

# PAWPRINTS

January 2004

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

Principal: P. Carew



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

The *School Plan for Continuous Improvement* helps form the basis for much of what happens at UPS. Each year this plan is reviewed by senior administration, local school staff, as well as individual school councils. Our own school plan is part of a larger board wide plan which is presented to the Board of Trustees on an annual basis. Three specific board wide goals, first identified in the 2002-03 System Plan for Continuous Improvement are as follows:

*Quality Schools – to ensure that all students acquire the literacy skills to enable them to be successful in the future*

*Building Family and Community Capacity – to enhance family involvement in the acquisition of students' literacy skills*

*Quality Workplaces – to ensure continuous improvement in the delivery of programs and services.*

For each goal, specific indicators and measures are identified in the system plan, along with the strategies that will be implemented to support the achievement of these goals. The data collected in relation to these measures, at both the school and board wide level, under the leadership of the appropriate Supervisory Officer(s), will provide information about our progress.

During the next few months we will share various aspects of our school plan, and its recent revisions, with you through Pawprints. Should you have any questions or concerns about what is shared, please feel free to call at any time. It is only through collaborating with the entire community that we are able to establish goals and objectives that will result in UPS continuing to be a wonderful place to grow and learn.

Paul Carew

Trustees: G. Unitas (905) 940-9814

B. Crothers (905) 640-1759

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

## New Year Reminders!!!

### ELECTIVES

A reminder that our elective program is now less than one month away. Elective dates are Wednesday, February 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th from 12:45—3:30. Bus students will be able to go home on the bus as usual. The only **exception** is skiing and snow boarding which is from 11:45 to 4:30 p.m., returning to the school by approximately 5:30 p.m. It is important to note that should skiing/snowboarding be cancelled as a result of extreme weather conditions on a particular day, students would receive a free ski pass or refund as compensation for their missed day. In addition skiers/snowboarders would remain at school for the afternoon and be provided with alternate activities and then be dismissed from school at their normal 3:30 dismissal time. Every effort will be made to pass along this information to parents as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Mr. Carew. Volunteers will be contacted later this month to confirm their participation.

### BAYTHORN ARTS PROGRAM

**"Any 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 13, 2004 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 14, 2004)." Information regarding the audition process will be distributed at the information evening. Auditions for qualified students will be held in February 2004.**

### GRADE 9 INFORMATION NIGHTS

Grade 9 information nights for local high schools will take place on the following evenings:

P.E. Trudeau	Thursday, January 29th
U.H.S.	Monday, February 16th
M.S.S.	Thursday, February 12th

While students will receive considerable information through their homeroom teachers during the next couple of months, we ask that should you require further information about these evenings, please contact the high schools directly.



### EDUCATION DAY

A reminder that Education Day will take place on Friday, January 30th. On this day staff from across the Board will be fully engaged in training sessions focusing on issues such as school safety, teacher accountability and student achievement. Classes, field trips and extra curricular activities will not be conducted at our school. If you have any questions regarding this day you are asked to contact your local Superintendent of Education.

### CHINESE NEW YEAR COMMITTEE

UPS students will celebrate on Friday, January 23rd. Students are asked to wear lucky red for the "Year of the Monkey." Parents are welcome to join the planning committee on January 15th at noon. There is also a need for volunteers for activities on January 23rd and for donations of fortune cookies, lucky candy, shrimp chips, or tangerines. For more information please contact Mrs. Kollias through the school office.

### JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN

#### REGISTRATION

Registration for Junior Kindergarten (children born in 2000), will begin during the week of February 2nd. Also, children born in 1999 and not currently attending public school are eligible for senior kindergarten in September and may register at this time. As space can be limited, some children may be required to attend a school outside their neighbourhood. Please note that all of the following documentation; proof of child's age (Birth Certificate/Passport), Ontario Health Card, and Proof of Residency must be submitted and complete in order for your child to be enrolled. Please contact the school office for further information.



### HOLIDAY SUPPORT

Over the month of December our Unionville community provided tremendous support for those in need. All of these initiatives demonstrated our commitment as a school community to reach out to those less fortunate. Many thanks to all who contributed.



## FRENCH IMMERSION INFORMATION NIGHT

The York Region District School Board offers two French Second Language programs: Core and Immersion French. Students will automatically receive 40 minutes of daily instruction in the Core French program at their local school beginning in grade four. Parents also have the option of choosing full day instruction in French in the optional Immersion French program beginning in grade one. Information packages and registration forms for grade one French Immersion for September 2004 will be sent home this month. An information session for parents interested in the program will be held on Wednesday, February 4th at 7:00 p.m. at Buttonville P.S. The deadline for registration is March 6th. Registration is on a first come first served basis.

## RISE CONFERENCE

Each Spring the York Region District School Board presents the RISE Equity Conference for teachers, students and community members. The conference has as it's focus issues related to equity in literacy education and is scheduled for Friday, March 26th, 2004. Click on the RISE logo on [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca) for more information.

## HOUSE COLOURS

Many thanks to Mrs. Harvey for her hard work with the house colour points. Look for other opportunities in the near future to help your house earn points. Currently Blue and White are tied for the lead with 186 points.

## UPS BASKETBALL TEAMS

Both the boys' and girls' basketball teams are now in the process of completing tryouts. These two teams will compete in a number of exhibition games as well as play in some tournaments prior to their participation in our own Area East tournaments to be held during the first week of March. Many thanks to Mr. Carlisle and Ms. Creelman for taking on the responsibility of these teams. Regional Junior Boys and Girls (not co-ed) teams will commence following the March Break.



## POND SKATE

We are tentatively booking Thursday, January 29th as the date for our second annual Pond Skate. Children will require CSA helmets for this event. Look for more details to follow.

## WINTER REMINDERS

We are most happy when we see students participating in any number of safe and cooperative activities during the winter season. Please remind your children, as we do, about expectations for safe play, and the need to refrain from throwing snow, pushing on the ice and interfering with the fun of others.

We also ask that in order to lesson the spread of common colds and the flu, that you keep students who are sick at home. Be reminded that because all students need to go outside for recess, they need to dress appropriately for the weather. Any student too sick to go outside, should stay at home. We also remind you that information about flu shot locations can be found by going to [www.region.york.on.ca](http://www.region.york.on.ca) or by calling 1-800-361-5653.

Also please remind your children to wash their hands with soap, particularly after using the bathroom. This is a good lifelong health practice.

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Our Environmental Committee next meets on Tuesday, January 13th at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room. Please join us as we discuss our plans for 2004! Our many projects include an Arboretum sign in the schoolyard, Walking Wednesdays, student lunch activities, Pizza Day Litter pickup, meadow revitalization and always, improving and maintaining our gardens. New members are encouraged, regardless of the degree of commitment.

## JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL

The Junior Volleyball team will be competing in the Area tournament on Tuesday, January 13th at William Berczy P.S. The change in season for this team is the result of the introduction of Junior Basketball following the March break. Much thanks to Mr. Yip, Ms. Glamcevski, Ms. Webber and Ms. Boag for their help with this team.

## FLOOR HOCKEY





Students from the primary division are currently involved in floor hockey during the lunch hours. Mr. Leon and Mrs. York have helped organize this activity with the help of a number of Intermediate students.







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## JANUARY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5 Day 2 <i>Classes Begin</i>	6 Day 3	7 Day 4	8 Day 5	9 Day 1 <i>Pizza Day</i>	10 
11	12 Day 2	13 Day 3 <i>Jr. Volleyball Area Tournament</i>	14 Day 4	15 Day 5	16 Day 1 <i>McDonalds</i>	17 
18	19 Day 2	20 Day 3 <i>School Council</i>	21 Day 4	22 Day 5	23 Day 1 <i>Chinese New Year Celebration Pizza Day</i>	24 
25	26 Day 2	27 Day 3	28 Day 4	29 Day 5 <i>Pond Skate (Tentative) Sub Lunch</i> 	30 <i>EDUCATION DAY (No school)</i>	31
1	2 Day 1	3 Day 2	4 Day 3			

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Day 1	3 Day 2 <i>Jump Rope Kick-off Assembly</i>	4 Day 3	5 Day 4	6 Day 5	7 
8	9 Day 1	10 Day 2	11 Day 3	12 Day 4	13 Day 5 <i>Valentine's Day McDonalds</i>	14 
15	16 Day 1 <i>Int. Band at OBA Festival</i>	17 Day 2 <i>School Council</i>	18 Day 3	19 Day 4	20 Day 5	21 
22	23 Day 1 <i>Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart</i>	24 Day 2	25 Day 3	26 Day 4	27 Day 5 <i>Sub Lunch</i>	28 
29	1 Day 1	2 Day 2 <i>Area Basketball (Boys &amp; Girls)</i>	3 Day 3	4 Day 4	5	