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September, 2011

Newsletter

Kingsley Primary News

Principal's Message - Julie Middleton

On behalf of the Kingsley staff, I want to welcome all of our students and families to what promises to be a tremendous year of learning and teaching. The Kingsley staff have been hard at work throughout the summer preparing for the 2011 - 2012 academic year.

We believe that partnering with families is essential for student success, and we do our best to communicate with families in a variety of ways. When parents drop off and pick up their children in the classrooms, they can have a quick chat with the teacher. Understanding that this is also a very busy part of the morning, more lengthy questions can be answered during a meeting made for before and after school—our teachers are more than happy to make an appointment with you to talk. Weekly email

bulletins will continue to be sent and there will also be a monthly school newsletters which will include paragraphs about each class' plans and news. A lot of information is conveyed in the emails and newsletters, so please take the time to read what is happening at Kingsley.

*A smile is
the universal
welcome."
- Max Eastman*

Being punctual is an important life skill that we want to encourage in our students, but this requires your support. If your child is attending the Before Care Program,

drop off is in the JK/SK classroom anytime between 8:00 and 8:45 am. If your child is not registered in the Before Care program, please drop off your child in his/her classroom at 8:45. This allows 15 minutes for your child to organize homework and have a quick discussion with classmates before the academic day begins. At 9:00 am the Kingsley entrance will be locked. This is for security reasons. If you are arriving late, then you will need to enter using the Natalie's Kitchen doorway. You may then proceed to the office for a late slip, and then accompany your child to his or her classroom. Being late for school is extremely disruptive to the rest of the class and is detrimental to student learning. We ask that you make an effort to have your child to school by 8:45 am.

Staff

Principal

Ms. Julie Middleton

Office Administrator

Ms. Rebecca Enkin

Junior Kindergarten

Mrs. Sonia Mead

Senior Kindergarten

Ms. Hilary Beasley

Grade One/Two

Ms. Louisa Florio

Grade Three/Four

Ms. Natalie Fegon

French (Tues/Thurs)

Ms. Lieve Hendrickx

Music (Mon/Wed)

Ms. Rebecca Enkin

Band (Mondays)

Mr. Marc Enkin

Board

Parents:

Chair, Paul Cavanagh

Erik de Witte

Sarah Noble

Laurie Olszaniecki

Bryce Dymond

Past Teacher:

(and now a school parent!):

Michael Morton

Principal:

Julie Middleton

Founder & Consultant

to the Board (and now

a school grandparent!):

Ursula Morton

Curriculum Night is scheduled for Thursday, September 22 at 7:00 pm. Parents are asked to gather in the auditorium where a presentation will take place. Parents are then invited to tour the classrooms and discuss long-range plans with their child's teacher. In the past we have included the students in our Curriculum Night, but this year we are going to be relaying a lot of information just for parents. We ask that you make childcare arrangements so that at least one parent per family can attend this important evening.

Allergy Alert: We have several students that have LIFE THREATENING allergies to (pea)nuts, and dairy, as well as other dietary restrictions. Students are not permitted to share lunches or snacks and we will continue to offer

healthy morning snacks to students. Please ensure that you communicate this information to caregivers who may be packing a lunch for your child. More information about this will be presented at our Curriculum Night. Please make sure that you attend this important evening.

A balanced homework policy: At Kingsley School, we believe that homework is beneficial for building routines and discipline in our students. Homework should not be a source of stress for families; homework should be given for mastering a skill or concept and should not be overly time consuming. Daily reading for 20 minutes as a minimum is also expected. We understand that students and families are often involved in various activities outside of school, so homework should be an appropriate length so that families can enjoy quality time together.

Kindergarten News with Mrs. Mead and Ms. Beasley

Welcome to all of our kindergarten students and their families! We believe each child has her or his own unique traits, abilities and interests and we are dedicated to nurturing these and working with you as partners in your child's learning and growth.

As we begin the school year, we have a few reminders:

- The school day begins at 8:45 am. Please help your child to be on time.
- All of your child's uniform clothing, outdoor wear, footwear and back



Marissa, in SK last year, explores the Humber Arboretum. Now she's in grade one!

pack should be clearly labeled with your child's name.

- A complete set of labeled extra clothing (appropriate to the season) should be kept in a labeled bag in your child's cubby.
- Please bring a labeled water bottle to leave at school. Learning is thirsty work!

Open communication between home and school is very important to us. Please feel free to approach us at any time.

Happy September!

Grade One News with Ms. Florio

After a truly wonderful summer vacation I am very excited to start a new school year. I am beginning my third year here at Kingsley and continue to be inspired to create a safe and nurturing teaching environment for your children. Providing an educational setting in which we have open communication, mutual respect and quality learning are all important aspects of what I aspire to attain in our classroom. I anticipate a truly wonderful year full of learning, exploring, sharing and growing together.

I have a few practical suggestions for a smooth start. First of all, morning rou-

tines are extremely important for a successful day. Please be punctual and have the students at school by 8:45 am in order to have ample time for them to settle in and be ready to start at 9:00 am.

You will also notice that there are blue bins in the students' cubbies. These bins are for extra clothing. Sometimes we have spills or accidents and it is important to have clean, dry clothes when needed.

Finally, please have indoor shoes that are to remain at school. The fall months are upon us and we need to keep our

classroom floors as clean and dry as possible so as not to drag mud and dirt onto the carpet area where we all sit.

I know that homework is an exciting part of starting Grade 1. The homework schedule and more detailed information will be distributed this week.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can address them accordingly. Times can be made to meet before or after school hours.

I look forward to a fabulous school year together.

Grade Two/Three News with Ms. Brantley

Welcome to Grade 2/3! I am excited to be back at Kingsley School and can hardly wait to get to know all of my students and families (and see some familiar faces as well). Throughout the month of September we will be working on establishing routines and activities to make this a happy and productive school year. Music will be Monday and Wednesday afternoon; French will be in the morning on Tuesday, Thursday and Fri-

day; Phys. Ed is scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, so please ensure that students have proper indoor shoes on those days.

I like to arrive at school early, so mornings are a great time to find me if you'd like a quick chat or to set up something more formal. I look forward to meeting all of you as the weeks progress. I know that this is going to be an excellent year!



Field Trips are being organized now. Look for information in the next

Grade Four/Five with Ms. Fegon

As a new year begins, I would like to welcome everyone back. I hope that you had a great summer and are ready to begin another year. Even though we are returning to the same classroom, you will notice some changes from time to time.

One exciting change involves the school's computer lab. We have new monitors, and the computers are running on a different operating system. Our class will have the opportunity to use many of the new programs.

We will start off with social studies this term. The grade fours will learn about

Canada's provinces and territories, while the grade fives will focus on Canadian government. In math, we will begin with a review of the basics, and then move on to new concepts. There will be some changes to the language program, which will be explained in the next couple of weeks.

Our Thanksgiving food drive will start at the end of September. The grade fours and fives will create posters to encourage you to donate food, and we will walk over to the fire station to deliver the food for the food bank.



Isabelle, Athanasia and Hayley enjoying friendship on a Kingsley field trip.

If, at any time, you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me either before or after school.

I am looking forward to working with the grade fours and fives this year.

French with Mme. Hendrickx



Ilya is captivated by what he sees on the ferry to Centre Island.

Bonjour! Je me présente: je m'appelle Lieve Hendrickx.

I am very excited to be joining the Kingsley staff this school year.

I will be teaching French to the JK/SK class through to grade five. These classes will take place in the French/music room on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. On Friday, both grade two/three and four/five will have a class

where we will concentrate mainly on conversation with the correct pronunciation.

In the afternoon you will find me in the Kindergarten room. Some days I will also be running the before- and after-care programs.

I look forward to meeting with all of you in person and hope we can share a wonderful year.

Music with Ms. Enkin and Band with Mr. Enkin

This year, music will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays. Junior Kindergartens up to grade three will receive two periods, and grade fours and fives will receive a third period on Tuesdays. For this group, Band will be taught on Monday afternoons, and recorder, theory and singing on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

If you studied recorder last year, please bring your washed recorders back to school as soon as possible, plus \$5 for a

new exercise and pieces book. If you need a new recorder or are new to Kingsley in grades one through five, please bring \$15 to school for a recorder and book.

Marc Enkin will once again be teaching the band program. He will be contacting you about instruments soon. He's also available on Mondays for private guitar, piano, ukulele and harmonica lessons during the afternoon and you can contact him through the school for more

information.

Our first concert will be on Friday, December 16 in the Kingsley gym. Bring your family and friends.

Recorder classes start soon for grades one through five.



Kingsley Primary School

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Back entrance, off parking lot,
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► "Magic happens here!"

www.kingsleyschool.ca

Parent Handbooks

New handbooks are going home on Tuesday with a portion to be signed and returned indicating you have read and understand our policies. Thank you in advance.

Thank You

Thank to parent Steve Noble for painting the new computer lab this summer.

Thank you to John Williams for all your help setting up the classrooms.

Volunteers Needed

QSP Magazine Drive: We need someone to organize this great fundraiser for Kingsley this year. (Many thanks to Kimberly de Witte who organized the drive for several years. She is available to help the new volunteer get started.)

Lunch Hour Volunteers: We welcome any parents who would like to help teachers during lunch.

Dates to Remember

September 1: Tuition, Activity Fees due

September 1: New Kindergarten Meet and Greet

September 6: 1st day of School

September 22: Curriculum Night

Cross Country: starts Sept.

Sept 28: Terry Fox Run

End of Sept: Thanksgiving food Drive

End of Sept: Scholastic orders due

Friday, September 30: \$2 Dress-Down Day-bring a toonie and wear your favourite outfits!

Monday, Oct. 10: Thanksgiving

Oct. 27: Picture Day-Green golf shirts and uniforms!

Oct. 28: \$2 Dress-Down Day

Nov. 14: Photo retakes

Nov. 18: PD Day, no school

Nov. 25: \$2 Dress-Down Day

End of Nov: Winter Food Drive

Dec. 16: Toonie Dress-Down Day

Dec. 16: Winter Concert 6:30 pm

Dec. 26 through Jan. 6/12:
Winter Holidays

Jan. 9: Back to school

Jan. 27: \$2 Dress-Down Day

Feb. 8: "Wall to Wall Percussion", TSO trip for all

Feb. Fridays: Skating (gr. 1-5)

Feb. 17: P.D. Day, no school

Feb. 20: Family Day holiday

Feb. 24: \$2 Dress-Down Day

Mar. 1: Grad Photo for grade fives

March Break: March 9 through March 19

Mar. 20: Back to school

March 30: \$2 Dress-Down Day

April 6: Good Friday

April 9: Easter Monday

April 16: TSO concert-juniors

April 26: Toonie Dress Up Day and Photo Day-nice clothes

May 18: P.D. Day

May 21: Victoria Day

May 25: \$2 Dress-Down Day

Jun 8: Spring Concert

June 15: Last day of school and \$2 Dress-Down Day

June: Annual Centre Island trip

June 18-29: Kamp Kingsley

FIELD TRIPS

Exciting trips are being planned now and will be added to this list as they are booked.

PARENT DIRECTORY

A draft of the Parent Directory, including class lists, addresses, telephone and email, is ready. Please check over your listing in the classroom copy to make sure it's accurate.

HOT LUNCH STARTS OCTOBER

Last year we offered a hot lunch program using Pizza Pizza and Natalie's Kitchen. A menu will be going home in the next few weeks so that we may begin offering hot lunches again in October.