantine	SK-a.m.
L. Wilkinson	SK p.m.
M. Fedy	Grade 1
E. Boag	Grade 1
G. Lee	Grade 2/R. Recovery
K. Andrews	Grade 2/French
G. Good	Grade 2
S. Creelman	Grade 3
M. Leon	Grade 3
J. Glamcevski	Grade 4
E. Crivaro	Grade 4
G. Farber	Grade 5
P. Yip	Grade 5
L. Dilworth	Grade 6
A. Ambtman	Grade 6
G. Sillito	Grade 7
D. Norquay	Grade 7
B. Fisher	Grade 8
T. Carlisle	Grade 8
B. Webber	Communication Class
J. Wrigglesworth	Int. Music
M. Kollias	Pr. SERT
C. Vanker	Jr. SERT
M. Mantha	French
G. Hlynka	Library/ESL

STAFFING NEWS

Cathy Davies, one of our secretaries, has been given a full time assignment at James Robinson P.S. While we are happy for her, we will indeed miss her at UPS. Replacing Mrs. Davies will be Mrs. Darlene Bradler, an experienced YRDSB secretary, who will join us on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from Reesor Park P.S. I am sure that you will extend a warm welcome when you meet her in the office. We are also pleased to welcome Mr. Leon (Grade 3), Mrs. Good (Grade 2), Ms. Andrews (Grade 2), Ms. Boag (Grade 1) and Paula Schultz (CYW) who all join our UPS staff this year.

We also need to inform you that Mlle Mantha's last name changes to Mme York following her wedding this summer.

SAFETY REMINDERS

School Drop Off

You will notice that there have been some changes to the signage on Main St., in front of the school. In addition to making the area a "SCHOOL ZONE" the town of Markham has now made it permissible to "STOP" on Main St. directly in front of the school. This means that you will now be able to stop your car and let your children out, directly in front of the school. You are not, however, permitted to park your car in this area. We are hoping that this will reduce traffic in and out of the parking lot, especially during the morning drop off time. We also remind you that the bus loop is closed to traffic from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

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. Supervision is provided by UPS staff 15 minutes prior to the morning bell. Parents and visitors must sign in at the office upon arrival at the school. Finally we ask that all students cross with the crossing guards as this help keep all children safe.

We hope that all of these messages will help keep Unionville Public School a safe place to learn.

LUNCH



Our lunch period (11:45—12:45) allows many of our students to walk home for a noon hour break. Supervision of the school yard begins at 12:10 p.m. It is important for parents to please understand that the Board of Education is not responsible for students who leave school property at lunch time. A more detailed outline of these rules was included in students' first day packages. For students who eat lunch at school, we strongly encourage the use of reusable lunch bags and solid food and drink containers. (Please do not bring glass juice containers.)






PAWPRINTS

September 2003

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Day 1	3 Day 2	4 Day 3	5 Day 4	6
7	8 Day 5	9 Day 1	10 Day 2	11 Day 3	12 Day 4	13
14	15 Day 5	16 Day 1 School Council 	17 Day 2 Meet the Teacher/ Curriculum Night	18 Day 3 Terry Fox Run	19 PD Day (No School)	20
21	22 Day 4	23 Day 5	24 Day 1	25 Day 2	26 Day 3 School Photo Day 	27
28	29 Day 4 School Safety Week	30 Day 5				

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	8 Day 1 Walk to School Day	9 Day 2	10 Day 3	11
12	13 Thanksgiving	14 Day 4	15 Day 5 Area X-Country 	16 Day 1	17 Day 2 Citizenship Court 	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	25
26	27 Day 3	28 Day 4	29 Day 5	30 Day 1	31 Day 2 Hallowe'en	