



King George VI Public School

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Mr. A. Miller – Principal

Mrs. J. Robbins – Secretary

February Newsletter

Haiti



On Thursday, January 21st the staff and students of King George VI wore blue and red, the colours of the Haitian flag, to support the victims of the devastating earthquake that hit Haiti on Tuesday January 12th. The students also brought in a toonie to donate to the relief efforts in Haiti and they raised \$624.00. We chose to donate the relief money to the charity SAVE THE CHILDREN CANADA. The government will match any funds raised by this organization. Thanks to everyone for participating in this event and showing your support to the children of Haiti.

Ms. Dennis.

Food Program



We continue to enjoy great success (and great nutrition) with our Snack Program. The program has been in operation for several months and the volunteers have been refining the program to meet the needs of the students. This program is run completely by volunteers led by Bev Woods and we would like to acknowledge their tireless efforts. We are always looking for extra support to fund and operate this program that does so much for so many children.

Staff Changes

We would like to congratulate Mrs. L. Stephenson on her recent promotion to the position of Acting Vice-Principal of High Park P.S. We wish Mrs. Stephenson all the best in her new position. While Mrs. Stephenson is posted at High Park, Mr. Jeff Brosh will be filling in for her and taking over her teaching duties. We would like to welcome Mr. Brosh and trust that he will enjoy his time at King George VI.



St. Patrick's Day Dance

The Student Leadership Team are beginning preparations for our next celebration. We will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day Dance for students from Grades 6 to 8 on March 12th. *Erin Go Braugh!*

Council Dates

The Next School Council Meeting Date is Tuesday February 9th at 6:30 in the Library. Topics will include the our annual Dance-a-thon, The Food Program, Volunteer Recognition. Child supervision for children over the age of 2 years can be provided if we are notified at least a day in advance. All are welcome to attend!

The Leatherback Turtle Project

Last week we said good-bye to Ruby the Leatherback Turtle. We were delighted with the success of the program. I would like to thank Mrs. Menheere and Mr. Smalls and his team for organizing and presenting such an excellent program.

During the week of January 18th, 2010, the Students of King George School were introduced to the amazing world of leatherback turtles. Through the founder of the local organization, Tortuga Norte, as well as a pictorial and video presentation, the unique features of the world's largest reptile were explored. Its epic migration patterns and routes were explained and students discovered why the Canadian Government recognizes the leatherback turtle on its critically endangered list. Again thank-you for all your hard work!



JK/SK Registration Dates

On February 22nd and 23rd we will be having our annual JK/SK registration. We would like to invite all new families and those with little ones new to King George to make an appointment with our wonderful secretary Mrs. Robbins and to arrange a time to come in and register your child.

Skating

We continue to enjoy the skating program organized by Mr. Murray as part of the Physical Education Program. This opportunity is unique to King George and we invite all to become involved. If your child is in need of skates to participate we have several parents who are willing to lend various size skates for both boys and girls. Please just leave a message a day or two before the skating, with size of skates you need and we will do our best at the school to arrange them for your child. Our goal is to involve everyone who wishes to participate.

The next skating dates are:

February 9th – Junior
February 16th – Intermediate
February 23rd – Primary
March 2nd – Junior
March 9th – Intermediate

Grade Eight Graduation Pictures Feb 12th – The good people at Life Touch Photography will be here on February 12th to take the Formal Graduation pictures for use in the Composite Photograph. Although it is not necessary to fully dress up on that day, Graduates are encouraged to wear a white collar shirt and tie or blouse. The regalia are provided for the students by the Photographer. Once the proofs are completed they will be sent home for parents to select from a wonderful assortment of package options.

Feast Fit for a King Results for the month of January resulted in a donation of \$85 to the school. Congratulations to Ryan Kennedy from Mr. Brosh's class. He is the winner of the class pizza party!



Movie Night February 19th - The School Council had a unique idea that we are going to give a try. We thought it would be really fun and interesting to have a "Family Movie Night". This would give parents and kids an opportunity to interact in the school setting and to share some quality time. We will be hosting the Movie Night and snacks will be offered for sale. I hope all join us for our first, and hopefully annual, Family Night.

Sting Tickets

Congratulations to Hunter in Mrs. Lamb's Class and Keerthana in Mrs. Dennis for winning a pair of tickets each to an upcoming sting game. Both students have demonstrated a commitment to academic improvement and following the character traits of King George VI.

Reminders ...

HPV shots for Intermediate Girls (second dose) will be given on February 10th. Health professionals from the Lambton Health Unit will be here to deliver the shots.

Heart and Stroke Fundraiser Hoops Feb 11th and Jump Rope Feb 12th.

Family Day will be February 15th. Students are encouraged to organize family activities to share on this day.

Report Cards for all students will be available on March 12th for parents.



Top 10 Ways to Improve Reading Skills

by Peggy Gisler, Ed.S. and Marge Eberts, Ed.S.



Nothing is more important to academic achievement than being a good reader. Parents know their children best and can provide the one-on-one time and attention that will lead them to success in reading. Here is a list of ways to help your children become more effective readers.

1. Set aside a regular time to read to your children every day.

Studies show that regularly reading out loud to children will produce significant gains in reading comprehension, vocabulary, and the decoding of words. Whether your children are preschoolers or preteens, it will increase their desire to read independently.

2. Surround your children with reading material.

Children with a large array of reading materials in their homes score higher on standardized tests. Tempt your kids to read by having a large supply of appealing books and magazines at their reading level. Put the reading materials in cars, bathrooms, bedrooms, family rooms, and even by the TV.

3. Have a family reading time.

Establish a daily 15 to 30 minute time when everyone in the family reads together silently. Seeing you read will inspire your children to read. Just 15 minutes of daily practice is sufficient to increase their reading fluency.

4. Encourage a wide variety of reading activities.

Make reading an integral part of your children's lives. Have them read menus, roadside signs, game directions, weather reports, movie time listings, and other practical everyday information. Also, make sure they always have something to read in their spare time when they could be waiting for appointments or riding in a car.

5. Develop the library habit.

Entice your children to read more by taking them to the library every few weeks to get new reading materials. The library also offers reading programs for children of all ages that may appeal to your children and further increase their interest in reading.

6. Be knowledgeable about your children's progress.

Find out what reading skills they are expected to have at each grade level. The school's curriculum will give you this information. Track their progress in acquiring basic reading skills on report cards and standardized tests.

7. Look for reading problems.

Teachers do not always detect children's reading problems until they've become serious. Find out if your children can sound out words, know sight words, use context to identify unknown words, and clearly understand what they read.

8. Get help promptly for reading problems.

Reading problems do not magically disappear with time. The earlier children receive help, the more likely they will become good readers. Make sure your children receive necessary help from teachers, tutors, or learning centers as soon as you discover a problem.

9. Use a variety of aids to help your children.

To help your children improve their reading, use textbooks, computer programs, books-on-tape, and other materials available in stores. Games are especially good choices because they let children have fun as they work on their skills.

10. Show enthusiasm for your children's reading.

Your reaction has a great influence on how hard they will try to become good readers. Be sure to give them genuine praise for their efforts.