



LISGAR NEWS

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Mr. B. MacGregor, Principal
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February 2010

From the Principal's Desk...

February is a month for **CARING**. By now, parents would have recognized the work being done by staff and students on Character Education. During our PRIDE TIME, from 8:25 – 8:55 each morning students are either engaged in DPA activities or they are focused on activities emphasizing the six character traits - caring, cooperative, honesty, inclusive, respectful and responsible. Demonstrating their sense of caring, the Heritage Club working with the Student Voice raised close to \$1,700 for the Haiti relief fund.

This is the time of year when parents need to be reminded to pay close attention to the road conditions on Lisgar Drive and on our school driveway. Please use extreme caution when road conditions are slippery. We will attempt to have the driveway, parking lot and all walkways salted when necessary but everyone needs to approach the school with caution during these winter months.

The Recycling Raptors, in conjunction with a member of Provincial Parliament, will be conducting a new, home hazardous waste recycling pilot project, based on the work we have been doing in our **Red Box Recycling Initiative**, to divert more hazardous waste from our garbage stream. If you would like to participate, on a first-come-first-served basis, and receive a Red Box for your home, please call and register your name and address, as soon as possible. The project is designed to recycle such things as dead batteries, cell phones, mini florescent bulbs, paint cans, aerosol cans, and will last for a period of six months. More information will be sent to those of you who choose to register for the project. Please call and ask for Mrs. Elliot in order to register your household. A limited number of families will be accepted.

Finally, I feel it is important to mention to our partners in education, our parents, that on days when the Board cancels school busses, teachers continue to offer classroom program despite the drop in student attendance. We have approximately 140 students who take the school bus each day, many of those students find alternate means to get to school when their busses are cancelled. Please encourage your child to attend school even on days when busses are cancelled. Whether students walk by foot or arrive by car, we will continue to offer a meaningful learning experience for all students.

Attendance Line 905-785-0108 – available 24

GUIDANCE

GRADE 8 GRADUATION

Please mark your calendars for Monday, June 28, 2010 for the grade 8 graduation. It will be held at Sagan Banquet Hall located at 7180 Edwards Blvd. (Derry Road and Hurontario). There will be a cost for this event of \$25 per student. Clothing for this event should not be extravagant or expensive. Boys are encouraged to wear a dress shirt and dress pants; girls are encouraged to wear a simple dress. More information about this exciting event will be sent home.

GRADE 7 CAREER DAY

A career day is being planned for grade 7 students on Thursday April 8th, 2010. If you are interested in speaking to a group of grade 7 students on your career, please contact Mr. Jaworski at 905-785-0105 ext. 606.

GRADE 8 JOB SHADOWING DAY

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, April 8th, 2010. Once again this year our grade 8 students will have the opportunity to develop their awareness of the world of work with a first hand job experience. Please start planning for this exciting day of learning outside the classroom. Keeping in mind the age of the students and safety issues, we encourage our grade 8's to "shadow" a parent or family member in the work place. More information will be sent home with your child.

GRADE 6 NEWS

An update on some Parent Information nights for our grade 6 students and parents:

- Allan A. Martin International Business and Technology Program has an Open House on February 10th and 17th at 7 p.m. More information about this program can be obtained through the Guidance office.
- The Arts program at Queen Elizabeth Sr. P.S. in Mississauga, had an Open House January 27th at 7 p.m. The application deadline is February 19th.
- The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program at W.G. Davis Sr. Public School had their Open House on January 28th. Application deadline is March 3, 2010.
- Please see Mr. Jaworski for further information regarding these programs.

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Grade 9 option sheets for Meadowvale S.S. have been distributed to students and parents and have now been sent to Meadowvale to complete the registration process. Parents will receive a confirmation of course selections in the Spring. Please inform your child's Homeroom teacher or Guidance if the secondary school destination changes, or if you are moving out of our area.

GUIDANCE RELATED SPEAKERS AND PERFORMANCES

On February 3rd we have Joel Hilchey present an assembly to all our students. Joel uses humour and interactive examples to get his message across. The message is about connecting with integrity and appreciating the diversity of people's interests. Joel wants students to go from ACTing locally to InterACTing globally and letting their genuine character shine. Joel uses humour, interactive examples and thought-provoking applications to help get his message across. The presentation is supported in part by monies from the Student Activity Fee budget.

Covenant House will be presenting their Before You Run, Runaway Prevention Program to our grade 8 students on Tuesday, February 16th. Covenant House is a national leader in youth homelessness issues. Their facilitators lead an honest and open discussion about the issues youth face, such as family problems and bullying. They offer students a realistic look at street life and advice on how they can make better choices. This is a make up date for the cancelled session in November.

On February 18th Junior Achievement will be talking to our Grade 7's about their Diversity in Action program. This is a fun and interactive full day activity. This hands-on program uses trained volunteer business professionals to allow students to explore the value of diversity and how it contributes to improving morale, creativity, teamwork and productivity, today in school and tomorrow in their future workplaces.

CANADIAN RED CROSS BABYSITTING COURSE

We have the opportunity for our students to participate in a Canadian Red Cross Babysitting Course. This fun filled workshop is offered as an after school program for 5 weeks on either Tuesday or Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. starting in either February or March. Both workshops are full.

Paul Jaworski

FEBRUARY 2 TOONIE TUESDAY

Along with approximately 30 other Peel elementary and secondary schools Lisgar is participating in a fundraiser to support the Stephen Lewis Foundation through an initiative called SOAR (Students Helping Orphans In Africa With Relief) on February 2. All students are being challenged to donate a toonie (or more) on Tuesday, February 2 and the school with the highest percentage of students who participated will have the privilege of having Mr. Lewis himself come speak to the student body! The needs are great and the Lisgar students have the opportunity to make a difference in other children's lives.

“The money you raise will help make life bearable for many orphaned boys and girls in Africa. I have visited many elementary schools in Africa: they can hardly believe that school students in Canada are concerned about them. It brings them joy; it brings them hope.”

Stephen Lewis, Chair Stephen Lewis Foundation

RESPECTFUL

CARING

CHARACTER EDUCATION AT LISGAR

In October this school year the Lisgar's Character Education Committee met to plan this year's character education program for Lisgar. We were enthused with the idea of all Lisgar Lions showing "**Character in Action**".

Using the character education traits chosen as Peel Board's focus traits we decided to divide the implementation of our character education program into 3 phases. In Phase 1 teachers and students explored the traits using pictures books, drama and other strategies. 6I students, for example, discussed different ways to be **inclusive** after watching a Peel TV video entitled "Apples and Oranges".

In Phase 2, classes are encouraged to chose action projects that allow students to demonstrate "character in action". Here are some examples: In December, while exploring the **caring** trait, 7D collected toys and books to donate to a local organization affiliated with the Salvation Army. Students in 8H created an uplifting mural to donate to an institution while in 8A, students are demonstrating **responsibility** as each child prepares an activity of their choice to lead the class in during homeroom time. 7E students are committing random acts of kindness and are challenging others in the school to do so.

In Phase 3 of this year's character education program, we look forward to sharing **Character In Action** activities during grade level assemblies near the end of the year.

Way to go LIONS! We are developing caring and respectful citizens for tomorrow.

RESPONSIBLE

COOPERATIVE

INCLUSIVE

HONEST