

October 2016

Hello Families!

We have been off to an exciting start to the school year with many wonderful events already behind us. Our School Council works hard to ensure that MJ students have the best school experience possible. Throughout the year, there are many opportunities to be part of school sponsored activities; both for engagement as well as raising funds. Past funds have purchased a top of the line sound system for the gym, P.E. equipment, home-reading books, technology and inquiry tables. Funds have also covered events such as buses for class trips, the STEAM Fair and the grade six graduation ceremony. We couldn't do all of these things without your support.

We would like to take a moment to outline this year's plan. Some of our activities are for outside charities through our Free the Children We Day group and others are through School Council with funds going directly to MJ. Our "The We Day" group has 4 different events planned for this year.

If you would like to opt out of any of our fundraising activities, yet would still like to contribute to the school, there is a way! Please head to our school website: mjp.wrdsb.ca and simply click on the "Donate Online" button on the left of the site. WEFI (Waterloo Education Foundation Inc.) is an easy way to make a contribution. You are even able to leave a note to say where these funds should be used! The BEST part is that a tax receipt will be issued for your donation.

The following plan outlines our activities for the year.

- ✓ **October 3-17** – Magazine Fundraising from QSP.ca – The profit from the magazine sales will support booking guest speakers for assemblies as well as author visits. We LOVE that this fundraiser is also in support of literacy!
- ✓ **October 28** – Read-a-Thon – Free the Children – Sunshine for Haiti. Funds raised will support literacy (e-books) for Haiti.
- ✓ **October 13-14** – Annual Coat Drive – Council run event. Send in your used coats (washed would be great) – No funds raised.
- ✓ **December** – Poinsettia sales – Get ready to decorate with these beautiful seasonal plants. Funds raised will be used to purchase gifts for the Angel Tree.
- ✓ **February** – Toasty Toes. – Our Free the Children group will be collecting socks for the homeless.
- ✓ **February** – Book Fair – Funds will be used for expanding our Library book collection.
- ✓ **March** – Move-a-thon – Council run event to ensure class bus costs are covered.
- ✓ **May/June** – Dinner and a Movie Event and Basket Raffle. – Funds raised at this event will ensure School Council can continue with the various initiatives in place.
- ✓ **On-going** – Pizza Fridays and monthly Pitas – These are Council run programs and the funds raised allow us to provide "Pizza for everyone" and also to supplement the Nutrition for Learning program within our school.

There are a few 'wish list' items that will be presented to Council, and depending on funds we hope to:

- replace the Velcro on our gym mats, purchase cages for our P.E. equipment, and replace P.E. equipment
- replace all our bike racks and add scooter racks
- continue to expand our home reading collection
- replace/expand technology: data projectors, document cameras
- add to the mulch in the front of the school

Please know that taking part in any fundraiser is optional. We appreciate all the community does for the school. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school, 519-747-1620.

Kindly,

Karin Bileski
Principal

Sunnie Hallman
School Council Chair