



École C.C. Loughlin School CONNEXION

November 2011

Principal's Message: "Lest We Forget"

It has been a really busy fall here at Loughlin and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support of the many initiatives and events that have taken place here at the school. It is with parent support that we are able to offer and implement the many exciting programs, shows and co-curricular activities that make for a very rich and varied education experience for the children. Thank you!

As this is November, we will be celebrating Remembrance Day this week with ongoing activities and instruction about the celebration. Students will create a unique "school wreath" in the main corridor of the school. Each class will have an opportunity to pin poppies on that wreath. We will read *In Flanders Fields* to all of the students and have a minute of silence. Please take a moment to reflect on Remembrance Day with the children and to ask them what they've learned at school. We believe you will be impressed!

Norma Park
Principal



Phase 2 Reporting & Parent Interviews

November brings phase two of the evaluation and reporting process which will involve both a written report and a parent interview to discuss the report. Reports will go out to parents on Thursday, November 24th along with an interview time for Thursday, December 1st. In order to accommodate these interviews, all students will be dismissed at 11:15 on Thursday. These interviews will last fifteen minutes and are designed to discuss concerns the home or school may have and to set goals to work towards over the remainder of the year.

In preparation for your meeting, you are asked to go over the report with your child. Please make note of items you wish to discuss with your child's teacher during the interview.

These interviews are extremely important and all parents are asked to please attend. We also ask for your cooperation in scheduling these appointments. We will do our best but we are sure you can understand that it is just not possible to work around everyone's schedule.

*C. C. Loughlin
Christmas Craft Fair*



*November 26th
9:00 - 3:00pm*

Numeracy Day & Hallowe'en

We would like to commend and thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we adhered to our Nutrition Policy especially during Literacy Day and Halloween celebrations. Traditionally, most schools would have held fun-filled activities along with loads of non-nutritious food items. We are proud to report that our school held a 'spooktacular' day laced with fun, school spirit, positive behaviour and tons of nutritious snacks. Hats off to you!



The success of the day can largely be attributed to Ms. Hartley, Ms. Skinner, Ms. Butler, Mme Manuel, Mrs. Decker, Ms. Ayers, and Mrs. Noseworthy who put off a fantastic "Numeracy Day" for our students.

On a related note, we ask if you would consider donating some of the Hallowe'en costumes to us that your children have outgrown so that we can ensure every child does have a costume to wear next year.

Winter's on its Way

Students are reminded to dress for the cold weather. Hats, mittens, fall/winter footwear are now a necessity. Bear in mind that unless the weather is really bad, we go outside at lunchtime.

If you have some old hats and mittens, even winter coats and boots, that your child has outgrown and would like to donate them to the school, we could really use them!



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for their donations of Halloween decorations and costumes for our *Haunt for Hunger* Haunted House. This project was a success collecting donations for three programs: our breakfast program, lunch program and the food bank. Thank you as well for your food donations. This will help our school programs tremendously as *the Kids Eat Smart Foundation* matches the donations that you have sent it. A big thank you and congratulations goes to our grade six students for their hard work in making this *Haunt for Hunger* a success, to the teachers who volunteered and to our parent volunteer Trivina Saunders.

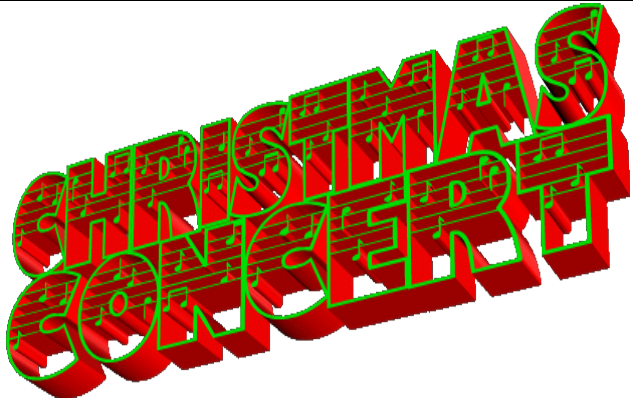
A big thank you to Mrs. Bennett and Ms. Normore for their countless hours in planning this event!

**Thank you to all for your
Halloween for Hunger
donations.
It was a great success!**

Kinderstart Session 2

There will be no classes for **Kindergartens only** on Friday, November 25th. Our Kindergarten teachers will be hosting Kinderstart sessions on that day.

All children who will be four years old by December 31st of this year are scheduled to start school next September (2012) and should now be registered for Kinderstart. If you have a child to register, please drop down to the school and take care of this as soon as possible. If you know of someone in our catchment area with a child of that age, please let them know.



Our Grades 1 and 3 Christmas Concert will be held on Thursday, December 8th beginning at 6:30. Our Kindergarten & Grade 2 Christmas Concert will be held on Monday, December 12th beginning at 6:30 pm. This year we will also be having an Elementary Choir perform a concert at All Saints Church and it will be held on December 11th at 2:00 pm.

Further information about concert ticket vouchers will be sent home with your child's first report card on November 24th. Please read and act on this information carefully so as to secure your tickets for your child's Christmas concert. The Arts and Culture Center sells the concert tickets at their box office. The school cannot issue additional tickets for those who somehow miss the deadlines once the concerts sell out at the Arts and Culture Center.

From the Phys Ed Department

Elementary Running Club has concluded for this year. Thanks to all of the parents and teachers who helped out!

Bussing

There have been issues with overcrowded busses in the city recently as a result of children taking a bus other than their designated bus. Bussing for the city is arranged by address and the number of children who live in a certain area. If your child attempts to take another bus, perhaps to a friend's house or to a relative's house after school, he or she could be literally taking another child's seat.



As of November 8th, all bus drivers in the city have been advised as follows:

In the event of an emergency, the student's parent or legal guardian must contact the school and the Principal or Vice-Principal will give written approval for the student to travel on a different bus if it is determined that there is sufficient space on that bus to accommodate the request. The student must give this permission slip to the driver upon boarding the courtesy bus. If a student gets on the wrong bus without written approval, the driver must contact the school and either the Principal or Vice-Principal will have to escort that student off the bus.

Allergies & Sensitivities

We continue to remind all students, staff, and visitors to C.C. Loughlin that we have students at our school with a severe, life-threatening allergy to products containing nuts, shellfish and kiwi. Everyone must fully cooperate with this request!

Students, staff and visitors are also reminded that we also have students and staff with sensitivities to strong scents.

School Council 2010-11

School Council met on Thursday, October 18th. The appointment of Council Representatives and Executive was held and we are proud to announce your School Council for 2011-12.

Jennifer Veitch – Chair, Parent Rep.
Dean Strickland – Secretary, Community Rep.
Tammy Eveleigh – Parent Rep.
Julia Young – Community Rep.
Sabrina Ellsworth – Parent Rep.
Rob Ball – Parent Rep.
Katie Warren – Teacher Rep.
Marie Hatcher – Teacher Rep.
Gregory House – Teacher Rep.
Norma Park - Principal

Council reviewed and discussed its mandate for the upcoming school year, set its Terms of Reference and has set the next Council meeting for November 22nd. You are welcome to join us at any School Council Meeting. If you wish to have an item tabled for discussion, please contact the Chair in advance of the meeting to have your issue added to the monthly agenda. The minutes from all School Council Meetings will be posted on our school website.

The administration would like to thank all of you who have agreed to serve and/or return to this year's School Council. To those who have decided not to return to Council this year, we thank you for your commitment to the school and to our children and we wish you well for the future.

Home & School Association

We are very fortunate to have a group of parents who make up our Home & School Association. The mandate of this group is a focus on increased school spirit. The first meeting of the H&S was held in early October. Several members have expressed interest in joining this Association and many more are still invited and welcome. If you would like to offer some of your time to this dynamic group, please contact Tammy Eveleigh at tammy.eveleigh@wnlsd.ca or 634-6333 or give us a call here at the school.

One of the big projects of the H&S is our Annual Craft Fair. As you know, each class is preparing a basket of goodies for the silent auction at the Craft Fair. This is always a fantastic fundraiser for the school. The H&S is asking for a donation of a basket that you may have at home that will reduce the overhead costs of putting off the Craft Fair so as to maximize the amount of funds raised to go directly back to the children! If you can help us out by sending along a basket, we sure would appreciate it.

Recycle My Cell Challenge

MMSB has launched the Recycle My Cell School Challenge again this year and we need your old cell phones! If our school can collect more than any other school in our region, we'll win \$1000 to spend towards an environmental initiative. A Drop-Box is set up in the main office and the challenge continues until November 30th. For more information, visit www.mmsb.nl.ca



Parking Lot Safety

We have begun to receive complaints again about the congestion and safety threat caused by the inappropriate use of the drop-off loop on Wellington St. Please remember the loop is **NOT TO BE USED AS A PARKING LOT.**

Parents and guardians, or others you designate to drop your children off, are asked to drive into the loop, stop to let out your child and then move on. If you feel your child is still too young to be dropped off like this,

then this is not the place for you to park. Please park on Citadel Dr. or up on the gravel lane leading to the Salvation Army Temple. We would like our parents and guardians to follow an honour system and abide by this policy; however, if necessary, the area will be policed. Your cooperation with this request would prevent the loss of valuable personnel time in supervision of this area, and more importantly, **will keep our children safer!**



Facebook and Others' Privacy

Some parents are concerned that pictures of their children at school are being taken by other parents and then posted on Facebook.

We must remember that while you may feel it appropriate to post pictures of your own child on a social networking website, not all parents feel the same. It is actually illegal to do so without the permission of the parents of the other children, even if they are just in the background of your photo. As our Christmas Concerts and other school events take place, please bear these things in mind as you take pictures of your own child and certainly before you consider posting them to a social networking site like Facebook.

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

Lunchtime

On days when the weather is not suitable for the children to go outside at lunchtime, it would be great to keep them engaged in fun and interesting activities in their classrooms. If you have some board games at home, that are still in good shape, that your family has outgrown, we'd love to have them. You may send them along with your child or drop them off at the main office.

Please also take note that on days when it is suitable to go outside, all children who are in attendance at school are expected to go outside. Once the duty teachers take the children outside, there is no one left inside supervising. If you feel your child is not able to go outside, we ask that you come pick up your child for lunch or come sit with your child.

Parenting Breakfast

A message from Rose Marie Bennett,
School Social Worker...

Over the years I have had many parents and caregivers come to me with questions and concerns around parenting. Parenting is a rewarding experience but it can also be tough and stressful. In addition, throw on the challenges of everyday life and life can be overwhelming.

Our Parenting Breakfast focuses on issues that parents in our group identify as important to them. Last year our focus was on building the self esteem of ourselves and thus our children. This year we are focusing on our health and well-being as parents and community members. We know that in order to be successful parents we need to take care of ourselves so that we can take care of our children and teach them to in turn care for themselves.

Every Wednesday at the Parenting Breakfast we get together to talk about things that are important to us as parents and community members. When there are topics identified we have guest speakers to help us get the information needed and we also take field trips to support our learning about health and well-being. There is no cost to attend, breakfast is provided and new members are always welcome. If you would like more information about this group, please join us at Dunfield Park Community Centre on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am or call me at 639-4253.

Scholastic Book Fair: Huge Success

A big THANK YOU goes to Mrs. Monica Coffin for organizing the Scholastic Book Fair again this year and to all of the wonderful parents who came in and volunteered. With the proceeds of the Book Fair, we have raised over \$3000 to further stock the shelves of our library.



*...And some days, you just gotta find the
humour in it...*

