



Iroquois Falls Public School

**October/November 2016
Newsletter**

From the Principal's Desk:

I would like to thank all our parents and extended family members for doing your part to ensure that the start of the 2016-2017 was a smooth and successful one. It was great once again to see so many families at our Great Start Information Night and Barbecue!

I am excited about the year that lies ahead for us. A few weeks ago, all our Grade 5 and 6 students received an iPad as part of DSBONE's iPad Initiative. iPads were also placed in a 2:1 ratio in Grade 3 and 4 classes. Our goal is to develop 21st century skills such as creativity, problem solving and collaboration through the use of technology.

We are also working with our students to develop self-regulation skills so that they can successfully navigate through their learning environments, have better social relationships and experience greater academic success.

Danielle Delaurier

THE ELEMENTARY PROGRESS REPORT

On November 18th, your child will bring home their Elementary Progress Report. The purpose of the Progress Report is to share early and specific feedback on your child's development of work habits and learning skills as well as his/her progress towards achieving the curriculum standards by the end of the school year. Reporting on the Progress Report is about looking forward. The purpose is to set the course for the learning journey ahead. Based on the evidence teachers see, as well as what teachers know about learning at this grade level, the report communicates the path your child is on towards achieving the grade level expectations by the end of the year. For students who are on a modified Individual Education Program, the teacher uses those modified goals when determining whether a child is progressing well, progressing very well, or progressing with difficulty.

Progressing Very Well: In the first months of school, evidence shows that the student is demonstrating consistent progress and is on track to meet and/or surpass the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

Progressing Well: In the first months of school, evidence shows that the student is demonstrating consistent progress and is on track to meet the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

Progressing With Difficulty: In the first months of school, evidence shows that the student is experiencing difficulty towards meeting the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

For areas in which your child is Progressing with Difficulty, the teacher will discuss specific next steps needed for success. We look forward to partnering with you and your child for a year of great learning and growth.



PARENT INTERVIEWS

Parent interviews will be held on Tuesday, November 22nd from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. We will be sending home more information regarding this next week with a form to return to the school to request a time for an interview. We encourage all parents to come and discuss their child's progress with their teacher.



EQAO MESSAGE

In May 2016, the students in Grade 3 and 6 completed a provincial assessment in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics. This assessment is known as EQAO. There are many different ways of measuring student achievement and the EQAO assessment is just one of them. The assessment is based directly on the reading, writing and mathematics expectations of The Ontario Curriculum. If your child wrote the test last May, results were forwarded to you the last week of September. For more information, you can visit www.egao.com.

Mrs. Trottier, the Child and Youth Worker is presently offering the following programs to our students to promote well-being in our schools.

TUCKER THE TURTLE

All JK/SK students will be participating in Tucker the Turtle program. Through a scripted story, young children learn techniques to manage their feelings and calm themselves when they get angry or upset.



LET'S LEARN ABOUT STRESS

All Grade 4-5 students will be participating in the Let's Learn About Stress program. Even the most nurturing school and home environment can't completely protect children from a range of every day stressors that can be both challenging and motivating. While stress is a necessary part of development and learning, building emotional health and resiliency can help students deal with this important issue. This program will address the topic of stress with students in a way that is developmentally appropriate and validated by Canadian child psychologists, educators and parents.

KIDS HAVE STRESS TOO!

All Grade 1 students will participate in this program which teaches them that stress is a normal part of everyday life. It can help motivate us and add a positive challenge to life. However, too much stress can be overwhelming and learning to handle it is an important skill. Children will learn age-appropriate strategies that can help them relax and be resilient.



BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club is open each morning from 8:30 a.m. until 8:50 a.m. Thank you to Mme Julien and the Grade 3-6 student volunteers for serving a nutritious breakfast to our students each morning.



MILK PROGRAM

Students will now be able to purchase white milk, chocolate milk and cheese strings at snack and lunch time for a cost of \$1.00.

SNACK & LUNCH REMINDERS

A reminder to please include utensils in lunches when those are needed. As well, since we have a snack in the morning and lunch at 1:10 p.m., we recommend that students have at least 2 drinks in their snack/lunch boxes or a water bottle that can be filled at home or school.

SUBWAY LUNCHES

Subway lunches are available for students twice every month. The cost will be \$5.00 for a six inch sub and a drink. Students will be able to preorder and select the bread, meat, toppings and sauce of their choice as well as a drink.



LOCAL BIG CRUNCH

The local big crunch is a special event sponsored by the Canadian Red Cross. On Thursday, October 6th, all students crunched into a locally grown carrot and engaged in activities and conversations about healthy eating, local farming and the environment in their classrooms.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING MEETS



Twenty-one students participated in the 7th Annual Iroquois Falls Ski Cross-Country Meet on September 16th. Taylor Jacques had the best school finish in the girls' division and Seth Morin had the best finish in the boys' division. Congratulations to all the runners!

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

We are still looking for new members for the school advisory council. Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 22nd at 6:30 p.m.



TERRY FOX WALK

On Monday, Sept. 19th, we joined other schools in our community for the Terry Fox Walk. IFPS kept Terry's dream alive and raised \$972.50 for cancer research. Thank you for your pledges.



iPad Rollout

DSBONE unveiled its iPad initiative in the fall of 2015. This fall, in the second phase of this project, the board rollout iPads to all Grade 5 and 6 students and iPads were placed at a 2:1 ratio in the Grade 3 and 4 classes. iPads provide students with another way to access information whether it is text, images, audio, or video. Through various applications available on their iPad, students can show their learning by creating rich multimedia projects and they can share their thinking and work through Apps such as Explain Everything. Technology enables them to combine video, audio, and images, thus adding a layer of complexity and creativity to their work. Teachers and students are also using technology to provide feedback on their work so that it can be revised and refined. Through the use of technology, students are developing 21st century skills such as collaboration, creativity and problem solving.

Book Fair

Our annual Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for November 22nd to November 25th. The fair will be open to parents in the school library during the following times:

Tuesday, November 22nd from 10:00 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Wednesday, November 23rd from 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 24th from 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 25th from 10:00 a.m. – noon

Students who bring money for the book fair will also be given the opportunity to go down with their class to purchase books.

NICKELS FOR FUEL

For the month of November, we are participating in Access Transit's *Nickels for Fuel Fundraiser*. *Students are encouraged to bring nickels to fill the jars in their classroom to raise money for fuel for the Access Transit Bus.*

POPPIES

The Royal Canadian Legion has provided poppies for all students. These will be distributed on Remembrance Day. All donations made by parents and students will be forwarded to the local Legion Branch.



A REMINDER TO VISIT THE IFPS FACEBOOK PAGE FOR INFORMATION ON EVENTS HAPPENING AT IFPS

NOVEMBER EVENTS:

- Nov. 7th - Professional Development Day
- Nov. 11th - Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph & Assembly
- Nov. 14th-18th - Bowlful of Cereal Campaign
- Nov. 17th - Retakes
- Nov. 18th - Progress Reports
- Nov. 22nd - Parent Interviews - 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Nov. 22nd - 25th - Book Fair
- Nov. 23rd - Volleyball Clinic for Grade 5 & 6 students

