

Pawprints

October 2005

Unionville Public School
300 Main Street
Unionville, Ontario
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York Region District School Board

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From The Principal's Desk

On behalf of UPS, I would like to thank everyone for participating in the Meet the Teacher night and BBQ, by all accounts it was a resounding success. A special thank you to all of the parent volunteers who organized and ran the BBQ. It was wonderful to see so many parents and family members at the Meet the Teacher night. The information shared by your children's teachers will assist parents and students to understand the expectations of the new grades and enable this learning partnership to be a successful one.



UPS continues to be a hub of activity. The Terry Fox Run marking the 25th anniversary was a wonderful activity as it had full student, staff and parent participation. Cross Country running is set to take place on October 14th. International Walk to School Day, the grade 7 trip to Camp Muskoka and the Primary division's trip to the Markham Fair have been highlights of what has been a very busy beginning to the school year.

In October we will re-introduce our Character Matters recognition program under the leadership of Madame Noble. This month's trait is Responsibility. Throughout the month, students who have demonstrated this important characteristic and other traits through their personal actions, will be recognized and names will be placed on the wall in the front hallway.

A special thank you is extended to our UPS community for helping to raise funds for victims of Hurricane Katrina. Over \$700.00 was raised for the Red Cross. I am proud to say that this initiative is the product of a dedicated group of grade 7 and 8 students who provided leadership from start to finish. Wristbands are set to arrive to UPS in the coming weeks.

S. Gardner

Highlights

- International Walk to School Day—October 5
- Area Cross Country—October 14 (Milne Park)
- School Council Meeting—Tuesday October 18
- Thanksgiving Holiday—October 10th—no school

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

Thank you to all of our parent volunteers for organizing the BBQ. A special thank you to Mrs. Southey for all of her hard work and time spent on organizing and the evening—it truly is appreciated by the entire UPS community.

Thank you to all of our teachers for their time and efforts in sharing their program with parents. We have a dedicated group of teachers and staff who provide an excellent program for each and every student. If you have any concerns or if an issue arises, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher. Two way communication between home and school is a critical component of student success.

A SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT AT UPS

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 beginning at 8:45 AM .

PLEASE SIGN IN

Parents and visitors are please asked to **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—UPSAC 2005-2006

I am happy to welcome the parent members of the School Council for this school year. A reminder to all parents that Council meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:30 PM in the UPS Library. The following is a listing of UPSAC members for 2005-2006

Karen Harvey (Chair), Barbara Hockin (Treasurer), Michael Tamaki (Secretary),

Jeffrey Smith, Gary Crosby, Kelly Smyth, Julia Sumner, Tara Tomlinson, Carol Worthylake

Deb Kline, Connie Prentice

TERRY FOX RUN—25 Years Later

Our annual Terry Fox run took place on September 23rd. All students and staff and a large contingent of parents participated walked and ran for this very worthy cause. Thank you very much to everyone who contributed both in monetary donation and time. Thank you to Mrs. Fedy for organizing this event and sharing resources with both staff and students and also to Mr. Carlisle for his involvement.

Mr. Farber's class had an opportunity to write reflections in response to a biographical film about Terry Fox:

- "Terry was a great man, a great Canadian, I'm proud to say! Terry will be remembered for many years to come" (Jack)
- "Terry Fox was great because he ran so far without complaining even though he was in a lot of pain" (Erik)
- "The Terry Fox run is held in many countries around the world. He really made a difference with his life" (Cameron)
- "I think Terry Fox was a great person because he represents bravery, hope, and determination. He believed in what was right. Even when his leg was bleeding he would keep going. That is why Terry Fox is a hero" (Adrian)
- "I think Terry Fox was a great man because he wasn't thinking about himself at all. He was only thinking about other people. I think it took a lot of hope and courage for him to do what he did. I feel very sad for Terry Fox because he risked his own life to try to save other people. Even when his amputated leg began to bleed he ignored the blood and pain and kept running" (Lauren)
- "I think Terry made a huge difference in Canada by trying to run around the country to raise money for cancer research. That takes serious guts there! I want to end my essay by saying we should give back to Terry what he tried to give us! Give money and run!" (Peter)
- "He believed that running across Canada could help the people with cancer. He gave hope to people with cancer" (Jonathan)
- "Canadians have honoured Terry Fox in many different ways such as naming him to the Order of Canada, issuing a stamp and coin and naming a school after him. Terry Fox taught us how to be a proud Canadian." (Helen)
- "I think Terry was very courageous and strong to be able to run so far each day even with cancer. He tried his best whether he had support or not." (Brigitte)
- "I think it is great how we all still remember Terry Fox running across Canada and we probably will remember him for many years to come! It is wonderful how we run in honour of Terry Fox each year" (Stephanie)
- "Although he could not finish the way across Canada, his journey caught every Canadian's heart in a way that no one could ever forget. He changed people's attitudes towards the disabled. Terry Fox is gone, but his legacy will continue on." (Christine)
- "We are reminded by Terry Fox that we should always have courage and confidence in ourselves." (Alex)
- "When I moved from Ohio I didn't know Terry Fox,...Terry Fox had so much perseverance. That is why he is my new hero!" (Laurie)





Unionville Public
School




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Board

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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.

INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY



This year's involvement in IWALK was fantastic. The sun was out and smiles and laughter was seen all around. The morning began with all school buses being re-routed to the Unionville Library where UPS staff and parents walked student's to school forming a walking school bus. Throughout the neighbourhood groups of students and parents met at intersections to continue the fun walk to UPS, once again creating a walking school bus. It certainly was a sight to see! Upon arrival to the UPS grounds, students, parents and staff were greeted with large, bright and colourful banners depicting the importance of walking to school. Sidewalk chalk pictures in the shape of running shoes and feet adorned the sidewalks of Main Street. As we walked to the back of the school, we were met by a cheerful contingent of parents who form our Environmental Committee, who provided all participants with apples, muffins and juice! Please stay tuned for the final results/tally of our annual walk to school day. UPS Walks and UPS Rocks!!

A special thank you is extended to Mrs. Prentice and Mrs. Tworzynski and the entire Environmental Committee for their hard work and dedication to making UPS a healthier and greener community.