

BLOSSOMS DAY CARE

Blossoms Day Care Centre, located at Unionville P.S. is accepting registrations for our Before School, After School, Professional Development Days, March Break and Summer Camp for children between the ages of 4 and 12. To register for the fun filled Blossoms Day Care Centre, please contact Marisa Merrell at (905) 477-0660. The organization is also actively seeking staff to work at the day care centre. Please fax your resume to (905) 477-0285.



EQAO—EARLY MAY

We have scheduled EQAO testing for the week of May 10—14. We ask that parents of both grade 3 and 6 students make an effort to have students at school throughout this week. We ask that you not schedule appointments during this time period, as we are attempting to have as little disruption as possible during the testing. More details will follow for all students involved in the testing.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Walk to School Wednesdays have been a great success. The students participating are showing much enthusiasm and interest. Keep on walking.

Spring is finally here and we look forward to the beautiful show our school gardens will give. We have many new projects planned for this spring to further improve the shade and front gardens. Come and get involved in this exciting time. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 13th at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room. No experience necessary, just a willingness to make our school a more educational and beautiful place. All are welcome.

DENTAL SCREENING

Dental screening has been booked for April 14th and 15th for all students in JK, SK, Grades 2, 4, 6 and 8. This process involves a relatively quick screening of all students in these grades by a qualified York Region health services dental professional. Please contact us at the office should you need to have your child removed from this screening.

HIP HOP FOR JUNIORS

Much thanks is extended to Mrs. Mehaffey and teachers of the Dance Institute who will once again be delivering a HIP HOP program for students in grade 3,4,5 & 6 during the first week of April.

LEGACY RUN

As mentioned on page one we have now issued a challenge to other Markham schools to raise money for the Markham Stouffville Hospital through the Legacy Run. Our school run will take place at UPS on Tuesday, May 4th. Look for more details to follow.



JUNIOR BASKETBALL TEAMS

Junior Basketball (Boys and Girls) has been added as a new York Region sport for our schools. Teams have already been selected and have participated in a number of games already. The season is very condensed and culminates with the Area tournaments which are scheduled for April 14th and 15th. We are also delighted to be holding two tournaments here at UPS. The girls will host their tournament on April 13th and the boys on April 7th. A special thanks to Mr. Carlisle and Mr. Leon for helping coach these teams.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Students are preparing for this competition which will be held on April 28th at Coppard Glen P.S. This group is meeting during lunch-time with Mr. Farber in order to prepare for the event. Good Luck!!!



PAWPRINTS THROUGH E-MAIL

We are asking all UPS families to provide an e-mail address that could be used for the distribution of the monthly Pawprints, as well as other materials from the school office. We request that you complete the form that was included with the second term report card and return it to the school asap. It is our intention to distribute all newsletters in an electronic format by the end of this calendar year.

CONSEQUENCE FORMS

As many of you are aware student incident reports are tracked through the office. Many of these are relatively minor and do not require immediate parental contact. However, if there is a repetition of these "minor" difficulties it becomes important for us to let you know this information. During the remainder of this year we will be introducing a form which will be sent home should students become involved in this type of behaviour. Should you have any questions about these forms please feel free to contact Mr. Carew or Ms. Dilworth at the school office.

PREPARING FOR 2004/2005

Our preparations for the 2004-2005 school year are underway and our success depends on accurate projections of our school population. Please advise us if your children will not be attending UPS in the Fall. Also, if you know of anyone already living in, or moving into the community, who may be planning to send their children to our school, please encourage them to register as soon as possible. Registrations for Junior Kindergarten are also being taken at this time.

CLASS PLACEMENTS FOR 2004/2005

As part of this process, plans for the school organization for the 2004-2005 school year have also begun. Tentative plans have already been shared with staff and school council. Teacher assignments will not be finalized until the end of the year, due to the teacher transfer process.

In early June staff will meet to discuss student placements for next year. Administrators, special education teachers, the sending and receiving homeroom teachers will organize tentative homeroom classes for all students within next year's organizational structure. Staff will carefully consider each individual child when deciding class placements. The following criteria are used for placing students into classes:

- Class size, based on Board-allowed staffing formula
- Balance between male and female students
- Matching the student's learning style with the teacher's instructional style
- Coordinating students with special education/ESL staff
- Combining/separating students for optimal learning
- Avoidance of placing students in a split grade class two years in a row
- Pertinent input from parents/guardians which would assist staff in making their decisions.

If you have any special requests regarding class placement, please notify your child's teacher in writing, with a copy to Mr. Carew **before May 25th**. At the placement meetings the current homeroom teachers will present all relevant data. We will attempt to accommodate all requests, however, due to the nature of the task, it is not always possible. This is a difficult task, but it is important for you to know that we have experienced staff who will do their utmost to place each student in the best possible learning environment.

SAFETY FOR UPS CHILDREN

(The following safety tips come to us from York Region and Metro Toronto Police Departments)

It's spring and children are out and about and more active in the community. Greater visibility means increased exposure to outside risks. Please remind children to be vigilant about their own safety when they are unsupervised and outside the home.

Encourage your children to remember some common sense personal safety rules:

- Never approach or enter a vehicle of someone they do not know
- Never accept gifts from people they do not know
- Always keep you informed as to his/her whereabouts
- Never enter someone else's home without your permission
- Always play in safe areas and never take shortcuts when travelling from one place to another
- Teach them how to contact you and use "911" to contact the police, fire department, or ambulance in the event of an emergency.

INTERNET SAFETY





The internet is a most valuable research and educational tool. We want to help you as parents take positive actions to make our children's safety and future more secure by reducing their vulnerability. The following tips will prove helpful:

- Learn what your child is doing on the internet
- Find out about filtering software
- Keep computer usage a family activity by putting the computer in a family room
- Set reasonable guidelines for computer use by your children
- Have your children use a code name while on-line
- Create a password that is hard to guess but easy to remember and change it often





VIP PROGRAM BEGINS FOR GR. 6

Beginning on April 6th Officer Leach of the York Regional Police Department will begin a proactive program with our grade 6 students entitled *Values, Influences and Peers*. Look for more information to follow.

APRIL CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		30 Day 2	31 Day 3	1 Day 4	2 Day 5 No Lunch Program	3
4	5 Day 1	6 Day 2	7 Day 3 UPS Boys Jr. B-ball Tournament	8 Day 4  Pizza Lunch	9 Good Friday (No School)	10
11	12 Easter Monday (No School)	13 Day 5 UPS Jr. Girls B-ball	14 Day 1 Area Jr. Girls B-ball Tournament	15 Day 2 Area Jr. Boys B-ball	16 Day 3 Sub Lunch 	17
18	19 Day 4	20 Day 5 School Council	21 Day 1	22 Day 2	23 Day 3 Pizza Lunch 	24
25	26 Day 4	27 Day 5 Gr. 7—Hep "B"	28 Day 1 Jr. Achv't—Gr. 8 Battle of the Books 	29 Day 2	30 Day 3 McDonalds	1

MAY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 Day 4	4 Day 5 Legacy Run @ UPS	5 Day 1 Operetta	6 Day 2  Pizza Lunch Operetta	7 PA Day (No school)	8
9	10 Day 3 EQAO Testing (3&6)	11 Day 4 EQAO Testing (3&6)	12 Day 5 EQAO Testing (3&6)	13 Day 1 EQAO Testing (3&6)	14 Day 2 Sub Lunch EQAO Testing (3&6) 	15
16	17 Day 3	18 Day 4 School Council Quebec Trip Gr. 8	19 Day 5 Quebec Trip Gr. 8	20 Day 1 Quebec Trip Gr. 8	21 Day 2 Pizza Lunch Quebec Trip Gr. 8 	22
23	24 Victoria Day (No School)	25 Day 3	26 Day 4 Reg'l Relay	27 Day 5	28 Day 1 McDonalds Lunch	29
30	31 Day 2	1 Day 3	2 Day 4	3 Day 5	4 Day 1 Pizza Lunch Lunch 	5

PAWPRINTS

April 2004

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

Principal: P. Carew
www.unionville.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

We would like to thank you for your continued support in helping teach our children of the need to reach out to others. Over the past year we have raised more than \$30 000.00 for various charities. The following challenge, which recently ran in *The Economist and Sun*, once again calls for your support as we ask other schools to join with us in helping raise money for Markham Stouffville Hospital.

We thank you for your support of our community.

Paul Carew

Trustees: G. Unitas (905) 940-9814

B. Crothers (905) 640-1759

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