



The Connaught Chronicle



November 2009

Connaught School 28 Prince St. St. Catharines, ON 905.682.6609

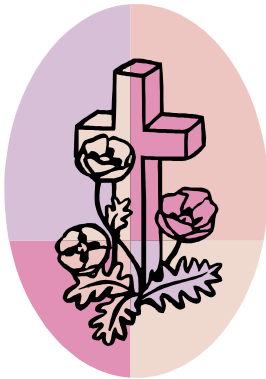
Principal: Mrs. S. Fehrman Vice Principal: Mr. B. Mayhew

Administrative Assistants: Mrs. P. Nardangeli, Mrs. J. Brenneman

Principal's Message

On Wednesday, November 11th, Connaught students will be taking time to remember. There will be an assembly on that morning.

The goal is to ensure that today's youth have an understanding of what their great-grandparents, grandparents and in some cases their parents were called upon to do to defend the freedom and democracy that we enjoy today. Children new to Canada will also have an understanding of the offerings that many Canadians made to preserve and protect the way of life that they now embrace. In short, we will strive to ensure that Remembrance Day is afforded the respect and the dignity that it rightly deserves.



Poppies will be distributed by the Legion on November 11. Any donations are appreciated.

Mrs. Fehrman

Professional Activity Day

Friday, November 13th will be a full P.A. Day. There will be no school for students that day.

Report Cards



First term report cards will be going home on Wednesday, December 2nd. Please send back page 3 of the report with your comments. Interviews with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) will be scheduled for **Thursday, December 3rd after school or Friday, December 4th during the afternoon.** You will be contacted by your child(ren)'s teacher(s) via a letter home to set up convenient times. We look forward to seeing you.

Safety On The School Yard:

We encourage our students to:

- * demonstrate responsibility in following school rules
- * respect others and authority
- * play safely on the schoolyard



Our school has a strict **No Hit (both verbal and physical)** rule. We encourage parents to discuss and support these expectations at home.

Supervision by staff, on the schoolyard occurs at the following times:

8:25 to 8:40 a.m.

10:45 to 11:05 a.m.

1:05 to 1:25 p.m.

We encourage all students to arrive at school during supervised times. On rainy or extremely cold days, students should try to time their arrival with the bells.

Halloween Dance-a-Thon



Connaught staged a Halloween Dance-a-Thon in our Gymnasium this past Friday to support our awesome school. A big thank you goes out to all the students, family members and friends that supported Connaught School. It was a fantastic day! Thanks also to the entire staff that helped make it a 'ghoulish' day. The winners of the top donations will be awarded their incentive prizes during the Student Recognition Assembly on Wednesday, November 5th. Mark the date of our second Dance-a-Thon on your calendar:

Friday, March 12th, 2010!!!!

Cell Phones, Cameras, and MP3 Devices

Just a reminder that cell phones, cameras, and MP3 devices are not permitted at Connaught School. Please leave these valuables at home. We do not want to handle issues based on lost, stolen or broken expensive electronic equipment.

Crossing Guard Safety

Crossing guards have specifically appointed times for their crossing. At these times they will do all they can to ensure that children are crossed safely (this includes Grades 7 & 8). If your children use these crossings, please be aware that guards are empowered to cross all persons at designated times. This varies, from crossing to crossing. Crossing guards cannot cross anyone before or after their regularly scheduled crossing.

H1N1 Flu Virus

Advice for Parents/Guardians

In anticipation of further spread of the H1N1 flu virus this season and beyond, Niagara Region Public Health wants to ensure that you, as a caregiver, are aware of the ways to prevent the spread of the virus. We are asking parents and guardians, along with members of the general public, to take the following simple precautions to reduce the spread of the virus:



1.

1. *Wash your hands*

Encourage regular hand cleaning with either soap and water for at least 15 seconds, or an alcohol based hand rub and rub until hands are dry.

2. *Stay home if you are sick*

Keep your child at home if he/she is sick and do not allow him/her to return to school until the fever is gone for 24 hours.

3. *Cover your cough or sneeze*

Encourage your child to cover his/her mouth and nose with a tissue when he/she coughs or sneezes, or cough or sneeze into the upper sleeve, NOT the hands.

4. *Discourage touching the eyes, nose or mouth, as germs spread this way.*

5. *Clean surfaces often, this includes counters, fridge handles, faucet taps, bathrooms, railings, computer keyboards, and telephones.*

If your child shows flu-like symptoms of fever and cough plus one or more of the following: sore throat, muscle aches, tiredness, headache, and possibly vomiting or diarrhea, he or she must stay home and not attend school events until the fever is gone for 24 hours.

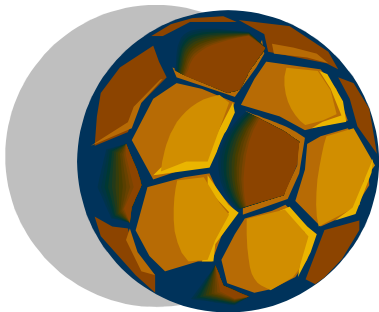
Junior Co-Ed Soccer

Our Junior Co-Ed Soccer team wrapped up their season after another fun but challenging year. They played against 6 other teams in their league and then had one exhibition game against Wheatley School. All players are to be commended for their hard work and team spirit. No matter where we were or what the score was, they always represented Connaught well. Thanks also to the parents who came out to watch and support us by driving the players to and from games.

Team members:

Kaitlin Blanchfield	Nathan Boisvert
Devan Charron	Nicole Collicutt
Zach Everard	Josh Ferguson
Zachary FraserCross	Riley Kostuk
Symphorien Illinga	Dumiso Mema
Ethan Lachapelle	Jina Park
Sooma Mohammadi	Molly Rosts
Payton Smith	Jacob Stirtzinger
Elkanah Syatoka	Marcus Young

Thank you to Mr. Devlin and Mr. Horton for their wonderful job coaching the team!



Grade 2 and 3 Indoor Soccer

Grade 2 and 3 indoor soccer is up and running on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Come on out and have some fun with your friends. This is a "pick-up" style league where there are no teams, no trophies, no standings, no scores ... Just FUN!! Games begin at 8:15 every Tuesday and Thursday morning and go until 8:35.

Junior Boys Volleyball

The following boys have made the Connaught Junior Boys Volleyball Team 2009-2010

Captain - Riley Kostuk	Johnny Couture
Dumiso Mema	Freddie Miller
Saad Faisal	Zachary Everard
Tommy Davis	Elkanah Syatoka
Sean Chikanda	Mohamed Eserri
Wyatt Jolicoeur	Dante Young
Ahmed Idris	

Mme Jinks and Mr. Mayhew are looking forward to an exciting season. Thank you to the parents who are planning on driving our boys to our games - we cannot have a team without you!



Junior Girls Volleyball

Congratulations to the following girls who have made the Connaught Girls Volleyball Team:

Aya Al Bayed	Alicia Miller
Sooma Mohammadi	Gina Park
Nicole Collicutt	Kylene Unger
Emily Kesson	Nikki Smoke
Yasmin Hakam	Diala Farajat
Allyssah Martel	Julie Pak
Payton Smith	

Best of luck throughout your season! Thank you to Mrs. Zimmerman, Miss Moore and Gary Splonick for their coaching!

Cross Country

Our 2009 Cross Country Team had a great fall season. Our athletes participated in two races at Burgoyne Woods. Connaught was definitely one of the largest teams at the races. We had some excellent results at the meet, and many of our athletes improved their placing from the first race to the second race. We had four athletes (Ashley Davidson, Dante Young, Payton Smith, and Mohamed Esseri) qualify to represent Connaught at the D.S.B.N. Cross Country Championship Meet, all four athletes finished the race in the top third of their age group ... a significant accomplishment as those races represented the best of the best in cross country running. We also had several runners participate in an invitational Cross Country Meet at Wheatley Private School. Overall, a terrific season by our runners!! The team was made up of:

Stella Urquhart	C.J. Bartlett
Tori Kinnaird	Sean Chikanda
Chenoor Irandost	Dante Young
Payton Smith	Mohamed Esseri
Madison Green	Zachary Everard
Molly Fidler-Rosts	Wyatt Jolicoeur
Amna Memon	Jaydyn Stark
Faith Temple	Henri Couture
Keesha Sabate	Billy Latour
Mackenzie Irwin	Elkanah Syatoroka
Breanna Smith	John Van Dyk
Josh Hawman	Emily Ruelland
Ashlee Davidson-Miller	



Student of the Month – September

Congratulations go out to the following students for being selected as September's Students of the Month. All winners will receive a certificate and voucher for a free dinner at The Mandarin.



Mr. Horton (am) – Haydn Johnson
Mr. Horton (pm) – Madeline Hatrick
Miss Watson – Chris Cameron, Brody Krause
Mrs. Garner – Cole Armstrong, Emily M
Mrs. Taylor – Dale Setford, William Davies
Mr. French – Ali Najem
Mrs. Tebbutt – Faith Temple, Cody Crumb
Mr. Devlin – Yoon Hur, Calleena Kokoski
Mr. Campbell – Kylene Unger, Tara Groat
Mr. Pysar – Derek Savage, Jose Campos
Mrs. Zimmerman – Alicia Miller, Zachary Fraser Cross
Mr. Young – Emily Ruelland, Darien Prescott
Mrs. Atack – Megan Podwinski, Mackenzie Peacock, Maryam Memon
Mrs. Pennington/Mrs. Olsen – Tara Groat
Mme Jinks – Kayla Bednarz, Nuhash Badruzzaman
Mr. Liipere – Chenoor Irandost
Mrs. Bowman – Rajai Okal

Trait of the Month - Cooperation



November's character trait is COOPERATION. All classrooms will be addressing this important virtue throughout the entire month. Just what is it???

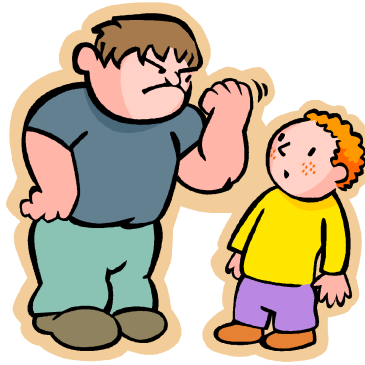
- Co-operation is about being part of community of which you are an important member.
- Co-operation is about having your voice be heard.
- Co-operation is about sharing your knowledge with others once you have learned.

What Can Parents Do About Bullying...?

From Your School's Youth Counsellor

Whether our kids recognize it or not, we as parents have the most impact on our children as they grow into adults. The goal is to guide them to be confident and independent adults who find success and meaning in their lives and can deal with the ups and downs that life sends us. The following "tips" are meant to help you support and guide your child.

1. If you think your child is being bullied ask them - many children won't volunteer this information and need us as the adults to take the initiative.
2. Contact the teacher and share what you know. Stay calm, knowing that your child's teacher wants to help.
3. Please **DON'T** - confront the bully, **DON'T** - tell your child to fight, **DON'T** - blame your child, **DON'T** promise to keep the bullying a secret. **DO** - tell your child you are glad they told you and you are going to help.
4. Role play bully resistant skills with your child. Ex. - look people in the eyes - stay calm - walk with others.
5. Is there a behaviour your child needs to change...? Watch how your child interacts with others and ask for suggestions from other caring adults.
6. Give your child permission to blow off steam around you and state opinions that are different from yours. This gives them practice and then confidence to stand up to a bully and then, they are more likely to do this if need be.
7. You are your child's most important and valuable teacher. Discipline at home should be consistent, fair, respectful and age appropriate.



OTHER RESOURCES:

"The Bully, the Bullied and the Bystander"
by Barbara Coloroso

"Bullying - Deal with It Before Push Comes To Shove" by Elaine Slavens

WEBSITES: Family.com, Bullying.org,
Cyberbullying.ca, kidscape.com
KIDS HELP PHONE - 1-800-668-6868 OR
kidshelpphone.ca

For more Parenting information you can reach Leanne Hasenack - DSBN Youth Counsellor at your child's school.

Reminders from the Office

Please talk with your child in the morning or the night before about arrangements for end of day plans to pick up, walk home or rides due to sport team school games. This will help to reduce the number of phone calls and messages in our very busy office.

When paying for school trips, pizza day etc... please try and have the exact change as we are not always able to make change at the office.

Parents are reminded to avoid parking in the circle in front of the school at all times, especially near arrival and dismissal times. Our buses are on a tight schedule and cannot afford to be held up by an illegally parked vehicle.



Reading with Your Child

Make Reading a Priority. Let your child know how important it is to read regularly. Establish a regular time and place for reading.

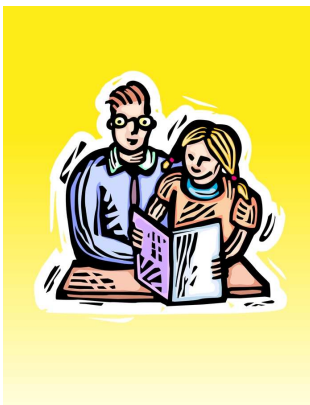
Read to Your Child. Make time to read to your child on a regular basis. It is a great way to help develop a love of learning.

Ask Your Child to Read to You. Have your child read aloud to you.

Keep Reading Material Close By. Make sure children's books and magazines are easily accessible. Keep a basket of books in the family room, kitchen, or your child's bedroom to encourage him or her to read more often.

Visit the Library. Make visits to the library a regular activity and let your children select their own books.

Be a Reading Role Model. Read. Let your child see you read and hear you talk about your books.



Scholastic Book Fair

Our first Scholastic Book Fair will take place during the week of November 3rd to 6th. Students can purchase items from a wide selection of books and supplies. All proceeds will go towards the purchase of more resources for our school library.

What tips can I use to help my child with Math?



Be positive about math!

Let your child know that **everyone** can learn math.

Let your child know that **you** think math is important and fun.

Point out the ways in which different family members use math in their jobs.

Be positive about your own math abilities.

Try to avoid saying "I was never good at math" or "I never liked math".

Encourage your child to be persistent if a problem seems difficult.

Praise your child when he or she makes an effort, and share in the excitement when he or she solves a problem or understands something for the first time.

School Sportswear



A variety of school clothing items is available early in November for purchasing. Parents are welcome to come after school on November 5 for sizing. Contact the office for more details.