

PAWPRINTS

May 2004

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

Principal: P. Carew



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Over the past few months I have shared with you the first two components of our School Plan for Continuous Improvement (a constantly evolving planning tool) . We are given general direction by the board and then asked to consult with staff and the community to establish our priorities as a school. 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

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

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

During the past three years much has been accomplished under the third section of this plan. We have:

- Introduced and increased the use of voice mail throughout the school
- Included the school community in the review of various school and board policies including dress, homework and code of conduct
- Sought the input of UPSAC in the development and modification of both the school and administrative profiles
- Introduced a yearly school survey
- Held various parent information/training evenings
- Maintained and developed the school website, including the recent addition of a school activity calendar and a school profile
- Maintained support of school initiatives through a variety of purchases
- Maintained effective use of parent volunteers within the school community.

We will provide you with the opportunity to have further input in this area of our school plan through our annual school survey, which will be sent home during the middle of June. Thank you for your continued support.

Paul Carew

Trustees: G. Unitas (905) 940-9814

B. Crothers (905) 640-1759

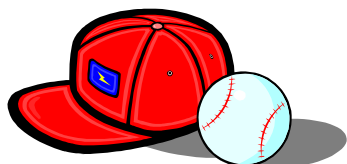
Superintendent: Ms. V. Bismilla (905) 640-7800

EQAO TESTING FOR GRADES 3&6

On May 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 some of our children will be participating in the Grade 3 & 6 Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, 2004—2005. Students will complete a variety of assessment activities based on a theme. The Grade 3 or Grade 6 Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics is expected to take up to two and a half hours each day for 5 days. Your child's teacher has been trained to administer this unit. Students are strongly encouraged to be at school for each day of the testing. It would be greatly appreciated if medical appointments etc... were scheduled after the school day or testing period. If you have any questions, please call the school office or your child's teacher. Or you may call EQAO at 1-888-327-7377 (toll free).

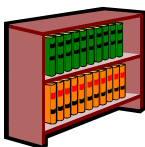
JUNIOR SOFTBALL AT UPS

Once again, Unionville P.S. will be hosting an Invitational Junior Softball tournament. The date for this event is June 17th (Rain Date—June 18th). Thanks to Mr. Yip, Mrs. Glamcevski, and Ms. Webber for helping to organize this team and the tournament.



LITERACY ROOM VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for parent volunteers who might be able to help out with data entry for our new Literacy Room. Should you have some time available please contact Ms. Kollias through the school office.



LAY ASSISTANTS REQUIRED

We are looking for a number of lunch time assistants for next year. If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be interested in this paid position, please contact the school office for further information.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

On Wednesday, April 28th a number of UPS students participated in the BATTLE OF THE BOOKS, a reading program for Grade 4, 5 and 6 students in Markham schools. Congratulations to Lavinia H., Bryan K., Soohyun P., Haley M., Fabian C., and Colin M., who represented our school and performed so well. An evening of refreshments, free books, inspirational speeches, and friendly competition was enjoyed by all the participants. Special thanks to Mr. Farber and Ms. Ambtman for helping to organize this event.



LEGACY RUN

On the afternoon of May 4th, our school participated in a Legacy Run around Too Good Pond. For the second year in a row, Unionville Public School was the top school in fundraising with a total of \$6500.00 in pledges. Children eagerly walked/ran around the pond and were greeted by a special guest or two. Many thanks for this event goes out to all of the parent volunteers who were involved, especially Linda Grott and Patti Cheung and Ms. Dilworth's Grade 6's for their advertising campaign. A thank you is extended to Mrs. Kollias, Ms. McNeil, Mr. Leon, Mrs. Wilkinson and Ms. Braybrook for all of their hard work in organizing such a successful event.



JUNIOR BASKETBALL SUCCESS

Both our girls' and boys' junior basketball teams experienced incredible success during the month of April. The girls played in a number of tournaments, winning both the Pleasantville P.S. and our own UPS tournaments. They also won the Area East championship and went on to finish 3rd out of over 140 schools in the regionals. Not to be outdone, the boys team won three invitational tournaments and followed this up with a victory at the Area tournament. They then went on to finish first at the regionals. Congratulations to all of the junior team members. A special thank you to Mr. Carlisle and Mr. Leon who worked with both of these teams. Look for all of these championship banners to be hanging in our gym in the near future.



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

We have begun making plans for the school organization for the 2004-2005 school year. 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.

UPS SPECIAL NEEDS KDG'N CLASS

After consultation with Ms. Jane Havercroft and our various stakeholders we are pleased to announce that UPS will be the location for a small Special Needs Kindergarten class beginning in the Fall of 2004. We are also pleased to be able to expand our Communication Class to provide space for our junior members who are moving into the intermediate division. Additional staffing has been provided to assist in these areas.

SAFETY

Please use extra caution as you drop students at school in the morning or return to pick them up in the afternoon. Of particular concern, are cars turning in and out of the parking lot. You are now permitted to stop on the west side of Main St. in order to drop off your children. This will help reduce the amount of traffic in and out of the parking lot during these very busy times. Also remember that the bus loop is not to be used between 8:30 and 9:00, as well as between 3:15 and 3:45.



TOGETHER WE'RE BETTER SCHOOL PROJECT







As part of this special student driven initiative (*UPS Student Diversity Council*), intermediate students are working with primary students over the next two months to trace and paint their hands in the primary hallway. Not only will this add to the colour and interest in our school, but it will also help to develop a sense of school community as students from different grade levels work together to achieve a common goal.






HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

The staff and students at Pierre Elliott Trudeau High School are inviting grade eight students and parents to attend a tour of their school on May 20, 2004. Please contact Mr. Fisher at UPS for more details about this daytime tour. Similar arrangements have also been made for the other area high schools. More information will be shared with our grade eight students when it becomes available.

MAY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3 Day 1	4 Day 2 <i>Legacy Run</i>	5 Day 3	6 Day 4 	7 <i>PD Day NO SCHOOL</i>	8
9 	10 Day 5 <i>Grade 3&6 EQAO UPS Band @ Markham Theatre</i>	11 Day 1 <i>Gr. 6—VIP Grade 3&6 EQAO</i>	12 Day 2 <i>Grade 3&6 EQAO</i>	13 Day 3 <i>Grade 3&6 EQAO</i>	14 Day 4 <i>Grade 3&6 EQAO</i>	15 
16	17 Day 5 <i>Gr. 8's leave for Quebec</i>	18 Day 1 <i>Gr. 6—VIP School Council</i>	19 Day 4 <i>Regional Relay</i>	20 Day 5	21 Day 1 <i>Grade 8's return from Quebec</i>	22 
23	24 <i>Victoria Day (No School)</i>	25 Day 3 <i>Gr. 6 VIP</i>	26 Day 4 <i>Kindergarten Cabaret</i>	27 Day 5	28 Day 1	29 
30	31 Day 2	1 Day 3 <i>GR. 6—VIP Planting Day SP. Ed T & F</i>	2 Day 4	3 Day 5	4 Day 1	5 

JUNE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Day 3 <i>Gr. 6—VIP Planting Day SP Ed. T&F</i>	2 Day 4	3 Day 5 <i>Volunteer Tea 3:00—4:00</i>	4 Day 1	5 
6	7 Day 2 <i>Area Track & Field</i>	8 Day 3	9 Day 4 <i>Kind'n Info Night</i>	10 Day 5 <i>Rain Date</i>	11 Day 1	12 
13	14 Day 2	15 Day 3	16 Day 4 <i>Reg'l T&F</i>	17 Day 5 <i>Jr. Softball Tour't Jr. Interest Project Fair</i>	18 Day 1	19 
20	21 Day 2 <i>Kdg'n Graduation</i>	22 Day 3	23 Day 4 <i>Grade 1 Play Gr. 8 Graduation</i>	24 Day 5 <i>Last Day of Classes (1/2 Day)</i>	25 <i>Summer Break Begins</i>	26
