



Friday, October 22, 2010

Newsletter #2

Principal: Megan Egerton
Office Administrator: Janet Veale
Office Assistant: Lynda Larkin
Chief Custodian: Doug Chapman

Safe Arrival Line: 722-4474
Council Co-Chairs: Pam Dillworth-Christie / David Fortier
Trustee: Jennifer McKenzie
School Web Site: www.churchillalternative.ocdsb.ca

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Fall is now firmly upon us and classroom routines are now established and relationships are being formed and/or solidified. As I walk around our wonderful school I am stunned by the work, co-operation and team building that happens each day. I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff, students and parents for their dedication and commitment to students and student learning. It is inspiring.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first few months at Churchill and look forward to learning and growing along with your children.

Please do not hesitate to stop in, email or call if you have any questions or concerns or would just like to say hello.

Happy Fall!

Megan
Megan.egerton@ocdsb.ca



SCHOOLYARD

Just a reminder that the school yard is booked from 3pm onwards (daylight savings is November 7th) by our daycare. We appreciate your support in clearing the yard promptly at 3pm. We would also ask that you speak with your children about leaving the yard quickly after school if they are without supervision. All children without supervision are expected to be off the yard directly after school.

WELCOME

Welcome to Bob Terrade and Heather Sommerville – Bob will be taking on the morning portion of support for the next few months and Heather Sommerville is joining us as a permanent staff member in the mornings as an educational assistant. We are fortunate to have them both joining the Churchill team!

THE SNOWSUIT FUND

It's that time of year once again to clean out your closets of all those too small snowsuits! My?! Have the children grown fast! What should you do with those GENTLY WORN snowsuits you ask? Well, bring them on in to Churchill and we'll gladly donate them to THE SNOWSUIT FUND which for the last 25 years the schools in the Ottawa area have been supporting. We will also accept winter boots, hats and mitts.

Collection will start on **OCTOBER 25**
and end on **NOVEMBER 12TH**.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
THE SNOWSUIT FUND!

LUNCH MONITOR PROGRAM

We are off to a grand start to The Lunch Monitor Program this year! All grade 5 and 6 students participate in the program. We feel it's a great growing opportunity for our students to learn leadership skills, help out in our community and a great opportunity for the younger children to get to know the older children and visa versa.

Thank you to our entire grade 5 and 6's for making this program so successful!

KIDS COUNCIL

In an effort to create a louder student voice, students will be meeting with the Principal once a month (there will be a minimum of one representative from each class, each month). This is an opportunity for students to share concerns, ask questions, give feedback or input and be a vocal member of our school. Megan will be bringing a report to school council each month on their behalf.

TERRY FOX RUN

Our Terry Fox Run was another huge success. A big thank-you to Russell for being the co-ordinator of this. We are continuing to get money sent in and will have a total for the next newsletter for information about how much we raised.

IEP'S

Individual Education Plans have now gone out to parents for their signature – please check your child's bag or backpack to ensure you receive the information. We are asking that you sign and return them as soon as possible. If you have questions or concerns about your child's IEP or program please contact Lynn at the school.

FOOD BANK DRIVE

Starting in the last week of November we will be asking students to bring in their food donations. The idea is that we also engage our community by sending out a challenge to them... For every Kg of food brought in to the school, please donate a dollar. Our goal is to have many of our local businesses and community members also contributing to our Westboro Food Bank. A 'challenge letter' will be available in the first week of November so if you feel as though your business or company could be a part of the challenge please feel free to let Megan know and she will send one out to you.

Looking for Volunteers to Support and Implement! Playground Activity Leaders in Schools (PALS)

Being active is good for children and recess allows time for this. But, many children don't play at recess because they don't have sport skills or fear bullies. PALS is a program that allows all children to play. The aim of the program is to:

- Get kids active.
- Reduce conflict.
- Build peer leaders.



Public Health Nurses work with schools to offer this program.

Students in grades four to six are trained to become peer leaders and lead safe and fun games during recess. Inquire if your school has PALS and how you can get involved.

To find out more go to ottawa.ca/health or call Ottawa Public Health at 613-580-6744 to speak with a nurse.

CASC NEWS

CASC Meeting Highlights

The **October 21** meeting was very busy and well attended. CASC positions for 2010-11 were elected. Various committees have had meetings over the past month and committee chairs presented their plans for the year to CASC. The principal, Megan Egerton, gave her report as did Heather Gilman as the teacher representative. The budget for the year was presented by the Treasurer. It was decided that any outstanding items would be moved to the **next meeting on November 9, 2010 at 7 pm** in the Staff Room at Churchill Alternative School.

For more detailed information and minutes of the meeting please go to www.churchillnews.ca.

Elected Positions:

Co-Chairs	Pam Christie-Dilworth – dilchrist@rogers.com David Fortier – david@pipanimation.com
Treasurers	Wendy Boland – wendowski22@rogers.com Donna Welden – dwelden@istar.ca
Secretaries	Sara Purdon – sara.purdon@gmail.com Janet Sheehan – janetandbrad@sympatico.ca Connie Downes

Volunteer committees:

Active & Safe Routes

Wallace Beaton - wbeaton2@sympatico.ca

Michael Richardson - mcr@sandelman.ca

Staff Rep: Heather Crysdale

Arts Committee

Donna Weldon - dwelden@istar.ca

Petra Bokowski - petra@bokowski.de

Staff Rep: Sharon Hickey-Sano

Communication

Sara Purdon - sara.purdon@gmail.com

Janet Sheehan - janetandbrad@sympatico.ca

Community Events

Pam Dilworth-Christie - dilchrist@rogers.com

Dave Fortier - david@pipanimation.com

Education Committee

Dan MacKinnon - dmackinnon1@gmail.com

Staff Rep: TBA

Fundraising Committee

Colin Sparks - Colin.Sparks@pch.gc.ca

Staff Rep: Megan Egerton

Lice Check

TBA

Staff Rep: Megan Egerton

Playground & Outdoor Classroom Committee

Maria Hunter - maria.hunter@ocdsb.ca

Staff Rep: TBA

Sports Committee

TBA

Staff Rep: Russell McLelland

Family Literacy Café

Parents, please join us for a "**Fall Family Literacy Café**" on Tuesday October 26 from 6:30pm to 9:00pm at Churchill Alternative School.

We will be having a "stories and felting" workshop where we will be learning interesting techniques for sharing stories through arts and crafts. We will also be discussing family literacy, and planning our next "Churchill Family Literacy Night."

Pay what you can donation of \$5.00 suggested

Please email Becky Cronin beckymike@rogers.com to sign up for the workshop.

Active & Safe Routes to School Committee

Changes to Safe Driving & Drop-Off Plan: Some of you will have noticed some new no-stopping restrictions around the school. The most significant changes are on Ravenhill between Edison & Melbourne. They were requested by the committee and the principal to further reduce two-way traffic on this narrow street and the number of children dashing across it mid-block as well as to cut the number of cars blocking the staff parking lot and a private driveway. As always, these changes are designed to increase safety for all children attending our school. Your cooperation and understanding is very much appreciated. For a copy of the updated plan to: www.churchillnews.ca/story/driving-plan.

School Travel Plan: Remember that travel survey you filled out last spring? They are part of our work to create a School Travel Plan that not only encourages active and safe routes to our school but helps to make those routes better. Our draft action plan is nearly complete and we will circulate for feedback shortly. Stay tuned!

Churchill Bookmarks

Since October is **Family Literacy Month** we thought we would ask students what they are reading or having read to them. Here is what we discovered!

Isabella Crysler (Grade 4) recommends **Savvy** by Ingrid Law
Eamon Charles (SK) **The Penderwicks** by Jeanne Birdsall
Evan Tavner (Grade 4) recommends **Amulet** by Kazu Kibuishi
Emma Christie (Grade 6) **The Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins, **Gone**, by Micheal Grant
Gabriel Clark (Grade 4) **The Red Pyramid** by Rick Riordan
Julianna and Fiona Haugen (Grade 3) **Geronimo Stilton** series
Lewis Charles (JK) **How to Catch a Star** by Oliver Jeffers, **Cat Balloon** by Palo Morgan

Interested in a book club for your child? Try the Carlingwood Branch of the Ottawa Public Library **Books for Fun** program Ages 7-8 or **The Page Turners** for Ages 9-12. Call 613-725-2449 Ext 25 or go to www.bibliootawalibrary.ca

Tasty Tidbits

Each month we are going to feature a Churchill community recipe – send us your favorite!

Pumpkin Bread - Recipe provided by Amelia & Brendan's Mom

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 2 tsp. Nutmeg
- 3 cups sugar
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups of fresh pumpkin --> 16 ounces if using canned pumpkin
- 2/3 cup water --> if pumpkin is canned
- 1/2 cup water --> if pumpkin is fresh or frozen
- 1 cup vegetable oil

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350 F. Combine flour, soda, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg and sugar in large mixing bowl. Add eggs, water, oil and pumpkin. Stir until blended. Mix well. Pour into two 9x5" loaf pans. Bake 1 hour. Cool slightly and take out of pans to let cool on a rack. This tastes best if you wrap, refrigerate and wait a day to eat it. It keeps well in the refrigerator and can be frozen. Makes 2 loaves.

Volunteer Roundup – list of volunteer opportunities in the school

Volunteer at the Churchill Library!! - The Library is looking for volunteers on Mondays or Wednesdays!!! Help shelve books, assist children when they come in for library period, help teachers find books or work in circulation. Spend an hour or half a day. Times are flexible and free training is offered! Call Bob at 613-724-4880 or email at gurduloo@sympatico.ca.

Craft Fair - November 27th – There are MANY volunteer opportunities both before, during and after the craft fair. Please contact Maureen @ kmclarke@primus.ca if you are interested in volunteering.

Tie-Dye Shirt Day! - November 5th - Please contact Melanie @ melanie.burston@sympatico.ca if you are interested in volunteering.

House Keeping

NOTICE TO PARENTS: When completing cheques to send into the school, please review the appropriate forms to ensure you are making the cheques payable to the appropriate funds ie: Churchill Alternative School vs CASC vs Milk Fund. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated, thanks!