

Pawprints

September 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

B. Crothers
(905) 640-1759

Superintendent: V. Bismilla
(905) 640-7800

From The Principal's Desk

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to every family in our community. I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable summer, I look forward to working with you and your children during the upcoming school year. Thank you very much to everyone for the very warm UPS welcome! The new school year brings with it a sense of excitement and anticipation of wonderful learning experiences for all UPS students. Teaching staff have been hard at work throughout the summer preparing curriculum, attending course work and Summer Institutes, and transforming their rooms into warm and inviting classrooms. A thank you is extended to Mr. Lammanna, Mr. Seapy and Mr. Granato, for all of their hard work and efforts in preparing the school for September. Thank you very much to Mrs. Ludski and Mrs. Misch for all of the work that goes into the September start-up. As odd as the weather was this summer, the school grounds look beautiful. A special thank you is extended to the UPS Environmental Committee and the families who maintained and tended to the plants each and every week.



Welcome Back!

With the start of a new school year we welcome several new teachers and families to our UPS community. I am looking forward to the opportunity to meet all families at the Meet the Teacher night and BBQ that will be held on Monday, September 20th at 6:00-8:00 PM.

On behalf of our Vice Principal, Ms. Thompson and the entire UPS staff, I would like to wish everyone a successful and rewarding school year.

Steve Gardner

Highlights

- Meet The Teacher BBQ & Information Night—
Monday September 20th,
6:00-8:00 PM—food pre-
order form sent home.
- School agenda—
Kindergarten to Grade 8;
\$8.50
- School Council Elections—
Monday September 20th
(5:00-6:30 PM).
- School Council Meeting—
Tuesday September 28th
- Picture Day— October
1st.

School Agendas

All students from JK to grade 8 will be bringing home a student agenda. The agenda is an essential communication tool in which students record homework, notices for up-coming events and information to be passed on to parents. It becomes another means of reinforcing the importance home-school communication. The cost of this year's agenda is \$8.50. It would be appreciated if you could submit payment with your child when the forms package is returned to the classroom teacher. This year we are happy to introduce an agenda/activity book for our Kindergarten students. These books will be included with the Parent/Student Handbook which all Kindergarten students will be receiving the week of September 13th. Cheques are preferable and to be made out to Unionville Public School.



School Agendas
\$8.50

SAFETY FIRST

This year we have 8 buses that drop and pick up various students, some with specific special needs. To ensure the safety of all of our students, please make sure you follow our safety rules. As you may remember, last year the Town of Markham permitted cars to *STOP* on Main St. directly in front of the school. This allows you to stop your car and let your children out directly in front of the school. Please remember that this is *not* a parking zone, and therefore you are unable to park your car and leave it unattended. Please note that the bus loop is closed to all vehicles from **8:00 until 9:00 AM** and between **3:00 and 4:00 PM**. As you can attest, the UPS parking lot is quite small and as a result parking is limited and student safety is our primary concern. **We are asking all parents not to use the parking lot as a drop off area, but instead use the area directly in front of the school. Pylons will be placed across the parking lot from 8:40-9:00 AM in order to ensure the safety of all of our students.**

At the start of the day when dropping your child off or when picking up your child up at the end of the day or at the lunch hour, we would please ask that you meet your child at the designated entry and exit doors. This strategy both fosters independence and eases the congestion in our hallways. Please note that supervision is provided by UPS staff 15 minutes prior to the morning bell. Parents and visitors must sign in at the office and wear a UPS tag when arriving at the school. We ask all of our families in the Unionville PS community to work with us to ensure the safety of all of our students.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

This year's Unionville PS School Council elections for positions on the Executive Committee will take place on Monday, September 20th, 2004. According to Ontario Regulation 612/00, elections must take place within the first 30 days of school each year.

Nomination forms are being sent home with students in the forms package and must be submitted directly to the school office by Monday, September 13th at 9:00 AM. Each parent/guardian of a student enrolled at Unionville is entitled to one vote for each membership position. During the weekend of September 18/19th, you will be notified that your nomination form has been received. Please note that the first School Council meeting will be Tuesday September 28th.

SAFE ARRIVAL

Each day we must ensure the attendance of all of our students. Our Unionville families are asked to please leave a message on the school's voice mail (general mailbox) if your child is going to be absent from school.

Please leave the following information:

- The child's full name – first and last;
- The grade and classroom teacher's name;
- Duration of absence – if known.

We need a call each day or a note stating days absent to ensure a student's whereabouts.

If a student leaves school because they feel ill, we need a phone call the following day if the child is not returning.

All students who leave or come into the school during the school day must be signed in and out by an adult at the office.

Visiting Artist Programme at UPS

We are pleased to announce an exciting new music/drama programme at U.P.S.! During the months of September and October, musical composer, Dean Burry, will be working with students and teachers from grades two to eight to create an original operetta based on the life and times of William Berczy. The timing of this project coincides with commemorative events taking place in the community to mark the 210th

anniversary of the arrival of the first settlers, led by William Berczy, to Markham. This project is being sponsored by the Canadian Children's Opera Company whose funding we gratefully acknowledge. Please mark down in your calendars the evenings of Wednesday, October 27, and Thursday, October 28 as performance dates. Details pertaining to the programme and our guest composer will be issued soon in a future newsletter.

Character Matters—September is COURAGE

Walking Wednesdays!

After a successful debut last year, our Walking Wednesdays programme will be resuming this fall at U.P.S. Please encourage your child to enjoy the exercise, friendship, environmental awareness, and community spirit which go along with walking to school each and every Wednesday morning, and remind your child to

note our school's progress on our Cross-Canada map on display in the foyer. U.P.S. will once again be participating in the International Walk to School Day, so please mark down Wednesday, October 6, as IWALK day in your calendar. Details to follow soon in an IWALK newsletter.

Meet The Teacher & BBQ Night

Please take the opportunity to join us on Monday, September 20th at 6:00 PM for our annual Meet the Teacher BBQ for our school community. This evening has been planned in order for you to meet your child's teacher(s) and to meet other UPS families. The BBQ will be held from 6:00 – 7:00 PM and two blocks will be organized for you to meet your child's teacher(s) (7:00-7:25 and 7:30-7:55 PM). Please refer to the yellow form from the School Council for details regarding the BBQ.



York Region District School Board

300 Main Street
Unionville, Ontario
L3R 2H2
(905) 477-1824

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 Markham, 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.

2004-2005 STAFF ORGANIZATION

S. Gardner	Principal
D. Thompson	Vice Principal (twinned with Parkview PS)
T. Ludski	Head Secretary
D. Misch	Secretary
V. Lamanna	Head Caretaker
R. Seapy	Caretaker
V. Granato	Caretaker
Y. Braybrook	CYW
R. MacDonald	CYW
P. Schultz	CYW
D. Culbert	EA
E.J. Dewberry	JK/Primary Music
J. Ballantine	JK/SK (AM)
L. Wilkinson	SK (PM)
M. Fedy	Grade 1
C. Caron/M. Boag	Grade 1
K. Andrews	Grade 2
L. Stella/G.Good	Grade 2
S. Creelman	Grade 3
M. Leon	Grade 3
J. Glamcevski	Grade 4
E. Tripp	Grade 4
G. Farber	Grade 5
P. Yip	Grade 5
T. Hawco	Grade 6
M. Woo	Grade 6
G. Sillito	Grade 7
D. Norquay	Grade 7
T. Carlisle	Grade 8
A. Papaikononou	Grade 8
B. Thomson	Communication Class
J. Wrigglesworth	Int. Music
G. Lee	JK Community Class/Reading Recovery
M. Kollias	Pr. SERT
L. Dilworth	Jr. SERT
B. Fisher	Int. SERT
M. Benrubi	French
G. Hlynka	Library/ESL

Darlene Bradler, one of our secretaries has taken on a full time position at Randall PS and we wish her all the best at her new school. We are very happy to welcome Mrs. Debbie Misch in the office. We are extremely pleased to welcome back Mrs. Caron who will be sharing a grade one class with another familiar face to UPS, Mrs. Boag. We would also like to welcome Mrs. Stella who will be teaching Mrs. Good's grade 2 class until January. A welcome goes out to Ms. Woo and her grade 6 grade partner, Mr. Hawco who will also be teaching Intermediate Science. A welcome is also extended to M. Benrubi, who will teach French to students from grade 5 to 8. And finally we would like to welcome Donna Culbert our new Educational Assistant to Unionville. A number of weddings took place this summer involving UPS staff. Ms. Crivaro is now Mrs. Tripp and Ms. Webber is now Mrs. Thomson. Congratulations to all!