Forest Hill Public School
Newsletter

Be The Change You Want To See!

Phone # 578-5480 Fax # 578-5460
Attendance # 519-570-8081 ext. 3294 #

An Award Winning Gold EcoSchool since 2009

Principal: P. Berndt **Vice-Principal: B. Hughes** **November/December 2015**

Forest Hill Takes Time to Remember

At 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 11th, staff and students assembled in the gym to mark Remembrance Day. Thank you to the students of Mrs. Fay's grade 6 class and Mrs. Burjoski's ABLE class for their leadership at our Remembrance Day assembly. Through their roles as M.C.s and participants in a number of dramatic readings, they guided students and staff with thoughts on who we remember, why we remember, and how to honour that memory by continuing to work for peace in our daily lives. The Junior Choir performed Pete Seeger's well-known "Where Have All The Flowers Gone?", as well as a moving musical rendition of "In Flanders Fields" to honour the 100 years since John McCrae penned this poem in 1915. Mrs. McKay once again made this all come together so successfully with some amazing vision and leadership. Thank you!

Come to our Holiday Book Fair!

Book Fair Hours:	
Mon. Dec. 7	9:15 – 3:45
Tues. Dec. 8	9:15 – 3:45 & before and after the Winter Concert
Wed. Dec. 9	9:15 – 3:45

Please stop by Forest Hill's Library and see what new and nifty items Scholastic has sent us. Books, posters, crafts, school supplies and cool stuff! Proceeds will pay for our 'Forest of Reading' Blue Spruce and Silver Birch books for the new year.

While you're there, enter the draw to win $25 in books for your child and $25 for your child's classroom. The winner will be announced Wednesday, Dec.9th, during morning announcements.

Students are welcome to make purchases during the day with their teacher's permission, or after school. Parents are welcome anytime during the school day and we will also be open before and after the Seasonal Concert on Dec. 8th. We take cash or major credit cards; we may have a debit machine as well.

Forest Hill Students Belong to Global Book Club

This year, at least four junior classes at Forest Hill Public School participted in the Global Read Aloud, reading a novel called Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt. The novel is about a student who cannot read, but is not brave enough to ask for help and misbehaves to avoid work. Ally feels stupid and wants to be invisible. Over the course of the book, she learns that nothing is impossible if you are willing to do the work and ask for help when you can't do it alone. She also learns that learning differently does not mean you are stupid.

Our students are part of a group of over 500 000 students world-wide who participated in the 6th year of the Global Read Aloud. Some of us watched author pod-casts, listening the author read selected chapters and discuss her writing process. Some of us participated in slow chats on Twitter with other students from around the world. Some of our teachers shared lesson ideas with other teachers in our school board and around the world. Mr. Wiebe's class participated in a Google Hangout with another class and discussed the novel. Mrs. Fay's class received feedback on their "Jar of Hearts" writing activity from the author of the novel.

Reading the book helped us learn about character development and symbolism, and helped us dig into themes about the way people label us and the way we make sense of who we are.

One of our Grade 6 classes considered the "point" of the book. The students identified strong messages of not judging others, of not giving up, that everyone is smart in different ways, and of the impossible becoming possible.

Check out the display in the junior hall display case about the labels others give us and the power of words to build up and to hurt, inspired by the novel Fish in a Tree.

--Mrs. Fay

Thinking about the French Immersion Program for your child?

All parents/guardians of Senior Kindergarten children interested in Grade 1 of the Partial French Immersion Program 2016 must complete a registration form online at www.wrdsb.ca beginning at 8:00 a.m. on **Thurs. January 7, 2016.** All online registrations will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Preference will be given to School Boundary students until January 31/16. Plan on attending one of six parent information sessions provided at the board office between November 24 – December 14. For more information please see the website at www.wrdsb.ca or call 519-570-0003 ext. 4277.

Upcoming Events:

Wed. Nov. 25	Photo Retake Day
Fri. Nov. 20	Movie Night 6:30 "Home"
Tues. Dec. 1	School Council Meeting 6:30
December 7-9	Scholastic Book Fair
Tues. Dec 8	Winter Concert 6:30-8:00 pm
Fri. Dec. 19	Last day of school before holidays
Dec. 19 – Jan. 3	Christmas Break
Mon. Jan. 4	First day back after holidays
Jan. 7 – 31	Gr.1 French Immersion Registration

Attendance Check Program

Please call the attendance line (519-570-8081 ext.3294) if your child is going to be late or absent.

Please notify the school office (519-578-5480) if you change phone numbers or emergency contact information.
It is very important for us to have current information in case of an emergency and we need to get in touch with you.

Winter Weather Is Upon Us

This is not the headline we necessarily enjoy writing, but the truth of the matter is that cold, wet, snowy weather is just around the corner. Please make sure that your child is dressed accordingly with boots, mittens, a hat and a coat. **If you are in need of any of these items for your child please do not hesitate to contact the school**. We will be more than happy to help you obtain these necessary clothing items for the coming months.

Winter Weather Bus Cancellations and School Closures

As we start to enter our winter season, be aware that our school buses could be cancelled some days because of the weather. As well, NEW this year, schools will NOT automatically be closed when temperatures reach -35C or colder with wind-chill. While buses will not operate at this temperature, the decision to close schools will depend on weather and road conditions

Please tune into one of the local radio stations OR subscribe to our school's website to get firsthand information if buses are cancelled or the school is closed because of the weather.

Please Celebrate With Us on Tuesday, December 8th!

Forest Hill presents **"Celebrate The Season"** on **Tuesday, December 8th,** from **6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** Students from **grades one to six** will present seasonal songs, perform with instruments and more! Please plan to have your performers at the school by 6:15 so that they can be lined up and ready to make their stage entrance.

Once again, we will be collecting items for the Food Bank of Waterloo Region at the door. We encourage you to bring canned fruit, canned pasta, beans, and macaroni and cheese.

We hope that your family will celebrate with us from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. on December 8th!

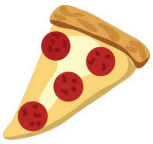
Subscribe and Win with Forest Hill!

Subscribe to our web site updates by December 17th, 2015 you could **WIN** one of four gift cards! New and current subscribers are eligible to win.

It's easy to sign up! Visit our web site at **http://fhl.wrdsb.ca** for details.

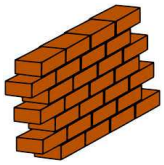
Good luck, and thank you to our generous community sponsors:

FreshCo at Laurentian Hills Plaza
Mel's Diner at Westmount & Ottawa
Giant Tiger at Forest Hill Plaza
Zehrs at Laurentian Power Centre



Pizza and Milk Sales Coming Soon!

We're making plans for pizza and milk sales to resume soon. Stay tuned for further info for our grade 1-6 classes as well as our Kindergarten friends.

Bricks for Sierra Leone

The We Team continues to work to reach our goal of building a school in Sierra Leone through our work with Free the Children. Each year at holiday time we ask families to consider supporting this initiative! In lieu of purchasing gifts for teachers and staff members at holiday time, we ask that you consider our "Buy a Brick" campaign! For a $10 donation, students can "Buy a Brick". The festive paper bricks will be displayed in the front foyer of our school with the name of the student who donated it as well as the teacher it was purchased for. We have found this to be an incredibly successful and meaningful campaign in past years! Thank you for your ongoing support!