

Pawprints

January 2005

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 Administrator's Desk

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a restful and wonderful holiday and feel ready to take on the many exciting challenges that await us in the new year.

We continue to feel proud to be part of the Unionville Public School community. The families of UPS continue to demonstrate their commitment to helping others who are less fortunate. The Holiday Hamper program was met with enthusiasm and energy and the Toy Drives were a resounding success also.

Although we have had wonderful holidays here in Canada, many families have been devastated in South East Asia. The recent tragedy has affected the entire world. Here in York Region it has affected the lives of many of our students, some in more personal ways. UPS would like to contribute to the relief efforts to help the survivors of the Tsunami and at the same time reinforce with our students the Character Traits of Empathy and Responsibility. Our classrooms are using the devastation as an opportunity to teach and reinforce Character Education and continue our commitment to helping others.

"Helping Hands" is a campaign running in several schools to allow students to have an opportunity to assist those who urgently need help. We will be beginning a Loonie/Toonie Drive beginning Monday, January 10 and concluding on Thursday, January 13. Money collected will go directly to the Canadian Relief Foundation (a foundation where 100% of all monies donated goes directly to the field). It is our hope that each donation will make a difference to the lives of those who are in desperate need of aid.

Please see the enclosed letter detailing this important initiative.

S. Gardner & D. Thompson

Please note that monthly editions of Pawprints can be located electronically by visiting:

School Website: <http://www.unionville.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>

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

Highlights

- School Council Meeting—January 18th—7:30 PM
- Chinese New Year Celebration in Gym—February 3-9:00-2:30 PM
- Professional Training Day—February 4th. No school for students (please refer to Dec. Pawprints)
- Electives—Wednesday's in February (PM) 2, 9, 16, 23

SCROOGE—A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

On Thursday, December 16, under the direction of Mr. Sillito, Mr. Hawco and Mr. Benrubi, STAGELIGHTS presented their version of Scrooge. The performance by the UPS actors was wonderful and an enjoyable evening was had by all. In the words of one of our grade 3 students who attended the production; 'I loved it!'. Congratulations to everyone involved from the actors to the stage crew and everyone in between.

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.

AM	640	1430	1540	740
	860	1010	1050	

FM	98.1	88.5	99.9	90.3
	92.5	93.1		

FRENCH IMMERSION INFORMATION NIGHT

The York Region District School Board offers two French Second Language Programs: Core and French Immersion. Students will automatically receive 40 minutes of daily instruction in Core French 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 2005 will be sent home in January with all SK students.

For parents interested in the French Immersion program for their children, please attend the **information evening on Tuesday, February 2 at 7:00 PM at Buttonville P.S.**

The deadline for pre-application forms is Friday, March 4, 2005 for the school year commencing September 2005. Registration forms will be accepted on a first serve basis. As space is limited, some students may be required to attend a French Immersion school other than the one designated for their community.

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).”

YORK REGION ELEMENTARY ENRICHMENT BAND

On March 8, 2005, auditions will be held at Whitchurch Highlands Public School for students wishing to be part of the York Regional Elementary Band. Any Grade 7 or 8 student interested in being included in this music enrichment activity should discuss it with Mr. Wigglesworth.

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 by Tuesday, January 11. Students will only receive a written confirmation if they **did not** receive their first choice, and this will take place the second week in **January**. Volunteers will be contacted to confirm their participation.

GRADE 9 INFORMATION EVENINGS

The Markville Secondary School Grade 8 parent night is scheduled for February 10, 2005—details to follow.

The Unionville HS Grade 8 parent night is scheduled for February 21—details to follow.

SPORTS UPDATE

Congratulations to our Junior Co-ed Volleyball team who traveled to W.M. Berczy on January 5 to compete in the Area championship. Our team played amazing and certainly rose to the occasion, finishing in third place. Way to go bulldogs! Thank you very much to our coaches, Mrs. Glamcevski, Mr. Yip and Mrs. Thomson, for all of your hard work and dedication. Thank you to our energetic and enthusiastic group of parents for supporting the team.



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 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-story 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.

January is Perseverance

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION AT UPS

Kindergarten registration for September 2005 will begin Monday, January 10th. Parents are asked to come in and register on Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays between 9:30 AM and 3:30 PM. Children born in 2001 are eligible for Junior Kindergarten and children born in 2000 are eligible for Senior Kindergarten this September.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION:

- Proof of your child's age (Birth Certificate/Passport)
- Record of your child's immunization
- Ontario Health Card
- Proof of residency in our attendance area (e.g. Tax bill)

Please share this information with families who live in our attendance area but may not get this newsletter. Please register early to help us plan appropriately for September.

STAFFING UPDATE

A congratulations is extended to Mr. Brian Fisher who was promoted to Vice Principal of Boxwood PS effective January 3, 2005. Mr. Fisher's dedication and commitment to UPS over the last 5 years was appreciated by all—best of luck Mr. Fisher!

We are pleased to welcome back Mrs. Erin Boag to UPS. She will be sharing the grade 1 class with Mrs. Caron.

HOUSE COLOURS

Many thanks to Mrs. Harvey for all of her work with the house colour points. A reminder that January 13 is "Jersey Day" which is yet another opportunity to show your school spirit and gain points for your house! A reminder that each colour day is also snack day, whereby students and staff are asked to bring non-perishable snacks for those less fortunate. Thank you.

HOLIDAY SUPPORT

Over the month of December, our Unionville community provided tremendous support for those in need. Thank you very much for all you do! A special thank you to Srinka Wallia and Teri Tworzyanski for all of the organization and coordination that went into this wonderful initiative.

A note of thanks from the organizers of the holiday hamper program:

"We would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to all those families who contributed to the Care and Share Holiday Hamper program. Because of you, we were able to provide food and gift boxes for 19 local families. Your generosity and support are very much appreciated. A special thank you is extended to:

- *FedEx Kinkos, Markham, who donated most of our photocopying needs;*
- *Judy and Max Maddigan, for donating the turkeys;*
- *Village grocer, for matching our food purchases;*
- *Carol Worthylake for donating the collection of boxes for the hamper items; and*
- *All the classroom representatives for their hard work dedication*