



## Welcome To Maple Grove

We would like to extend a very big “Welcome” to our newest “Little “ member of the Maple Grove Family. The Taylor family has grown with the addition of a baby boy, born on Sunday October 4th. Congratulations and all the best !



## Terry Fox Run Update

On September 25, the school went out and ran, ran, ran for cancer research! 1066 laps of the back field were run. That’s more that 213 km! We’re still tallying up the donations, so if you have not yet returned your forms and donations, send it in this week for sure! Thanks to everyone who ran, helped with lap-cards, and who made and organized donations! Watch the newsletter for more information soon!

### From the Office

I would like to thank everyone for making me feel so welcome here in the office. I am enjoying my time here at Maple Grove. If I haven’t had a chance to meet you as of yet, please feel free to stop in and say “Hi”.

Sue Bijakowski

### Scholastic Book Orders

Just a reminder... Scholastic Book Orders are due in to Melissa this *Thursday October 8th*.

THANKS!

Melissa



## Green Team

Green Team is off to a booming start! Thanks to Elly Jenkyns, Katie Boychuk and Andrea Bruns for offering to help on Monday mornings! Last week we had a special guest appearance by Pilar Pender-Chapman to help u know what to put in the compost bin. Today we handed out little “No Idling” tickets to each student. They are to be used when you see a car idling anywhere, so your pollution-preventing pixie will probably want to have

them handy in your vehicle. Some of them have mentioned that they can’t wait to use them to remind their parents not to idle! They’ll help you be **GREEN!**



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# What's New in Grades Three and Two

Happy October! Have you turned your furnace on yet?! Who knew we would go right from summer to what feels like early winter? With the cooler temperatures arriving students need to remember to dress appropriately. We spend at least an hour a day, outdoors, so proper outerwear will keep us warm and happy. ☺

We short weeks, this week and next, due to the PA Day and Thanksgiving. Hope you will join us for the shared lunch on Thursday. Afterwards, we will go for a hike on the Bruce Trail.

We have started working on Place Value, in Mathematics. Some of the concepts we will be working on are: estimating, counting, and writing numbers; showing numbers in different ways; using blocks to show different numbers; trading ones for tens and tens for ones; using clues and logical reasoning to identify mystery numbers; combining groups of blocks to show addition and taking away blocks to show subtraction; and recognize and extend number patterns.

Reading assessments will be completed this week. We continue to work on inferring and we will look at activating our schema, or background knowledge, when we read for meaning. As for our decoding strategies, we will look at finding little words in big words. We continue to look at ideas and conventions, when writing. The students recently completed stories about a day in the life of their shoe and have completed their version of the book, "Animals should definitely not act like people." Our focus is on providing interesting and informative details in our writing.

In Science, we continue to study Forces and Movement. This week we will look at gravity and will conduct some experiments as well as work on some problem solving, with regards to gravity.

We continue to look at the element of colour, in Art. Next week, we will be looking at a different, but interesting way to create a colour wheel.

In Drama, we are learning to recognize and demonstrate movement sequences found in our natural surrounding.

Gym at Campden will begin shortly. Please remind your child to have gym shoes on the days we have gym. It might be a good idea to keep a pair of shoes for gym at school.

Have a wonderful week and Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Melissa ☺



## From School Council

Hello everyone,

Thanks to all who attended our Annual Autumn Gathering on Sept. 22. We had an excellent turnout this year and lots of good information was shared. The snacks were good and the community connection was wonderful. Thanks again!

We have our one and only fundraising activity coming up very soon, and I am asking for your help. No, it's not selling magazines, chocolate bars, or Christmas wrap (although that last one is kind of useful). We need just a few more parents to help out on Sunday, October 11 from 9:15 to 1:15 at the Vineland Thanksgiving Craft Show (Artfest). We have the opportunity to make a good amount of money for our whole community by working the parking lot at Vineland School. So far, I have Dianne, Susan, Greg, Lucia, Fred/Paula, Art, and Basia. Many thanks to those parents! Would you please consider adding your name to the list? (Or if you've already volun-

teered but you're not on the list, drop me a line). We really, really need you. The more people we have volunteering the time, the likelier it will be that volunteers can split up the time and work a shorter shift. If you think you can squeeze in this activity, please email or call me right away so I can put you on the list. You can call me at (905) 563-0254 or email at [hewdac@vaxxine.com](mailto:hewdac@vaxxine.com).

Last, we have finalized our parent council members for this year. This year's council is Marjorie Hewitt, Tracy Mumford, Fred Couture, Art Thomas, Karen Muhl, Taina Mercuri, Nadia Stadler, and Carla Roche. I think we're going to have a great year! At our gathering on the 22nd, a few parents expressed some interest in coming onto council. I invite you (and anyone else) to come to a council meeting this year to see what it's all about. We need new people every year, so you may want to join council in the near future. Our next council meeting is this week, on Thursday Oct. 8 at 6pm at my house (3851

Aberdeen rd. Beamsville). Please call if you're interested in coming, you are more than welcome to attend.

Have a great week and a happy Thanksgiving! Marjorie



# From The Basement

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The longer I teach, the more I realize that the years fly by. Seriously. It's October already? Seriously? On top of that, it's October of 2009? WHAT?!?! Remember when dates like that seemed futuristic? If I break out into "Sunrise, Sunset", please call the authorities.

Ahem.

With a whole month behind us, we've gotten the ball rolling on things quite nicely. The fours are still adjusting a bit to the new expectations which come with the junior division, but we're certainly getting there. In Language, our 2 B Me unit is progressing nicely and will wrap up soon.

Our Science unit, *Planet Zoo*, is also moving along. We've had some very interesting discussions and have identified the elements which are essential to a healthy habitat. In the next two weeks we will discuss ways in which humans affect natural ecosystems and will begin researching endangered species as we prepare for the *Big Project* of the unit.

In Mathematics, of course, our work with data management and patterning will continue for a wee bit longer and we'll head into our focus on working with large numbers with good old place value.

In all subjects, we're really working and, in most cases, making progress with

work habits (staying focused and on-task, managing transition times) and in encouraging pride in students' work. There can be a bad habit of "get it done quickly" taking precedence over "get it done well". (Of course, for some students, we're also working on "get it done".) Encourage your child to stretch him-or herself by asking questions and prompting for quality. "have you checked that over for COPS?" "Could you explain your thinking here?" "Read this again. Is that what you really mean to say?" The trick is to not let your children con you into taking over and doing the thinking for them! Ha! Those sneaky kids!

This week, the grade four students will also spend three sessions completing the Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (C-CAT). This test helps to identify individual strengths and needs in verbal, and non-verbal, and quantitative reasoning. It is also used as the first line of screening for the part-time gifted program. The grade fives are always jealous as they all remember the fun brain-puzzle types of questions which it involves.

Remember how much the Ember Project saved you by banning all outside pencils, eraser, markers, blah, blah, blah? Hopefully that will help you to not hate me for requesting that you supply your poppet with an 8x8 scrapbook for the year's Life-

Book program. For those new to Life-Book, it's a scrapbook project in which we learn about and apply the Principles of design and, in the end, have a very cool keepsake of the year. Last year I lucked out and found a whack of them on sale and was able to provide them, but this year that wasn't the case. Grade Fives are welcome to use the "back half" of last year's Life-Book if they so choose; just be sure to send it in. (Naturally, they're welcome to start a new book just for this year.) For others, on the weekend I saw several in *Winners* and *Homesense* in the \$10 range, which is a spot cheaper than I usually have seen them at Michaels. Just don't be fooled and accidentally buy a photo album instead of an 8x8 scrapbook! (Those things can be tricky if you don't open them up.) If you end up really stuck, let me know and I'll see what I can do.

If you haven't heard from me about running a Reading Group, and were planning to do so, it may well be that your offer didn't make it into my hands or that, amidst the bustle of September, I've somehow forgotten. (if the latter is the case, I apologize.) I'd love one or two more, so drop me a line if you're able to volunteer. Of course, volunteering doesn't need to be limited to reading Groups!

Have a Wonderful week! Jerome

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## Paula's Pocket

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### Grade 4/5 French

Salut! During the next two weeks, the children will continue with l'alphabet. We will take a look at the silent 't', silent 'e', the ez (ay) sound, and the é (ay) sound. There is a test at the end of the unit, however, more information on this closer to the test.

Once the 4s and 5s have completed their mini unit on l'alphabet, I will introduce (or reintroduce), the French personal pronouns like je, il, elle, tu, vous, nous, ils, and on.

Finally, near the end of the fortnight, the children begin a unit on Mon école-my school. Bonnes deux semaines!

### Grade 2/3 Social Studies

We came across some relatively unfamiliar celebrations during the next two weeks. The 2s and 3s have a chance to examine Rosh Aashana, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, plus the Festivals of Navaratri and Dussehra. Of course, we can't forget the good old Canadian Thanksgiving! Have a wonderful fortnight!

### S/K Grade 1 Social Studies

During the first week we finish our strategizing on ways to deal with criticism and begin to look at methods of successfully tackling teasing.



### Campden Gym

Our trips to Campden gym begin Wednesday, October 14th. Please assist your children to remember shoes that have non-marking soles. Children without proper footwear will not be able to participate due to school board policies.

# News From The K/1 Class...

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In Literacy, we will continue with our focus on the Reading Star Strategy, “**Infer**”. We have been looking at wordless texts, pictures, and images from the media in order to hone our inferring skills. This Thursday, please send in an ad or two from a newspaper or magazine. We will use the ads for inferring activities and will be asking questions like, “Who is this ad meant for?” “What are the people/creatures in the ad doing?” etc.

In writing, we will be looking at “**Word Choice**”. We will read books with wonderfully descriptive language and will be looking at ways to make our writing more interesting for the reader by choosing “juicy words” during Writer’s Workshop.

## WORD WALL WORDS AND SOUNDS OF THE WEEK

For the week of :

October 5-8– **Cc, Kc** *can, will, come, take, back*

October 13-16- **Ee, Hh** *he, she, his, her, have*

October 19-23– **Rr, Mm** *my, me then, make, him*

October 26– 30– **Dd, Gg** *dog, cat, had, do ,did*

In Mathematics, we have been discovering which numbers go together to make 10. Over the next few weeks, we will continue to focus on the number 10 but will also be looking at collecting and interpreting data. We will be taking surveys and making graphs. Parents, you can help at home by asking your child informal questions to collect data at home (e.g., Let’s take a family vote... would you prefer carrots or peas with dinner?)

We had lots of fun painting like Jackson Pollock all week! If you have a chance to pop by the classroom to check out our artwork,

please do so-they turned out so well! Our artist of the month for October will be **Chris van Allsburg**. He is actually a children’s book illustrator who has written and illustrated many wonderful and highly acclaimed books such as “*The Polar express*”, “*Jumanji*”, and “*The Mysteries of Harris Burdick*”. He often uses the Pointillism technique which means that he uses many tiny dots to create the picture. This month we will try our hand at pointillism and will use some of van Allsburg’s art to practise inferring and making meaning from art.

Please sign and return the attached permission form for our trip to the Bry-Anne Farms Pumpkin Patch on Wednesday, October 21 in the afternoon. If you are interested in joining us as a volunteer, please indicate your interest on the form. Also, don’t forget our hike on the Bruce Trail this Thursday afternoon. Please dress appropriately for the weather!

Have a lovely week and a great Thanksgiving!

Sarah



# Happy Thanksgiving!

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## Lost and Found

The Lost and Found Box is very full! If everyone could take a few minutes this week to go through the Lost and Found to check if anything belongs to your child, it would be greatly appreciated. Starting on the 13th of October the Lost and Found will be emptied and taken to Community Care, every second Monday of the month. (13th is because of Thanksgiving)

Thank You!

