





Unionville Public School PawPrints

March 2009

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday March 6th—Beach Day for House Colours 
- Wednesday March 11th—**Report Cards** go home (If you would like an interview with your child's teacher, please contact them to arrange an appropriate time 
- Wednesday March 11th—Bully Prevention Assemblies for students
- Wednesday March 11th until Friday March 13th—Music Retreat at Jackson's Point
- **Monday March 16th through Friday March 20th—March Break (no school)**
- Tuesday March 24th—Primary Skate
- Friday March 27th—Earth Hour at UPS
- Saturday March 28th—Earth Hour at home
- Monday March 30th—Public Health's second visit for the HPV vaccination
- Friday April 10th—Good Friday, no school
- Monday April 13th—Easter Monday, no school



From Your Administrative Team

What a night! Our council has really outdone themselves and the community has been most generous with their donations to support fundraising at UPS through last week's Snowflake Soirée and Silent Auction.

The York Downs Country Club was beautifully decorated by the parents. The silent auction was a great success raising more than expected by the fundraising committee.

There is a tradition of generous charitable and fundraising at UPS and last Friday was no different.

Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time and many of our teachers were there into the wee hours of the night enjoying their time with the community.

Thank you to all who have put in so many hours of their time for this event, generously donating items for the silent auction and live auction, and of course, your contributions to these events which allows the school to offer the

"extras" to your children.



On another note, this month marks EARTH HOUR 2009. On Saturday March 28th, the world is asked to turn off their lights between 8:30 and 9:30 pm to show their support.

This year, Earth Hour has been transformed into the world's first global election, between Earth and global warming.

For the first time in history, people of all ages, nationalities, race and background have the opportunity

to use their light switch as their vote –

Switching off your lights is a vote for Earth, or leaving

them on is a vote for global warming.

WWF are urging the world to VOTE EARTH and reach the target of 1 billion votes, which will be presented to world leaders at the Global Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen 2009. (<http://www.earthhour.org/about>)

Our school will be participating on Friday March 27th by turning off our lights to support this global initiative. We encourage you to share this video with your chil-



dren...<http://www.youtube.com/>

As a caution, many people last year turned off their lights and lit candles in their homes. Be aware that many candles that we burn in our homes contain toxins. Check your candles to ensure that they are pure beeswax or soy candles to ensure your family's safety.



[watch?v=BjVWD8pbK5t8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjVWD8pbK5t8).

To do our part for the environment, we will no longer, after this month, send newsletters home but will post them on our school website at www.unionville.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca as well as my the UPS Parent Email distribution. If you are not on that email distribution list, please email our UPSAC vice-chair, Hilary Seppanen, at ups.parent@gmail.com and you will be placed on that distribution list. Please ensure that you include the following:

- Child's name and
- Your Email
- Subject line: PLEASE ADD

Your support with this effort is most appreciated.

Snowflake Soirée

A huge thank-you to all the families, auction item donors, local businesses, students and staff who helped to make the Silent Auction a success. We would also like to thank John Cabrelli who so humorously MC'd our evening. We sold over 180 tickets and we exceeded our fundraising goal (stay tuned for April PawPrints where we will give final numbers).

I personally would like to thank the following people who dedicated a huge amount of time over the last 8 weeks to help get 'BIDS FOR OUR KIDS'; Jen Tyas, Karyn Toon, Lorrie-Anne Lauder, Karen Mitas, Earlene Worrall, Connie Prentice, Deanna Brent, Gary Crosby, Catherine Hankins, Hilary Seppanen, the individual class "basket collectors and wrappers", the cookie baking team, the decorating team, JP Gagnon and UPSAC, Laura Wilkinson, and the set-up and clean-up crew.

Pamela Nitert

UPS Arts Night 2009



On Monday, April 6, Unionville Public School is holding a celebration of the Arts at the Markham Theatre for the Performing Arts: *UPS Arts Night 2009*. The show will feature performances and displays of visual art,

dramatic works, choral singing, instrumental repertoire, soloists, and chamber ensembles from Grades 1-8.

There will be an information package going home the week of March 2-6 that will outline all details surrounding the performance. The package will address parent/guardian consent, tickets for the event, uniform requirements, and arrival/dismissal locations and times. Please make sure you receive this information during this week. A PDF copy of the information will be also made available on the UPS Website.

The UPS staff are working hard staging this production and are excited to see the performance date fast approaching. We look forward to seeing you all at the Markham Theatre on Monday, April 6 at 7:30 pm for a great night of the Arts.

Contact Us:

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Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Intermediate Girls Basketball Team on their Area Championship title. Led by our captain Alex Crawford, centre August Ricketts and shooting guard Kim Ingram, the girls coasted to an easy victory over Central Park in the finals. They will play on Thursday, March 5th in a final four cross over qualifying tournament where they will hopefully qualify for the Regional Championships. This season, we welcomed Ms. Leung, Mr. Leon, and Mr. Chin to the coaching team. We have been proud of all the girls and the hard work they have put in.

It has been a successful season with tournament results that include:

Earncliffe (4th place), Unionville PS Invitational (Champions x 2), St. Augustine's (Champions), Discovery PS (Champions), Legacy PS (Champions), MUMBA (3rd place), Bogart PS (Champions), and East Area Tournament (Champions).



Congratulations:

Nicole Mendonza	Taylor Essery
Kim Ingram	Meghan Shotbolt
Mylene Spence	Alex Mckay
Alex Crawford	Kelly Nimens
Shawna Ashmeade	August Ricketts
Stephanie Lapointe	Sydney Roberts
Kassidy Sauve	Lauren Hopkins
Leanne Tworzynski	Alex Popalis

Unionville PS Poster



Make sure you get a copy of our UPS 2009 poster! More will be available at ARTS-NIGHT 2009 in April! Only \$20.00!

Earth Hour – Saturday, March 28, 2009, 8:30pm



Now in year three, Earth Hour started off in Sydney, Australia in 2007. In 2008, millions of people in over 30 countries switched off their lights for Earth Hour. Last year, About 10 million people in Canada participated.

Many major global cities are joining Earth Hour 2009, including the flagship cities of Toronto, Ottawa and Montréal, Vancouver, Halifax and Edmonton. Here in York Region, Markham, King City, Whitchurch-Stouffville, Richmond Hill and Newmarket have already signed on.

On **March 28, 2009 at 8:30pm**, people around the world will unite and switch off for Earth Hour.

We can all participate.

Everyone in Canada is encouraged to participate. Let's support the efforts of the World Wildlife Fund Canada. Participating in Earth Hour is a simple way to show that you want to be part of the solution.

Earth Hour is a straightforward way for York Region's municipalities and citizens to take action and celebrate our existing efforts to fight climate change.

For more information, visit www.earthhour.org.

Make a difference!

Bill Hogarth

Director of Education

Diane Giangrande

Chair of the Board

Volunteering at UPS

Thank you to those who responded to our Volunteering survey. Our hope is that based on the feedback from our community and staff, we will be able to make responsible and respectful decisions that are in the best interest of our students.

The following were the questions asked in the survey:

1. I am interested in volunteering at school. (Yes **78.3%**/No **21.7%**)
2. I have done the following volunteering at UPS (Check all that apply)

Library 22.5%	Field Trips 82.6%
My child's classroom 85%	Skating 65%
Sporting Events 20%	Earth Day 15%
School Council 32.5%	House Colours 22.5%
Maintaining Gardens 25%	
3. I have supported the reading program in my child's classroom by doing the following:

Reading with at risk students 45.9%
Filling book bags for home reading program 83.8%
Tracking student ability to read a text 32.4%
Donating books to the classroom 37.8%
4. I have supported teachers in classrooms by doing the following:

Reading with students 100%	Photocopying 51.5%
Bulletin boards 6.1%	Reading to the class 12.1%
Supporting Centres in the Classroom 30.3%	
Sharing an area of expertise with the students in the classroom 15.2%	

We will be meeting with the committee to review our policy around volunteerism in the next month. Thank you to those that have **volunteered** to be on this committee.

Welcome to our Newest Addition!

We would like to extend our congratulations and good wishes to our colleague and friend, Mrs Stacey Tam, who on Wednesday February 25th, gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, Zachary Cameron. Both Mommy and Baby are doing well!

