

Pawprints

December 2004

Unionville Public School
300 Main Street
Unionville, Ontario
(905) 477-1824

Principal: S. Gardner
Vice Principal: D. Thompson

York Region District School Board

Trustees: G. Unitas
(905) 940-9814

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(905) 640-1759

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From The Administrator's Desk

The End of First Term

Students at Unionville Public School have recently received their first report card. We have also had the opportunity for students and parents to come to the school for parent-teacher conferences. This is a time for students to set academic goals for themselves for term 2.

It is important to take the opportunity to regularly discuss school goals with your child. It is also a time to reflect on home routines that support learning. Parents can also ask to see their child's agenda planner to check for assignment lists and nightly homework. We know that student's who regularly complete homework, review notes, and /or read nightly come to school prepared and display confidence concerning their academics. Thank you to our group of Grade 8 students who offered and provided babysitting services for the younger students on interview night. I know this was appreciated by both parents and the students.

The York Region District School Board has recently released school board and individual school results for the 2003-2004 Grade 3 and 6 EQAO Assessments. Students who took part in the assessment are currently in grade 4 and 7 and they have already received individual reports. Please note that school results for Unionville Public School are included in this newsletter. We are currently reviewing the results with staff and our School Council and will continue to use the information we gain from these assessments and other sources to help support program decisions at Unionville.

Once again our UPS Book Fair was a resounding success. Thank you to everyone for the enthusiastic participation. On behalf of our Teacher-Librarian, Ms. Hlynka, and UPS, a special thank is extended to our group of parent volunteers who helped set-up and supervise the event - the event could not have occurred without your invaluable support.

The Olde Tyme Christmas Parade on Main Street was fun filled evening with over 40 UPS students participating in the band or choir. It certainly was a crisp and cool night but the festive spirit helped to keep everyone warm. Thank you very much to Mrs. Tripp for her leadership with the UPS performers. This night would not have been possible without the dedication of a group of parents who organized this annual event. A special thank you to Mrs. H. Sherman and Mrs. M. McLennan. It is the spirit of community that makes UPS the special place that it is.

On behalf of the entire UPS staff, may you have a safe and happy holiday.

SCROOGE IS COMING TO UPS

Under the direction of Mr. Sillito, STAGELIGHTS will present their version of Scrooge on Thursday December 16th at 7:00 PM in the UPS gymnasium.

UPSAC MONETARY DONATIONS

This is a reminder that monetary donations can be made at any time. Tax receipts will be issued for all donations. Extra forms are available in the note caddy outside of the UPS office. Donations are continuing to come in and behalf of UPSAC and UPS, thank you for your continued support.

DRESSING WARMLY

Students are reminded to dress appropriately now that colder weather has arrived. Students are asked to go outside for recess during the winter months as the fresh air and activity is healthy. Only in the event that the weather becomes extremely cold will the outdoor recess time be reduced. It is expected that all students will go outside for recess.

Regardless of the weather, the school will remain open. However, during extreme weather conditions, buses may be cancelled. If this happens and parents choose to drive students to the school, please be aware that you are also responsible for picking up your children by 3:30 PM. When buses are cancelled, they are cancelled for the entire day.

If road conditions do force cancellation of bus service, the following radio stations will be informed as early as possible, and will broadcast pertinent information to the community.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

We did it again! Thank you to all the students, parents, and teachers who helped to make this year's book fair a great success. Due to everyone's efforts, we will be able to purchase more resources for our library.

LIBRARY BOOKS

Please help! By the end of this school year, we hope to have finished bar-coding our library collection in preparation for automation. We would appreciate everyone looking for and returning any library resources which might have been missed. Thank You!

ELEMENTARY ARTS PROGRAM

“Any grade four, grade five and grade six students interested and talented in Drama, Dance, Music, or Visual Arts are invited to audition for the Integrated Arts Program at Baythorn Public School located in Thornhill. Parents and students are invited to attend the information evening on Tuesday, January 11, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Gym at Baythorn Public School. Applications will be available on the following web site <http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/~baythorn>. (Beginning January 11, 2005).”

PRIMARY CRAFT DAY

Our annual UPS Primary Craft Day will take place on Wednesday, December 15th. Each member of the Primary division will participate in creating a special craft for the holiday season.

CASUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The York Region District School Board is currently hiring supply educational assistants to temporarily replace permanent employees.

- **Job specifics:** The supply educational assistant needs to be available, on short notice, to replace absent permanent educational assistants. The applicant needs to be willing to work with special needs students, in a variety of settings, in a variety of schools.
- **Duties:** The position provides support to special needs students. Duties include the lifting, transferring, feeding and toileting of students.
- **Qualifications:** Minimum Grade 12 or equivalent (GED) required.
- **Rate of Pay:** \$10.25 per hour plus 4% vacation pay.
- **How to apply:** Please visit our website at www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca, click on "Careers" and then click on "Opportunities At Our Board". Select "Casual Educational Assistants" and follow the prompts to apply on-line.

ELECTIVES

We now have a majority of our students enrolled in our elective program. If you have yet to submit an electives form and payment, please send it in early this week, as we are finalizing programs. Students will only receive a written confirmation if they **did not** receive their first choice, and this will take place in **January**. Volunteers will be contacted in January to confirm their participation.



York Region District School Board

300 Main Street
Unionville, Ontario
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School Website: <http://www.unionville.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>

Council Website: <http://www.unionville.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/upsac1.html>

Unionville P.S. is located on Main Street in Unionville , just a few minutes walk from historic Main Street. The school attendance area is bounded on the north by Sixteenth Avenue, on the west by Too Good Pond, on the east by Heatherwood and Wrenwood, and on the south by the homes on Carlton Rd. (For precise boundaries please contact the board website, or school office.)

Unionville Public School has gone through several transformations since it was originally built. The original Unionville Public School was built in the 1830s and was named SS#10. It was torn down and a two-storey brick building was built in 1892. According to the book Markham 1793-1900 (edited by Isabel Champion and published by the Markham Historical Society in 1979), "This was one of the first schools in the township to be electrified (1928). In 1949, two more rooms were added at a cost of \$40,000 and in 1955, a one-room annex made an extension to the south of the main structure, which was torn down in 1977." In more recent years the offices were moved to the front of the school and a new hall was added to connect the primary hall and the main lobby and the main offices were renovated and expanded.



CHARACTER MATTERS AT UPS.

December is Empathy

● Dear Parents:

RE: Education Day – Friday, February 4, 2005

As you know, there is an ever-growing need to ensure that our teachers meet the professional standards required under the law. In order to assist our teachers in acquiring information that will support them in doing so, classes, field trips and extra-curricular activities will not be conducted in our elementary schools on Friday, February 4, 2005. On this day students are not to come to school.

On February 4, 2005, teaching staff in our school will be engaged in the following activities:

- School Planning to support student achievement
- Transition Planning

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (905) 477-1824.

Sincerely,

Steve Gardner

Principal
Unionville P.S.

c.c. Superintendents of Education – Elementary