

James Morden Journal

REMINDER:

PD day on Friday, June 13th
There will be NO school.

Staff Updates

Over the next few weeks we will be organizing the teaching assignments for our staff for September 2014-2015. We will send home a letter to give you an update of that process.

Final Report Cards

The final report cards for students will be issued on Friday, June 27th, 2014. For parents who wish to return the third page of the report, the administration will be in the school the first week of July and they will collect these and file them accordingly.

Student Safety

In order to maintain student safety over the final month of the 2013-2014 school year we are asking parents/guardians to follow a few simple guidelines. We are asking all parents/guardians to wait in the fire lane until 3:15 pm for their child to be dismissed rather than in the back playground. If for some reason you need to pick up your child early, we are asking that you please come to the main office and allow one of the school's staff members call down to the classroom to have them dismissed.

Secondly, we are reminding parents/guardians that dogs should not be on school property (unless they are therapy tail dogs or guide

dogs). We are asking that you respect those students who may have a fear or may be allergic. If you would like to speak about this issue in more detail, please contact the school office.

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

The staff and students have been fortunate to have the support of so many dedicated volunteers throughout the 2013-2014 school year! These people have supported our students in a variety of ways ranging from being involved in helping with Breakfast Club, supporting teams and clubs as drivers to games and events, by assisting with track and field or by helping out in our classrooms, library, school store and on field trips...every little bit makes a big difference in how we can support our students in their learning! On **Tuesday, June 17th at 12:15 p.m.** we will be hosting a "Volunteer Appreciation" to thank these important individuals for all that they have done to support our students this year.



Grade 8 Graduation

Arrangements for our Grade 8 Graduation Ceremony are well



underway. The ceremony will take place on Monday, June 23th, beginning at 5:30 p.m. here in our gym. More information will come home with students in the next few weeks.

French Immersion Open Houses

There will be a grade one French Immersion Open House Thursday, June 19 at 6 pm at John Marshall Elementary School.

A grade 4 French Immersion Open House will be Wednesday, June 11 at 6:30 pm at Prince Philip Elementary School.

Under the G for Great Job!

We would all like to express a huge thank you to our small parent group that coordinates our BINGO. This group works tirelessly to raise more than \$8 000 a year for our school. Thanks to the efforts of these amazing ladies, we are able to offer many programs and resources to students at a greatly discounted price (often at no cost at all).

Please consider volunteering next year at one of the numerous BINGO dates. Helping out at BINGO is fun and requires very little prior training. We always need two people at these Bingos; if we come up short, we will

lose this excellent fund raising opportunity and with it the ability to subsidize student activities.

REMINDER:
The last day of school is
Friday, June 27th

Don't be a Litter Bug!

At school we strongly encourage all students to be respectful of the building and the environment by placing litter in the appropriate places and not bringing food or drinks outdoors. During lunch, a number of our students leave the school property to purchase lunch at the local stores. At all times, James Morden students are encouraged to be respectful of the environment surrounding our school by also placing their litter into the appropriate trash cans. Dropping litter in these public areas surrounding our school is not environmentally sensitive or respectful. We ask that families support the school and the local businesses in reminding their children not to drop their litter on the ground.

Year End Trips

The days of June 18th-20th our grade 7 and 8 students will be spending some time exploring our nation's capital city, Ottawa.

On Tuesday June 24th the students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 will be going to the historical Queenston Heights and Fort George.

Our Primary classes will be off to Heartland Forest on Thursday, June 5th.

Finally, on Thursday, June 12th the ELP classes will be heading to Happy Rolf's. Here the children will enjoy a petting zoo and other activities.

The Functional Skills Class will be at the Special Olympics on Wednesday, June 11th, a Barbeque at Queenston Heights on Thursday, June 19th, and The Firefighter's Carnival on Friday, June 20th.

Thank you to all the staff members for organizing these great events for our students. Students are reminded to return any permission forms and money for these trips as soon as possible.

Closing Assembly

Our end of the year Recognition Assembly will take place in our gymnasium on Friday, June 27th at 9:00 a.m. All Interested parents are most welcome to attend.

Changes to School Immunization Requirements

The Immunization of School Pupils Act is a law to protect the entire community. Changes have been made to this law to improve the health and safety of Ontario's school children. To attend school, your child is now required to be immunized for:

- Varicella (chicken pox)
- Pertussis(whooping cough)
- Meningococcal Disease

Dose requirements and the time between shots have also been updated for the following:

- Tetanus
- Diphtheria
- Polio
- Mumps

The requirements for measles and rubella have not changed.

Attention Parents of Children Under 18!

Report your child's vaccination on time. Don't get caught without your shot!

- Locate your child's immunization record. If it is missing, contact your child's family doctor or other health care provider who has immunized your child.
- Have your doctor CHECK your child's immunization record and give any immunizations that are missing or book an appointment at a Niagara Region Public Health Immunization Clinic.
- Report any immunizations your child receives to Public Health.

www.niagararegion.ca/vaccines

905-688-8248 or

1-888-505-6074 ext.7425

Absences / Lates

Parents are reminded to call the school prior to 8:40am if your son/daughter will be absent or has an appointment first thing in the morning!



Appropriate Dress Code

With the warmer weather upon us, we again ask your cooperation and assistance in reminding your children about our dress code. If you would like a copy of our Code of Conduct, please contact the school.

Hip Hop at James Morden

On Wednesday, May 21, 2014 students from the A.N. Myer dance program came to James Morden and taught students from grades one through eight, two different hip hop

dances! The students were very supportive and encouraging, and the day was a huge success.

After we were finished the warm up in the gym, we started the dance. There were many creative dance moves and everyone enjoyed the music and fun. After we were done the amazing dance they taught us, we got into a big circle and had a dance off, everyone's dance moves were amazing and we had so much fun!

By Jackie D.

The Sun is Back!

The sun is shining and it's time to get outside to play! But before you run outside, make sure you remember your 5 S's...

- **Slip:** on some clothes that will protect your skin from the sun (loose-fitting and tightly woven are best).
- **Slop:** on some sunscreen that is at least SPF 30 and filters UVA & UVB rays (broad-spectrum). Put sunscreen on 20 minutes BEFORE you go outside, so it can soak in. Don't forget your ears, nose and feet if you are wearing sandals! Lips should also be protected with SPF 30 lip balm.
- **Slap:** on a wide-brimmed hat to protect your face, ears and neck
- **Seek:** shade when outside between 11am-4pm
- **Slide:** on some sunglasses that have 100% UVA & UVB filters.

Attention moms, dads, coaches and caregivers: sun damage can happen quickly, so make sure youth remember sunscreen for lunch break, gym class, track and field and other outdoor activities.

For more information, talk to your school nurse.

Rocks and Rings

On Monday, May 26th, James Morden welcomed Ms. Riley from Rocks and Rings. Rocks and Rings is a program designed to teach students about the game of curling. The program involved students from grade 1-8. The students learned the vocabulary of curling and how to use the equipment for this sport. For example, the rocks you throw (slide down the ice) and the broom you push to make the rock go further and faster down the ice. The students were divided into teams to make it more fun and to have a competition to see which team would win. The students even made their own team names. Overall everyone had a great time and learned a lot about curling.

Bike Safety

We again remind our students to wear proper head protection while riding their bikes. Also, students are expected to operate their bikes safely when riding to and from school. When arriving at James Morden, students should lock their bikes to the fence in order to prevent theft.

Transportation

The Transportation Department is open during the summer, so if you have an address change please feel free to contact the Niagara Student Transportation Services (NSTS) offices directly (905)346-0302. Your Area Transportation Coordinator is **Heather Kyle**. You will be notified by a letter if bussing times or locations are significantly changed.

Westlane AIDS Walk

On May 9, 2014 the grade 8 students of James Morden School went on a special walk. The walk was to raise money and awareness of AIDS, a disease that affects millions of people

around the world. Those affected don't have a cure, although with consistent treatment and therapy the symptoms can be reduced dramatically.

The students walked to the MacBain Centre (YMCA) for a small presentation by Westlane High School. They learned how AIDS is affecting people and why it is an important issue. A special guest was invited to teach the students why you should help. That guest was Wayne Gates! Yes, Wayne Gates came to the presentation and explained how the families affected by AIDS need your help and support.

From the MacBain Centre the students walked toward the Westlane to participate in the annual Grade 8 Fun Day. On the way there the group received numerous honks, fist pumps and screams for support of a good cause. Upon arrival the students were offered hamburgers and games to play. After a long day in the sun it was time to head back to school.

The James Morden students raised approximately \$100.00! With the money each school raised the research for a cure for AIDS will soon be found. By Megan F.

Proper Footwear

As the weather improves, the students are beginning to wear flip flops to school. Unfortunately, flip flops do not provide much protection or support when the students are outside playing. Please consider all footwear options when the students are being sent off to school in the morning.



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