



Central News

Home of the Bulldogs

September 2009

Issue 1

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From the Principal's Desk

We are off to a great start for this new school year! With more new registrations and some unexpected departures, we may have to reallocate some students. Should such changes be necessary, as a staff, we will make the best of all situations for our students. Please work with us as we work to provide the very best education possible for your children.

We hope to see everyone at our "Welcome Back" Barbeque and Open House on September 10th from 5:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to introduce yourself to our teachers, visit your child's classroom and tour the school. If you would like to talk privately, please schedule an appointment for another day. I look forward to meeting everyone.

Here's to a successful year for all of our students and staff at Central!

Linda Henry

FOCUS VIRTUES of the MONTH

Respect - valuing ourselves and others...

We will encourage students to be respectful of themselves and others, as well as of property and our environment; to treat others as we would like to be treated.

Courage - being brave in the face of fear...

We will encourage students to demonstrate courage by speaking up and standing up for themselves and others if problems with bullies arise; to do what must be done, even when it is difficult; to accept mistakes, make amends, and to try, try again.

We will focus on situations and stories from a variety of situations and media that demonstrate respectful and courageous choices, behaviours, and actions.

STAFF CHANGES

We are pleased that Lindsay Lamarche will be teaching Senior Kindergarten (replacing Sandra Piquette who is on leave this year). We welcome to our staff Chatelaine Roy, teaching French Immersion and English, Physical Education and Language classes during our second and third blocks. We welcome back Josée Bouffard to teach grade 4 French Immersion and Physical Education. Our Educational Assistant, Linda Fournier, will work with us at Central from noon each day. (Mrs. Fournier will be working at KLDCS each morning.) We welcome Sue Lavictoire as Hall Monitor this year.

PICKING UP AND DROPPING OFF STUDENTS

All students who are walking home must exit the school through the side door and leave the school yard through the gate. If you pick up your children every day, please meet them at the gate. If you drop in occasionally, or by surprise, please wait inside the front door. All bus students pass through the foyer, so you will be able to greet your children. Parents may not wait outside classroom doors. (At our Open House, you will have the opportunity to visit your child's classroom.) If you will be driving your children to school, please do not drive onto school property or block the entrance way. All students enter the school through the gates, unless they arrive after the bell has rung and the gates are locked.

VISITING OUR SCHOOL

If you visit the school between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. the front door will be locked. Please use the buzzer and wait patiently for someone to open the door. The monitor and lock release switch are in the secretary's office, so if she is away from her desk, you may have a short wait. Children and staff are not to open the front door. We have a guest book for visitors to sign and a visitor's badge to wear if you are volunteering or visiting the school, other than in the office area. These procedures are mandated by our District School Board Ontario North East for the safety of all students and staff.

BALANCED SCHOOL DAY

We are continuing with our Balanced School Day schedule to facilitate the uninterrupted 100 minute literacy block for our Primary Division. (We do try to sustain one uninterrupted block throughout the Junior Division as much as is possible.) Morning snack and play block is at 10:30 a.m. and lunch, followed by a 20 minute play block is at 12:50 p.m. Children will continue to eat in their classrooms and have microwave privileges twice a week. Please check the calendar/handbook for your child's microwave days. We will continue to sell pizza slices on Fridays, and are making arrangements to sell hot lunches on Wednesday's. Further information will follow.

ALLERGIES

Our concern is for the safety of all students. We have children in our school with allergies to nuts and nut oil products. It is a constant worry for the teachers and the parents of these children. To make Central Public School as safe as possible for all our children, **we ask your cooperation by following these precautions:**

- **No student or staff member will bring nut products to school. *Please check labels at home.*** Many companies provide nut free products and they are clearly labeled. Look for the nut-free symbol on products.
- **Students will not share or trade food** with friends.
- We will keep Epi-Pens in the classrooms of the children with such allergies. Please ensure that we know if your child has an allergy requiring Epi-Pen intervention.

TERRY FOX WALK AND DONATIONS TO FIGHT CANCER

On Friday, September 18th at 2:20 p.m., to commemorate Terry Fox's "Marathon of Hope", our students will walk around the Kirkland St., Duncan Ave., Government Rd., Station Rd. 'block'. SK – Gr. 2 students will walk once, our Gr. 3 – 6 students will walk twice while JK children walk inside of our fenced yard. Parents are invited to join the children. Many of us have lost friends and family members to cancer. All money collected helps to aid cancer research. Every classroom will have a collection box.

FAMILY BARBEQUE AND OPEN HOUSE

On Thurs., Sept. 10th, Central Home and School, formerly PTA, will host a **free** family barbeque. Hamburgers and drinks will be served. After eating, students will take their parents to visit their classrooms to show them their books, bulletin boards, and explain routines. Teachers will be in classes to meet and to greet you. Interview appointments to discuss concerns and progress will be scheduled for another day.

If you are able to volunteer to help cook, serve, and/or clean up, please call Mrs. Dal Pai at 567-4030.

INTERNATIONAL PLOUGHING MATCH (IPM)

On **Tuesday, September 22nd**, all students and staff will attend the IPM in Earlton. To facilitate this field trip, we need many volunteer supervisors to come with us to provide the most effective supervision of our children. **We are looking to facilitate a ratio of one adult per 4 JK, SK, Grade 1 children, one adult for six or seven Grade 2 and 3 children, and one adult per group of ten Grades 4,5, and 6 children.** Generally, we will leave at 9:00 a.m. and be back by 3:00 p.m. (JK/SK/Grade one children will return earlier.) The IPM is a spectacular international event and opportunity to enhance our educational experience. Its organizers expect over 85,000 visitors from away, in addition to our local area population, to attend the event. District School Board Ontario North East is paying for the transportation of all of its students, as well as a portion of the \$7.00 entry fee for each student. Grant's Frog's Breath Foundation is paying the remaining portion of each student's admission. Please call Mrs. Dal Pai as soon as possible, if you are able to come with us. **Your admission and transportation will be provided and we would be most grateful!** Thank you for your consideration.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL AND PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

This year, we will have both a School Council and a Home and School Association (formerly PTA and primarily involved in fund-raising for Central's needs). Every parent is invited to become a member of the Home and School/PTA and is welcome to attend its initial meeting on September 17th at 5:30 p.m. To be a voting member of our School Advisory Council, please complete and return the pale green Candidate Nomination Form in the Opening Day package by Sept. 18th. The following is a brief description of each parent group:

School Advisory Council is an advisory body which may provide advice to the Principal, Board, and/or Ministry of Education on matters listed in the School Council Brochure sent home on Opening Day. It is comprised of up to 10 parents, 1 teacher, 1 support staff member, 1 community volunteer and the principal. Upon receipt of your Nomination Form, you will be advised, by phone call, of next steps in the process of selecting our School Council. School Council's first meeting is **Wednesday, September 30th at 5:30 p.m.**

Home and School Association/PTA focuses on improving student life by providing equipment and activities for our students. To do this, members fundraise to pay for school trips, playground equipment, treats, and prizes, etc. This group is always looking for *active* members to assist in the planning of different events. If you are interested, please attend our first meeting on **Thursday, September 17th at 5:30 p.m.**

Home and School Association BINGOS

Central School is fortunate to have regular bingos as our major fundraiser. Glen Angus continues to manage them for us and Tanya McMillan is the co-ordinator. Thank you, Glen and Tanya! Central School requires three behind-the-counter workers (dates are listed on the volunteer sheet). If you can help us, please complete the Volunteer Form or give your name to our secretary, Mrs. Dal Pai.

PTA HALLOWE'EN FUNDRAISER

Once again Central PTA plan to sell Hallowe'en treats to help our school raise funds for school trips and extras throughout the year! The form for ordering Hostess Frito Lay snacks will go home very soon.

PIZZA/HOT Lunch DAYS and the MILK PROGRAM

We will start Pizza days on **Friday, September 4th**. Pizza slices (each pizza is cut into 10 pieces so they are not too big) cost \$1.50 each. Classroom teachers collect the students' money on the Friday morning and send it to the office. Orders will not be taken after 9 a.m. so please make certain your children have money. *When there is no school on a Friday, we cancel Pizza Day.*

(We are working on a similar plan to offer hot lunches for sale on Wednesday's starting September 30th and will send details home as soon as they are confirmed.)

Grade 6 students will sell both chocolate and white milk, beginning on **Tuesday, September 8th** at 75 cents per carton. Purchasing milk cards at \$7.00 for 10 cartons of milk, is a saving for everyone and strongly encouraged. Milk cards are sold at the office at morning snack time every day. Students who purchase cards have chances to win milk prizes. We have registered for the World Milk Day Program, this year on Wednesday, September 30th. All students will receive FREE milk on that day, compliments of the Dairy Farmers of Ontario.

SPECIAL DAYS

Every month we have a special day to have fun and demonstrate our School Spirit. Our first event is "Hat Day" and our "Terry Fox Walk" on Friday, September 18th. Why not start looking for interesting and special hats to show off and to provide some shade during the walk!

SAFE SCHOOLS

If your child will be absent, please call Central School in the evening or early morning at 567-4030 and leave a message, send an email to Central.School@dsb1.edu.on.ca, or call Mrs. Dal Pai after 8:00 a.m.

HEAD LICE

Beware of lice season during fall and winter months! Head lice infections are very contagious so please check your children regularly. We check specific classes when parents report a cases to us, so call the office to let us know if your child has head lice. Our School Board has established a Pediculosis Policy stating that students will be sent home when head lice/nits have been found and may not return until checked and declared "nit free".

ATTACHED INFORMATION TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL

Volunteer Sheet – Please consider when and how you can help us and promptly return the sheet to school.

Permission to Photograph - One sheet per family is to be signed and returned.

Internet Permission Form – Only for new students to our school and Grade 1 children.

School Council Nomination Form and Information – Please complete and return the form if you are interested in being a member, by Friday, September 18th.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- Sept. 4 Pizza Friday's begin!
- Sept. 8 Milk is available for sale
- Sept. 10 Family Barbeque and Open House
- Sept. 17 Home and School Association Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
Everyone is welcome to join.
- Sept. 18 School Council Nominations forms are due back today!
- Sept. 18 Hat Day
- Sept. 18 Terry Fox Walk for all students at 2:20 p.m.
- Sept. 25 Professional Development Day - **No school for students!**
- Sept. 30 First Hot Lunch Day
- Sept. 30 World Milk Day – Free milk for all!
- Sept. 30 School Council Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Visit the District School Board Ontario North East web site at:
www.dsb1.edu.on.ca to check out board policies

VOLUNTEERING AT CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

Schools do need volunteers to provide special services for our children. Here is a list of activities where we need help. If you can help, please complete this form and return to the school as quickly as possible.

PIZZA and HOT LUNCH DAYS:

We need volunteers to prepare and deliver hot dogs. Hopefully, we will get enough help so your obligation will only be once a month. Parents arrive on their Friday (Pizza) and/or Wednesday (Hot Lunch) about 12:25 p.m. and should be finished by 1:15 p.m. Please complete and return this section if you can help us.

I am willing to help on a Pizza / Hot Lunch Days (Friday/Wednesday) about once a month.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

RINK MAINTENANCE

Volunteers are needed to help take care of the rink and the rink shack. Help may be needed to put up and take down the boards. I can help out with the rink and the rink shack.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

BEHIND THE COUNTER BINGO WORKERS

Workers who feel comfortable handling and dealing with money are needed to help at our bingos. The dates and start times are: Fri., Sept 25 at 6:00 p.m., Thurs., Oct. 1 at 1:00 p.m., Fri., Oct 23 at 6:00 p.m., Fri., Nov. 20 at 6:00 p.m.. and Dec. 18 at 6:00 p.m. **Workers must be at the bingo one hour before start time.** I can help.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Dates that I can work: _____

SNACK PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

Snacks will be provided on Tuesdays and Fridays for all of our students. To continue our healthy snack program, I would be willing to volunteer on Wednesday's ___ Friday's ___. Please call me.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

CLASSROOM VOLUNTEER

I would be willing to help in a classroom and will make a weekly commitment to help on (print the day of week) _____ during Block 1(8:50-10:30) ___ Block 2 (11:10-12:50) ___ and/or Block 3 (1:30-3:10) ___. Please call me.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

SPECIAL EVENTS HELPER

I am available to help at special events that take place at Central during the school day. Please call me.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Thank you very much for your consideration and generosity on behalf of our students and staff at Central Public School!