



# Unionville Public School



May 2008

**Principal:** Dr. Debbie Donsky  
**Trustee:** E. Richardson(905) 940-9818

**Vice Principal:** Ms. Carol Takagi  
**Superintendent:** R. Lambert (905) 940-7800

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday May 2—PA Day, No School
- Monday May 5—Markville Pops @ Markham Theatre at 7:30 pm
- Monday May 12—Track and Field, Grades 4-8
- Tuesday May 13—Rain date for Track and Field
- Friday May 16—Unionville’s Talent Show, Grades 4-8
- Tuesday May 20—School Council Meeting, 7:30 in the Library
- Wednesday May 21—Area Relay
- Tuesday May 27-Thursday May 29—EQAO Grades 3 and 6
- Thursday May 29—Special Needs Track and Field



## From Your Administrative Team

Goal setting is an activity that we all do—whether it is a New Year’s Resolution or the goals on the third page of the report card. Our goals can be intellectual, physical, spiritual, emotional, or relational (among many others). When we set a goal, it is best to set a goal we can achieve or if it is a lofty goal, we need to scaffold the steps that will take us to our ultimate goal.

I think about the many successes of our athletic teams. There are a variety of reasons why our teams are as successful as they are—the coaching, the support from our parents, the commitment of the team, the health and strength of our students, the time commitment to be successful and belief that they can be successful.

Watching a few of the games of our Junior Girls’ Basketball Team, our most recent champions, have played, I saw the results of skilled coaching through persistence, skill development, patience, and encouragement. I saw parents in the bleachers, arranging driving to and from the many

games, encouraging the success and strength of every girl. I saw healthy snacks being passed out to our girls. I saw the girls work as a team, playing off the strengths of their teammates—working to ensure their success—together. I saw passion, commitment, drive, and a vision of the win.

Now let’s think about homework time each evening. The children are tired after a day of school. They need time to wind-down, as do we after a day of work. They need a nutritious snack. They need to know what their strengths and areas for growth are. They need to know that someone is rooting for them on the sidelines whether they do it right or even more so if they struggle. They need encouragement and understanding.

Setting goals with our children is an important part of being a parent. Talking to them about what they want to achieve, what makes them struggle and how to overcome the struggles teaches our children how to be resilient, risk-takers and confident in spite of the chal-

lenges they face.

We must also ask, what do we do as parents to ensure the success of our children? What expectations are at home about school work? What value is placed on school work? How do we interact with the staff at the school? How do we value school? What are the messages we give to our children every day to ensure academic success and engagement?

There is always time to make a difference in the life of a child. What are your child’s goals and what steps do they need to take in order to ensure their successes as they complete this academic year?

We need to work on goals together—students, teachers and parents—in order to ensure academic success for our students just as our coaches work with the team, the parents, the referees and the other teams to ensure the success of the team.

Root for your children academically as you do athletically and we will have a winning team at UPS.

## Lunchtime Routines

This is a reminder to all parents to please ensure that you have sent a note of permission to the office to allow for your child(ren) to leave at lunchtime.

Many students have come to the office to inform us that they are “going out for lunch”. We cannot allow students to leave school property unless this has been approved by the parents/guardians.

Please ensure that if your child has made arrangements for lunch that you send in a signed note which we can use for our records.

Please also remind your children the importance of signing out in the office and signed back in upon return to the school.

Thank you.



## Dress Code—Respect for Self and School



Dress codes are established for a variety of reasons in the schools—to show respect for the learn-

ing environment, to support students in their ability to focus on learning, and to show students how to respect themselves.

Knowing how important a positive body image is for our young girls, it is also important to consider how they dress and what they wear affects the way they understand their bodies.

As the weather has improved, the clothing has become an issue. We would like to remind parents that students must be dressed within the dress code established by the school.

Several students and teachers have come to speak with me about the issues related to clothing and appro-

priate dress. Older students question why the younger students can wear certain clothes when they cannot. The dress code needs to apply to all members of our school—primary, junior and intermediate students as well as our staff.

The agenda provides a detailed dress code for the board which informs our school dress code. Points included are:

1. *Language or graphics on clothing will not display provocative, obscene, sexist or racist slogans, or refer to drugs, alcohol, smoking or sex. Clothing which contravenes the Human Rights Code in any way is unacceptable.*
2. *Students will not wear clothing to school that is revealing or provocative. Midriffs and undergarments will remain covered at all times and shorts will be mid-thigh in length. Tube tops, halter tops, and other*

*tops with narrow shoulder straps or “spaghetti” straps are unacceptable.*

3. *Clothing and accessories/paraphernalia depicting violence or death or that identify or promote cults or gangs are unacceptable.*
4. *Head coverings of any kind will not be worn inside the school. Exceptions are made for religious or medical reasons.*
5. *Pyjamas or clothing which look like pyjamas are not to be worn at school.*
6. *Students will wear appropriate clothing for gym.*
7. *Shoes must be worn at all times.*

Please support the parameters of the dress code listed above. Ensure that children are dressed appropriately for learning and always showing respect for themselves, their school and the community.



We are excited to announce the introduction of a new environmental education and fundraising program! Think Recycle, is an environmental fundraising program offered to schools to help educate students and communities on recycling while raising funds for the school. It's a program that's good for our school, our community and the environment.

The Think Recycle program is simple. Students and other community members collect used ink cartridges, laser cartridges and cell phones from the community and return them to Unionville Public School. As a result, our school will earn funds for each qualifying cartridge or cell phone returned.

Through partnerships with The Tree Canada Foundation and American Forests, Think Recycle will sponsor the planting of one tree for every twelve qualifying cartridges or cell phones collected. That's a lot of trees!

We request your support in ensuring the

success of this cost-free fundraising program. Your place of employment can also support Unionville Public School by saving used cartridges and cell phones and having your child return them to our school.

Your support of the Think Recycle program will help teach children the importance of recycling, the benefits of tree planting and help raise funds for Unionville Public School.

Think Recycle and support UPS and the environment at the same time! For more information call Think Recycle at 1-888-265-2895 or visit

## Earth Week 2008

**Every day should be earth day!**  
This statement was a resounding theme throughout our Earth Week celebrations at UPS. Earth week was kicked off with dress in green day and a 20-minute makeover of our school yard. We celebrated around the school with an educational assembly which asked every class to create an Earth Week pledge to help our environment. We also planted a new tree in our primary yard, held a used clothing drive which collected 11 bags of clothes for reuse and diverted more than 40 lbs of used batteries for safe disposal at our Hazardous Waste depot and much more!

The ECO Team and parent Environmental Committee wish to thank all the teachers and students for their hard work and continued dedication to our environmental initiatives!

**Please remember to pack Litterless Lunches every day!** Check

out the bulletin board near the music room for ideas how.



*"Be the change you want to see in the world"* – Gandhi

### Canadian Tire Money

Does your Canadian Tire money pile up in your house, never to be used again? The ECO Team has a solution for you!

We are hoping to purchase three or four recycling bins from Canadian Tire for our school yard. Please send in any Canadian Tire money that you don't plan to use so that we can put it towards our ECO-purchase. There is a drop box located in the office for all donations. Thank-you!

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"*.

-Nelson Mandela

## Legacy Run 2008

This year's Legacy Run was a huge success thanks to the commitment and leadership of Ms. Lovatsis and Mrs. Georgakopoulos and a dedicated group of parent volunteers.

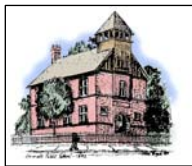
This year our school raised \$6500.00 matching last year's contribution! We placed 4<sup>th</sup> out of 27 schools in the area. The cumulative effort of all schools broke a record, raising just over \$76,000 for a worthy cause.

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all of you who have made generous contributions to this year's campaign and would like to thank you for your continued support.

A special thank you goes out to all the administrators, teachers, students, parents, and Dr. Bear who have made this a memorable experience for our school.



## Contact Us:



300 Main Street  
Unionville, Ontario  
L3R 2H2  
Phone: (905) 477-1824  
Fax: (905) 477- 5745  
unionville.ps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

## Citizenship Ceremony

On Wednesday April 2, the grade five students hosted a citizenship ceremony in our school gym as the culminating activity to their social studies unit on immigration to Canada. Participating in the ceremony were local politicians, a town crier, a bagpiper, a judge, a court clerk, and our principal, Dr. Donsky.



Thirty-two applicants representing twelve countries were sworn in as Canadian citizens. Students from Mr. Farber's class entertained the assembly with songs, poems, and essays composed by the students themselves. Parent volunteers were kind enough to provide refreshments after the ceremony.

Everyone in attendance felt privileged to have had the opportunity to listen to the words of wisdom offered by the speakers, as well as share in the experience of this major life event.

## Junior Girls' Basketball Update!

Congratulations to the Junior Girls Basketball Team on their Area Championship title. Led by August Ricketts and Kim Ingram, the girls all played outstanding defence to defeat Central Park Public School in the tournament final. They play Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> in a final four cross over qualifying tournament where they will hopefully qualify for the Regional Championships. This season, Mr. Leon and Mr. Chin have been proud of all the hard work the girls have put forth. The coaches were amazed to see the amount of growth that all the girls have undergone this season. Many have never played organized basketball until this year. It has been a successful season with tournament results that include: Aurora Senior (2<sup>nd</sup> place), Maple Creek PS (Champions), MacCleod Landing PS (Champions), Redstone PS (Champions), St. Augustine's (2<sup>nd</sup> place), Legacy PS (Champions) and the East Area Tournament (Champions). The future of basketball at UPS continues to look bright! Congratulations girls on an amazing season!



#12 Bridget Bethell	#41 Sammy Burton	#40 Kaitlyn Chang
#23 Emily Pope	#54 Abbey Elliott	#52 Victoria Pistrutto
#20 Danny-Mae Toon	#0 Marina Nichols	#14 Mylene Spence
#24 Taylor Essery	#13 Kim Ingram	#10 Hannah Moore
#24 Kelly Nimens	#34 August Ricketts	#51 Megan Shotbolt
#33 Shawna Ashmeade-Asphealt		

## Parents' Workshop—Literacy and the Youngest Learner

Find out about best practices for parents and educators of young children birth to 6 years. **Susan Bennett-Armistead**, author and specialist on literacy development of young children, will share her expertise and findings with the early learning community of York Region. For a complete book review see: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/corby/reviews/posted/bennettv.htm>

**Why?** This presentation will provide early literacy strategies to implement throughout the day of the child (child care, home, school, community programs, etc).

**Who?** Parents of young children and early learning and care teams (child care, kindergarten and parenting programs).

**When?** Thursday May 8, 2008

Afternoon Session	1:00 to 3:30 pm
Evening Session	6:00 – light supper 6:30 to 9:00- presentation

**Cost** \$10.00 per person

**Registration:** Child Care Committee of York Region's website:  
[www.childcarecommittee-yorkregion.on.ca](http://www.childcarecommittee-yorkregion.on.ca)

**Where?** Premiere Ballroom  
9019 Leslie Street, Richmond Hill  
(Leslie Street & Hwy 7 area)

