



Unionville Public School

November 2008

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monday November 3— Primary Prologue Performance, pm
- Tuesday November 4—Junior Prologue performance, am
- Thursday November 6—2nd immunization for HPV (Grade 8 girls)
- Thursday November 6 and Friday November 7—Student Bus Safety
- **Monday November 10— PA Day, no school**
- Tuesday November 11— Remembrance Day
- Thursday November 13— Photo Day for Tues/Thurs JK/ SK and retake day for all other students
- Friday November 14—House Colour Kick off
- Monday November 17— Junior Prologue Performance, pm
- Tuesday November 18— School Council Meeting, 7:30 pm in the library
- Monday November 24-Friday November 28—Book Fair
- Wednesday November 26— Report Cards Home
- Thursday November 27th, pm and Friday November 28th all day, Parent/Teacher Interviews



From Your Administrative Team

This month you will be receiving your child's first term report card. Report cards are a way to learn more about your child as a learner. Throughout this term, you should have received information from your child's classroom teacher about some assessments in the classroom, the work they are doing and learning that has taken place.

Report card marks are determined through rigorous assessment done by your child's teachers. Although we often are very focused on the grades, we miss the content in the comments. Each term, teachers determine which curriculum expectations will be assessed. These are expectations that are indicated in the comments. For a complete list of Ontario curriculum expectations, please go to <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/>.

The year begins with a series of

diagnostic assessments which help the teacher determine what your child knows already. These types of assessments give the teacher a starting place for instruction and are not only done at the beginning of the year but throughout when new topics are addressed in class.

What you will often see sent home are the summative assessments. These assessments are projects, tests, presentations that give the teacher an indication of what has been learned throughout a unit or topic. Planning for instruction often begins with the summative assessment. The teacher would consider to him- or herself, "What do I want my students to learn?" Once that is determined, the teacher works backwards to decide on tasks and essential learning throughout a unit or topic.

The type of assessment that provides us the most information is formative assessment. This is

done throughout a unit or topic. It can be in the form of conferencing, guided reading (direct teaching of reading strategies in small groups using texts at your child's instructional level), or something as simple as checking for understanding during a lesson. These assessments tell the teacher what the next step is in your child's learning.

So often we talk about what is being taught in a classroom but rarely do we ask the question, *what is my child learning?* This is focus of formative assessment.

When you go into your parent/teacher interview, really think about what the questions are that you want to ask. The best way to make these interviews effective is to think about your child's strengths and next steps. If you are unsure of the meaning of a mark, ask the teacher.

We are all working together to ensure every student's success.

Colder Weather

This is a reminder to ensure that you have sent **indoor shoes** for your children. It helps us to keep the school clean and safe. Please also send your children dressed warmly to school with mittens and a hat.



UPS.Parent@gmail.com

Stay connected to the school and school events - send an email to UPS.Parent@gmail.com with "ADD" in the subject line and your child's name and teachers name in the body of the email, to be added to the parent initiated email list for Unionville Pabic School.

Lost and Found

All lost and found items will be brought to Salvation Army by Friday November 7th. If you are missing items, please come and check our bins to see if anything belongs to your child(ren).

Contact Us:



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

For all parents and caregivers who drop their children at the front of the school:

Please Do Not stop in front of the pylons when dropping off kids in the morning no regardless of weather conditions. The pylons are there in order to allow the buses to do their turns without causing accidents.



Cross Country

This year's Cross-Country Team consisted of almost 100 dedicated and enthusiastic students from grade 4 to grade 8, all who braved the fall elements and proudly represented UPS during this Cross-Country season. Welcoming and encouraging all runners at each early morning practice was Coach Teri (Mrs. Tworzyanski), who volunteered her time and shared her passion for running. Joining Coach Teri was Mrs. Stoyanov who assisted with the supervising of runners along with both Ms. Leung and Ms. Rocha who also managed the team and provided constant support throughout the season.

On October 2nd, all runners were invited to participate in the Parkview Prowl which proved to be a very successful meet, with UPS capturing many top 10 finishes. Having a meet under their belts, 65 students ran in the Area Cross-Country Meet at Milne Park on October 8th. What an amazing meet and an impressive showing by our UPS runners! Unionville had 18 runners who placed in the top 10 and 35 who qualified to run at the Regional level. Pennants were presented to UPS for 1st place finishes for Tyke Girls, Senior Girls and Senior Boys. UPS also placed 1st overall for the Junior Team and 2nd overall for the Intermediate Team.

Regionals were held October 22nd at Bruce's Mill. Typical of our Bulldogs, they ran with determination and toughness (even through the snow!) which was reflected by the fabulous results. 10 UPS runners placed in the top 50 with our Tyke Girls team placing 4th overall and both our Senior teams placing 2nd overall. The Junior division finished 18th in the region, and our Senior team finished 4th! A slideshow has been compiled about the UPS Cross-Country team which is to be presented during one of our upcoming sharing assemblies. Congratulations to everyone who trained and competed with the team. A special thank you to all parents and staff that helped to make this team possible. The UPS Bulldog Cross-Country runner is a unique breed – athletic, determined and proud. Until next year...GO BULLDOGS!

Environmental Committee News

International Walk to School Day (iWalk)

iWalk occurred at UPS on Friday, October 10th. Thanks to parents and students that were **Walking School Bus Leaders** and who helped with apples, stickers and organization. Thanks to the teachers who walked and to Mr. Farber's class who did the pre-polling and announcements. Overall school participation was **86%** which is down from **96%** in the last two years. There was one class who reached **100%** participation. To keep healthy and reduce car traffic around the school, we encourage everyone to keep walking every day and particularly on "**Walking Wednesdays**".

School Gardens

Thanks to parent volunteers (particularly Mrs. Tworzyanski and Mrs. Stoyanov) for maintaining our gardens. This is an area where we really need help. There are lots of planted areas that require regular weeding and pruning to keep things as healthy as possible. A **Yard work Checklist** which details what gardens we have at the school and what needs to be done will be posted shortly on the school website. The idea behind the Checklist is to make volunteers comfortable enough to come out on their own whenever it is convenient, rather than trying to set dates that people are consistently unavailable for.

Despite weather and date challenges a few volunteers along with Ms. Rocha, Mr. Sanford, Mrs. Ragonese and Ms. Bos' students spent Halloween morning working in the garden at the front of the school. Thanks to their efforts over **200 spring-flowering bulbs were planted**. Great job!!

Cell Phone/Printer Cartridge Recycling

We continue to use **Think Recycle** for collection of printer cartridges and used cell phones. We are looking for parents of UPS students whose companies or organizations would be willing to donate their used cartridges and cell phones and have the funds be paid to the school. Companies can sign up at www.thinkrecycle.com or can contact Mr. Gary Farber at the school.

To receive further information contact Connie Prentice at (905) 943-7341 or cprentice@sympatico.ca



UPS Hard Core *Special thanks to Mr. Sanford and Mr. Becker for dedicating his time to support our young athletes.*

We would like to recognize the group of athletes that have dedicated themselves to bettering their physical abilities. They are known as the U.P.S. Hard Core. The name of this group has multiple meanings.

First, it speaks of the core group of athletes that are involved in the group. This is the same core group of students that you will see participating in the majority of athletic teams throughout the school year.

Secondly, it refers to the intense core training that these young men and one brave young woman do on a weekly basis. By strengthening or hardening their core muscles, which are the muscles found behind the abdominal muscles in our bodies, they have the opportunities to improve their performance in the sports that they play by up to 80%.

Finally, it refers to the hard core commitment they have made to improving their physical abilities and well being. Congratulations to the Hard Core and keep up the dedication and good work.