

COUGAR COUNTRY EXPRESS

The Newsletter of Campden Public School

October 2008

Campden Public School
4160 Fly Road
Campden, ON
L0R 1G0



Phone: 905 563-8723
Fax: 905 563-3077

➔ **Coffee & Conversation**
Tuesday, October 7th
@ 9:30 a.m.
*Topic: Twinning of Campden
and Jordan*

➔ **Thanksgiving Dinner**
Monday, October 6th

➔ **P. A. DAY**
Friday, October 10th

➔ **Halloween Parade**
Friday, October 31st
@ 1:45 p.m.

District School Board of Niagara
Achieving Success Together



From the office...

Thank you to all the students, staff, parents and volunteers who helped to make our first month of school run so smoothly. As the new vice-principal of Campden School, I feel privileged to be working with such a dedicated staff and enthusiastic student body. Our first School Advisory Council meeting was well-attended and it is obvious that these parents work hard to ensure a positive school experience for all of our Campden cougars!! It was great to meet many of our families during our Open House. Please stop in and introduce yourself if we haven't already met.

With Thanksgiving approaching, it seems appropriate to reflect upon the many reasons we have to be thankful! Our Campden staff wishes everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving.

As always, Campden's staff is committed to providing an excellent education to our students. We welcome the opportunity to work closely with our parent community to build on student achievement and to ensure success for all. Your active involvement and interest is most welcomed. With your assistance and support, Campden will continue to be a school where every student achieves success.

M. Corbett, Principal

K. Leskiw-Janvary, Vice-Principal

INTERIM REPORTS

Interim reports will be sent home on **Friday, October 17, 2008**. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the classroom teacher.

OCTOBER 10TH P.A. DAY

Please remember that **Friday, October 10th** is a P.A. Day. There will be no school for students. Staff will be involved in professional learning for the day.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

On **Monday, October 6th**, students, staff and guests will participate in our annual turkey dinner. We thank Mrs. Hamm for organizing the dinner and all our parents who have prepared food for the feast. It is one of the highlights of our Fall term.



HALLOWE'EN PARADE

On *Friday, October 31st, at 1:45 p.m.*, Campden will be having their annual Hallowe'en parade. Students should not come dressed in their costumes that morning (with the exception of the morning JK/SK class). The students can change during their second fitness/nutrition break into their costumes. All costumes should be safe and seasonally appropriate. Toy weapons such as guns, swords and knives will not be permitted at school. Parents and friends are invited to come and enjoy the parade.

MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER

Our Magazine Fundraiser began on *September 25th*. There are a wide range of subscriptions available and savings for your family. What a great gift for the Christmas season!

All proceeds from this campaign will provide our school with educational resources and trips that support teaching and learning. The campaign finishes on *October 9th*.

SCHOOL NURSE

The school Nurse assigned to our school is Shelley Juskiw. She will be promoting optimal health among our students and assisting us to develop a healthy school environment. Her role is to influence Niagara's children and their families to make healthy lifestyle choices. She can be reached at the Niagara Region Public Health Department (**905-688-8248 ext. 7361**), Monday to Friday, 8:30 to 4:30 p.m.

HEADPHONES NEEDED FOR COMPUTER USE

It would be great if each student could purchase their own headset/headphones and keep them in a labelled ziplock bag. Each class set will be kept in a large container in our Computer Lab. Thank you for your assistance with this.

NEWSLETTER DRAW WINNERS

Congratulations to our September newsletter draw winners. They are: *Ronnie Peter (Gr. 3), Tayah Koumarelas (Gr. 1), John Koumarelas (Gr. 4), John DeJong (Gr. 2), and Gordon DeJong (Gr. 3)*.

Remember to return your signed newsletter draw slip for the monthly draw.

PERMISSION TO LEAVE SCHOOL PROPERTY

Any student who leaves the school property during the second Fitness and Nutrition break (except students who eat lunch at home) must have written permission from a parent or guardian. Thank you for your co-operation.

LINCOLN COUNTY FAIR

On *Friday September 5th*, the Grade one to eight classes attended the Lincoln County Fair. While there, the students saw many wonderful educational exhibits. A number of our students participated in the Lincoln County School Challenge. Congratulations to the following people for showing such great school spirit during the Spelling Bee:

Spelling Bee Contestants:

Primary: David Reimer, Ronnie Peter, Ryan VanPykeren

Junior: Mikayla Reimer, Brook Haight, Michael Reimer, Emily Rowe

Intermediate: Andrew Ripenburg, Thomas Reimer

After all the points had been totaled, our school came in 3rd in the School Challenge and received \$50 from the Lincoln Agricultural Society, to be used for educational purposes. Way to go Cougars!



TERRY FOX WALK

Terry Fox became a national hero when he ran across Canada to raise money for cancer research. Terry has inspired us with his generosity and selflessness. On Friday, September 26th, our students walked or ran around our back field to demonstrate their enthusiasm to keep Terry's "Marathon of Hope" alive. Congratulations to all participants who raised just over \$1000.00 for cancer research. Way to go Cougars!!

CANADIAN COGNITIVE ABILITIES TEST

All Grade 4 students in the school will take the Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test during the period of September 22 to October 3, 2008. This test helps us to identify individual student needs and abilities, so we can ensure appropriate programs are provided. It also provides a benchmark we can use to judge how well our school should be expected to do on achievement tests - whether these tests are teacher generated, board-wide, provincial or national. The test also provides information which shows particular strengths in verbal, quantitative, and non-verbal reasoning.

COMMUNICATION MATTERS: Good Communicators

"Smart talk from your DSBN Speech-Language Pathologists"

Communication is at the core of learning and developing self-esteem. Learning how to communicate effectively with others is critical for social and academic development. Knowing the rules, communication, and behaviours that will help students to learn and live more harmoniously with others may be the most important tools they will acquire throughout their years in school. Children become more receptive to learning when they feel good about themselves. They are more willing to take risks academically, since making mistakes is less devastating. Good communicators do the following:

- use eye contact
- observe before they communicate
- notice body language
- listen
- take turns
- use a polite tone of voice
- speak clearly
- use an appropriate rate of speech
- act interested
- remain on the topic
- allow adequate space between the listener and speaker

To help your child focus on good communication, your family might spend some time noticing all the '*habits*' good communicators use. For example, if someone accidentally interrupts you and apologizes, you might comment on their good communication. You might also like to have each family member identify their best communication skill. Dad might be a good listener, while mom might be a good turn-taker. Once everyone is aware of communication, enhancing and learning new communication will be far easier.

VIRTUES

Throughout the month of September, we have been looking for students who have demonstrated BRAVERY. During our assembly on Monday, September 29th, we heard from all of our teachers about how their students have shown bravery throughout the past month. Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded a certificate for BRAVERY:

JK/SK *Matthew Martin*
Jack Lecroix

5/6 *Ceili Randall*

1/2 *John DeJong*
Cameron Vaillancourt

7/8 *Andrew Ripenburg*
Isaac Ripenburg

3/4 *Lila Laundry-Mottiar*
Ronnie Peter

Thank you to our Grade 5/6 students for hosting our BRAVERY assembly. They designed and presented posters that reflected what BRAVERY meant to them. Their posters will be displayed throughout our hallways so be sure to stop by and see their wonderful work!!

Staff members will be looking for students who are **TRUTHFUL** during the month of October.

Truthfulness means your words and actions are full of truth. Telling the truth means you don't tell lies, even to protect yourself or anyone else. You don't live a lie either. You show people who and what you are without exaggerating to impress them or trying to look like someone you are not.

When you are practicing truthfulness, you don't try to believe something you know isn't true. You don't lie to others, and you don't lie to yourself.

Truthfulness is knowing the difference between what is real and what is fantasy. You can have them both, but you do not mix them up. Being true to yourself is living by your true nature, being your true self.

When people practice truthfulness, what they say can be trusted. They say what they mean and mean what they say. Truthfulness builds bonds of love and trust. People know where they stand with an honest and truthful person.

A LITTLE AT A TIME

We sometimes grow discouraged
When the things we want to do
Seem to take a whole lot longer
Than we'd really like them to.
If there's a goal that must be reached
Or a bridge that must be crossed
We feel that in the time it takes
Our purpose will be lost.
But if something is worth doing,
Then the only way to do it
Is just a little at a time
And when you're finally through it,
You'll find it was less difficult
To do (without a doubt)
Than you ever had imagined
Before you started out.
So if there's a dream that should come true
Or a mountain you would climb
Remember that great things are done
A little at a time.
(Anonymous)



The *Write Traits* writing program:

The Write Traits Classroom Kit is based upon the six-trait model of writing instruction and assessment that was developed by teachers in 1984. The six-trait approach is meant to enhance and enrich a process-based approach to writing. Along with a wide set of options for revising, it gives students a language for talking and thinking like writers. Often students do not revise their writing thoroughly (or at all) because they have little or no idea what to do. Students who know the six traits have no difficulty thinking of ways to revise their writing. A sequential approach is used in which skills build on one another. Longer writing activities toward the end of each trait unit will require students to use the skills they have learned in studying a previous trait so that skills are continuously reviewed and practised.

Campden's staff uses the Write Traits to support their writing programs. Each monthly newsletter will explain one of the traits or the writing process itself. This will hopefully encourage an understanding of some of the language your child, or child's teacher, may use when explaining writing terminology.

OCTOBER STAR STRATEGIES FOR READING

Readers of all ages engage in strategies which help them read. With age and experience, students improve and are able to apply these strategies to a wider range of texts, tasks, and situations. However, these strategies are as important for the novice reader as they are for the expert. Each month we will share two reading strategies that are employed in primary and junior classes. One is a "fix-up" strategy which is used when meaning breaks down. The other strategy is a comprehension strategy, which is used to assist readers in coming to a deep understanding of text.

→ Sound It Out

Good readers monitor their comprehension and use fix-up strategies when necessary. They use the strategy sound it out to help them read unfamiliar words. Readers are encouraged to use their knowledge of letters and sounds to decode unfamiliar words. Focus first on beginning, then ending sounds. In the end, good readers will be able to blend all sounds together to successfully decode whole words.

**→ Encourage readers to think:**

- What is the first sound?
- Look at the sounds I know.
- This letter sounds like the beginning of...



→ Making Connections

Good readers connect what they already know to what they encounter in texts. They draw on their personal experiences (text-to-self or T-S connections), their knowledge of the world (text-to-world or T-W connections), and their previous experiences with texts (text-to-text or T-T connections).



→ Encourage readers to think by asking:

- This reminds me of ...
- This author always ...
- This is the same as ...

MATH TALK

How Will My Child Learn Mathematics?

Children learn mathematics through activities that encourage them to:

1. Investigate;
2. Think about what they are investigating;
3. Gather information, organize it, and act on it;
4. Use information that they have gathered from a variety of sources to solve problems;
5. Explain how they reached their solutions.

When children have opportunities to connect math concepts and procedures with their own experiences, they learn more easily. Through the use of common household objects (such as measuring cups, bathroom scales, a deck of cards) and observing everyday events (such as weather trends over the course of a week), they can “see” the ideas that are being taught.

Learning how to understand and solve problems is an important part of math. Children are encouraged to use systematic trial and error and a variety of other strategies to develop their reasoning and to learn how to go about problem solving. They learn that there are many ways to solve problems and there is often more than one solution to any given problem. They also learn to communicate clearly as they explain their solutions.

Helping Your Child Do Mathematics (A Guide for Parents)

POLLING STATION

As most of you are aware, many of our schools are used as polling stations for elections. On Tuesday, October 14th our gym at Campden School will be used as a polling station.



CROSS COUNTRY

Good luck to our cross country team runners who will be competing in two running events, **October 2nd and October 8th** at Centennial Park in Grimsby.

These runners have been practicing during their fitness breaks for a few weeks now. Thank you to Miss Giesbrecht who has been coaching them.

Michael Allingham
Zoe Allister
Eli Bull
Erin Bull
Hannah Campbell
Jacob D'Achille
Gordon DeJong
Brook Haight
Rachel Hamm
Sarah Hamm
Kathryn Intini
Lila Laundry-Mottiar

Alaric Mustoe
Triniti Obritsch
Ronnie Peter
Ceili Randall (off with an injury)
Michael Reimer
Thomas Reimer
Samantha Rempel
Emily Rowe
Ashley Sicard
Jacqueline Sicard
Jerrid Taylor
Emily Wright

Our family has read this newsletter:

Parent's Signature _____

Student's Name(s) _____ Gr. _____;

_____ Gr. _____

_____ Gr. _____;

_____ Gr. _____

Comments:



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