



LINCOLN CENTENNIAL

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Highlights from the School Growth Plan

Character Education

Character education is an important aspect of elementary education at Lincoln Centennial. Lincoln Centennial's 2009/2010 plan incorporates the four agreements from the Tribes program and all students and staff will be working to better develop the skills of attentive listening, appreciation, participation and mutual respect, which are key elements of the TRIBES program used at the school. Every classroom has developed their own four agreements chart and Mr Lemon's class will be to placing our agreements in the halls.

This year we will pay special attention to the following character traits; respect, responsibility, integrity, caring, optimism, perseverance, courage and cooperation. Each month a trait will be recognized by a class and celebrated in a monthly assembly. This year the students from each class that are recognized will have an opportunity to win a pair of Ice Dog tickets thanks to the support of Governor Simcoe High School. Parents are always welcome at our assemblies. Our October Assembly is on Thursday, October 29th at 9:45 am.

An exciting component of our character education growth plan this year is the recognition of multi-cultural celebrations built into our plan. This year's plan formalizes the long established tradition at Lincoln of embracing the richness and diversity of our students and parents. Please check out the front door bulletin board which provides a wonderful global visual of this diversity. Thanks to our devoted ESL team of Mrs. Spagnuolo and Mrs. Bishop for their efforts on this.

To further support this part of our plan we have initiated an effort to recognize and educate the student body and staff in respect to the special cultural/religious days observed by our students. Our SWIS worker Baria Nasser offered to do a series of informative sessions for grades 3 to 6 on the Muslim holy month of Ramadan and of the special celebration of Eid. Teachers mentioned how the students they have in their class who observe these traditions literally beamed with pride during the discussions and joyfully described their personal connections to this special time in the Muslim calendar. Stories like this help us to confirm the importance of this direction, so look for more efforts of this kind over the course of the year.

Welcome to Mrs. Higgins

Last week, our kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Parravicino received the news that she had been given a permanent contract job teaching kindergarten in the afternoons at Maywood Public School. We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Kim Higgins to our staff. She will be teaching our afternoon junior/senior kindergarten class and is a familiar face in our building as she supply teaches for us on a regular basis. Please join us in welcoming her to the Lincoln Centennial team.

Birthday Book Program

Our Birthday Book program is up and running once again. On each child's birthday (or as close as possible), they are able to choose one book as a gift from the school. This program is made available to our students as a result of the many children participating in our Scholastic Book Club program. We use the bonus points from this to purchase the books for our students. Our Birthday Book program allows each child to receive a special book from our school.

Breakfast and Snack Programs

Our Breakfast Program will begin on Wednesday, October 14 and will run Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. This year, we are asking each child to bring a quarter with them each morning they come for breakfast to donate towards the breakfast program. The snack program will begin the same week and will run everyday at 10:25 for the primary students and 10:45 for the junior students.

Parenting and Family Literacy Centre

Our Parenting and Family Literacy Centre is now in full swing. Marlene Rufh-Recasens, our early years coach is so excited that so many of our families have been accessing the centre. But it is not for the Lincoln Centennial families alone. If you have friends or family with children between the ages of 0-6, then be sure to tell them about the centre. It is open every weekday from 8:45am - 12:45pm and provides snack as well as tea and coffee for the caregivers everyday. We look forward to seeing you there in the next few weeks.

Marlene Rufh-Recasens is a certified Early Childhood Educator and a registered member of the College of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario. She is certified Infant Massage Instructor and enjoys teaching Children's and Pre-natal Yoga at the Bodhi Wellness and Yoga Centre. Presently, she has completed the Resource Teacher Early Interventionalist diploma at Seneca College. Over the years she has worked with FACS, taught at Niagara College and worked with the Ontario Early Years Centre of Erie-Lincoln. Most recently, she worked with the Niagara Region Children's Services Child Care Centres and with Public Health as an Infant Child Development Therapist. When she relocated from Montreal to St. Catharines 18-years ago, she relied on the families and staff at Power Glen Public School to help with the transition and during that time she was an active parent volunteer until her 2-children completed their primary education.

"I am truly enjoying working with the team at Lincoln Centennial and the families who are and will be participating at the Parent Family Literacy Centre. "

Marlene Rufh-Recasens

Terry Fox Run

The Terry Fox Run was once again very successful as we raised over \$200.00 for cancer research. Students spent time learning about the life of and sacrifices made by Terry Fox in his desire to help others with the same condition. Two guest speakers also came to inspire our students. A great big thank you to Miss Rybiak and Mr. Lemon for making this such a successful event.

Character Focus for October

Our character focus this month is **responsibility**. It is essential to teach our children the importance of being someone who others can count on. As we focus on being responsible and what that looks like, please take time to reinforce this in your homes throughout the month.

Friday, October 9 - P.A.Day

Please note that **Friday, October 9, 2009 is a Professional Development Day** for the District School Board of Niagara. That means that there are no classes for the students. Teachers will be engaged in a session focused on analyzing our EQAO results from the previous year. Also, **Monday, October 12 is Thanksgiving Monday** and there is no school this day either. The result is a four day weekend for your children. We hope you enjoy your time!!

H1N1 Update from Public Health

As we settle into the 2009/10 school year, we thought it important that we provide you with an H1N1 update as it pertains to your child's health and safety while at school.

Niagara Region Public Health has commended the District School Board of Niagara for the proactive measures that have been implemented in our schools to minimize the impact of flu like illnesses such as H1N1. *These programs include:*

1. A comprehensive Germ Prevention Control Program launched in every school in 2008. This program helps to minimize the spread of germs through prevention programs such as environmental cleaning and disinfecting and installation of hand sanitizer stations in our schools
2. Providing hand sanitizers to every classroom, supported with instruction for proper use
3. The teaching of proper sneeze and cough etiquette techniques

We are also pleased to tell you that we will be launching our "Clean Hands Champion" program in the coming weeks. Students will be rewarded for practicing proper handwashing and hand sanitizing techniques, and receive stickers from their teacher showing that they are a "Clean Hands Champion". We hope that this will be a fun way to reinforce proper handwashing, and help to minimize the spread of germs at the same time.

At this time, students should continue to come to school unless ***they experience flu symptoms***. Signs and symptoms of the H1N1 virus are similar to those of seasonal flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headaches, chills, and fatigue. If you suspect your child has the flu, contact your health care provider and the school immediately.

The health and safety of the students at our school is of utmost importance; we look forward to having a successful and healthy 2009/10 school year.

All Star Reading Program

We will again be running our All Star Reading Program for Term 1 following the Thanksgiving Weekend. We currently have 10 volunteers who will be working with 12 students from grades 3-6. The students who were chosen for this program have been notified and we will be adding to the list of names as we get additional volunteers. Consider donating an hour a week to read to a few students if you can fit it into your weekly routine. A great big thank you goes out to Mrs. Rimmington for organizing this great program for us.

October 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1	2
5 Soccer game @ Prince Philip	6	7 Magazine Fund-raiser Kick Off Cross Country Meet Soccer game @ LC	8 Grade 5/6 class to St. John's Outdoor Centre	9 PA Day! NO SCHOOL
12 Thanksgiving NO SCHOOL!	13 Soccer game @ Parnell	14 Pizza Day	15	16 Pita Lunch
19 Magazine Fund-raiser ends SAC mtg @ 6:30	20	21 Pizza Day	22	23
26 Junior Volleyball league begins	27 Grade 1/2 trip to St. John's Outdoor Centre	28 Pizza Day	29 Character Assembly at 9:45 am by gr. 4 M&M Meats Day	30 Licks Lunch Day Halloween Parade 9:45 am Movie Night 6:30 pm

Our Second **Family Celebration** evening will be on Friday, October 30. It is our third annual **Movie Night**. Students are invited to come in their pajamas with their parents. A movie for the primary students will be in one room and a different movie will be showing in the another room for the junior students. A special presentation will be done for the parents. Students must be accompanied by a parent! We look forward to seeing you there. Refreshments will be provided.

Head Lice Alert

After the summer, many students come back to school with head lice. In an effort to be pro-active, we have put together a head lice team that will be checking every students' head for lice once a month. The goal is to try to eliminate the spread of head lice within the school. If you are contacted regarding your child having head lice, please come to the school, pick up your child and perform a treatment at home. Children returning to school the next day, we be checked by office staff. Please do not be alarmed. Head lice is a natural occurrence and does not reflect poorly on you. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

Anaphylaxis/Severe Allergies

The Administrative Procedures from the District School Board of Niagara states, "It is the responsibility of the parent, guardian or student at the age of majority, to inform the principal in writing, that s/he or her/his child is at risk of anaphylaxis and to outline the expected symptoms and requested intervention of school staff." If your child is at risk of anaphylaxis, please contact Mrs. Tye right away in order that an Emergency Response Plan may be developed.

School Advisory Council Update

Our first meeting for the School Advisory Council was held on Monday, September 29, 2009. We discussed the history of the Council's work at Lincoln Centennial and held elections for various positions. Our Chair this year will be Ms. Laurie Penner. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 19 at 6:30 pm in the library. **For those of you with young children, daycare will be provided.**

Student of the Month for September

This year the student of the month awards are given for three categories Effort, Improvement and our chosen character traits for the month. The month of September's character trait was Respect and Courage as we celebrated the life of Terry Fox. The students that were given these awards are as follows:

Junior and Senior Kindergarten - Gage Villeseche-Jarvis, Katina Galanis, Ellie Warren and Cole Jensen (am class)
 - Abby Stonehouse-Mead, Adam Askandarny, Arian Aksseer and Erika Normandeau

Senior Kindergarten - Cole Spagnuolo, Solraya Haig and Lily Deveau

Grade 1/2W - Adi Soto, Juan Cardama, Danilo Lopez and Hagar Mohamed

Grade 1/2R - Bradley Newton, Carmen Burke, Nicole Cook and Jason Truong

Grade 2/3F - Brian Reeves, Belen Lee, Jadyn Deming and Aimee Hoelzner

Grade 3W - Darren Johnston, Josh Reeves and Sadie Baramikova

Grade 4 - Destiny Carrigan, Spencer Sloat, Aws Al-Jumaily and Sara Qassim

Grade 4/5 - Samantha Lambert, Devon Sinclair, Deanna Bennett and Shahzaib Hashmi

Grade 5/6 - Jonathan Gonzalez-Rivera, Mirza Kandzic, Mercedes Rolon and Neilson Truong

Grade 6 - Chelsea Bergsma, James Lord and Tianna Johnston

Special Needs - John Clark, Britney Clark, Jessie-May Unruh and Spencer Robertson

All Scholastic Book Orders are due by Thursday, October 8th. Please get your order and money in to the school before the weekend. No orders will be taken after that date.

Sports Corner

Cross Country Team

We have been pleased to see so many students participating in cross country this year. Students have been attending early morning practices to work on distance running and sprints. 11 participants were asked to represent our school at the first meet which took place on September 30th at Burgoyne Woods. Congratulations to:

Aws A.	Quintin C.	Jamie V.	Kyle L.- 6 th
Shazaib H.	Elliot C.	William S.	Allen L.- 11 th
Tati L.	Annie D.		Rachel L.- 13 th

We wish our team all the best at their next meet on October 5th!!!! Thank you to Mrs. Spagnuolo and Mrs. Butler for coaching this team and organizing their participation in the event.

Junior Co-Ed Soccer Team

Our soccer team has been off to a tremendous start. The team is composed of an equal number of boys and girls from grades 4, 5 and 6. Through real teamwork and many practices, the team won it's first game 4 to 2. Congratulations, Lions! Thanks to Miss Rybiak and Mrs. Fire for coaching the soccer team this year.

Guitar Club to Start Up Again!

Back by popular demand, the Guitar Club will restart in November. Students who have an interest in learning the guitar may come on Monday afternoons to Room 112, where we will meet from 3:15 until 4:00 p.m. Students are welcome to come with their guitars and they are asked to bring a willingness to learn and to collaborate musically.

The Parenting Place—Info from our Youth Counsellor

Parenting today is far more complex than it was years ago. As parents we need to cope with the adversity of our times and the many versions of right and wrong our children will face. This can be confusing to us as parents & to our children. In the book “How To Behave So Your Children Will, Too!” by Sal Severe, Ph. D, there are 3 promises highlighted that parents can make, and, work to live by that will help in becoming more successful in our parenting efforts.

- 1. PROMISE TO HAVE COURAGE.** . . to grow & learn with your child. Be open to and accept new ideas and change. Children spend a lot of years changing. We need to modify our parenting with these changes so that our parenting is age appropriate and fair.
- 2. PROMISE TO HAVE PATIENCE.** . . LOTS! Give your child time to change in the direction that you are trying to encourage/instill. When we try a new parenting method we need to give it a consistent try and time to have impact. Some methods can take weeks to show improvement. Our world runs fast enough as it is with cell phones, computers, 1 hour photos/dry cleaning etc. Positive and productive parenting will always take time. Something our children deserve!!
- 3. PROMISE TO PRACTICE.** . . your good intentions. Sports teams have practices for good reason. Having a child does not mean we always know what to do or how to do it. Learning new ideas/methods and getting good at using them through practice always helps.

“Increase the Peace & Keep it Green” - Leanne Hasenack - DSBN Y.C.