

Jan. 2024

Principal's Message

Welcome to 2024! We hope all our families had a fun and festive time over the break. December was an exceptional month, filled with kindness and generosity. Students in Mrs. Derks' class organized our annual food drive, bringing in several hundred non-perishable goods. They visited the food bank mid-month to deliver and help organize the donations. Many of our junior students were busy bringing to reality their vision to support the House of Lazarus by creating and selling ornaments. \$1177.07 was raised through their hard work! We also enjoyed many special events including the White Elephant Sale, our Spaghetti Luncheon, Pizza Day and of course our Holiday concert – we were blown away by the incredible creativity and energy! Congratulations on a stunning show, and thank you to all our performers, organizers and the technical crew behind the scenes! Thank you too to our many volunteers who read with children, wrapped presents, accompanied our kinders on their community walk, organized fundraisers, sold popcorn and cotton candy, served spaghetti, provided musical accompaniment, and much more throughout the month!

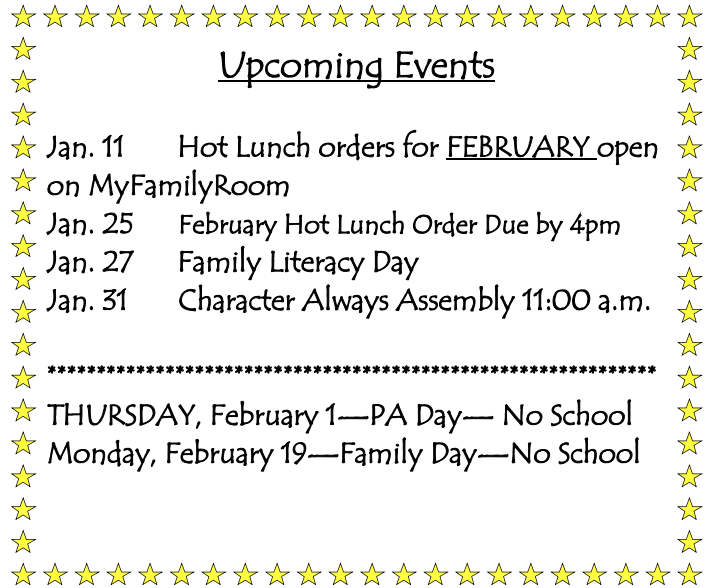
January is now bringing a return to routines as staff and students tackle new projects in all subjects. There were many very happy smiles as students returned on Monday! Our attached calendar details upcoming Spirit Days and special events. Have a wonderful January! *Ms Campbell*



Registering for Kindergarten

If your child is turning four years old by Dec. 31, 2024 we will be eager to welcome them to our Junior Kindergarten program which starts in September 2024. We're planning now for the fall, and appreciate early registrations, as our staffing is based directly on student registration numbers.

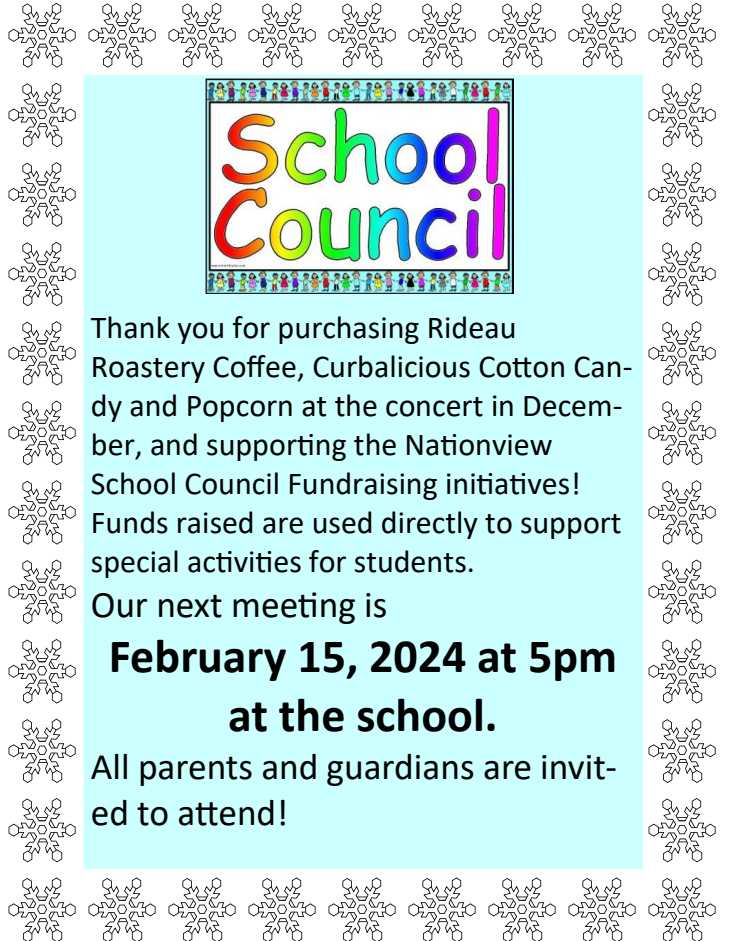
Registration is open now at:
https://www.ucdsb.on.ca/for_families/registration/kindergarten
Stay tuned for details about our Parent Information Evening, coming soon!




Upcoming Events

- Jan. 11 Hot Lunch orders for FEBRUARY open on MyFamilyRoom
- Jan. 25 February Hot Lunch Order Due by 4pm
- Jan. 27 Family Literacy Day
- Jan. 31 Character Always Assembly 11:00 a.m.

- THURSDAY, February 1—PA Day— No School
- Monday, February 19—Family Day—No School





School Council

Thank you for purchasing Rideau Roastery Coffee, Curbalicious Cotton Candy and Popcorn at the concert in December, and supporting the Nationview School Council Fundraising initiatives! Funds raised are used directly to support special activities for students.

Our next meeting is

**February 15, 2024 at 5pm
at the school.**

All parents and guardians are invited to attend!

The **Upper Canada District School Board's Champions for Kids Foundation (C4K)** is a charity formed in January 2008 to discreetly help level the playing field for UCDSB children and their families.

Although our main focus is to assist families in allowing their children to participate in sports, arts and other fun activities outside of school hours, we also meet unique needs like covering minor medical expenses (i.e. eyeglasses), providing gas cards to parents with a child in the hospital, or purchasing a winter coat for a child who needs warmth. All assistance is kept confidential.

Why We Are Needed Statistics suggest 12-19 per cent of children in eastern Ontario are living below the poverty line. Many families are struggling to provide their children with nutritious meals, clothing, housing and other basic needs. There isn't always enough money to provide the extras that make childhood more fun and enjoyable. That's where C4K comes in.

Our Success C4K has raised and distributed over \$1.75 million since inception! The money has helped hundreds of kids attend summer camp, participate in minor hockey, and minor soccer, paid for dance lessons, and helped families meet their children's medical needs such as paying for eyeglasses, trips for cancer treatment and EpiPens. Know someone who could benefit from a Champions For Kids Request?

Please email for more details candy_campbell@ucdsb.on.ca

Allergen Sensitive School

We would like to remind everyone that there are children in our school with **life threatening allergies** to peanuts and tree nuts. This is a medical condition (anaphylaxis) that causes severe reaction to specific foods. This can result in a very severe medical situation within minutes. This affects the entire school community. We kindly ask that you do not send products that contain or may contain peanuts and other nuts. This includes peanut butter substitute products which can cause confusion and worry for our students and staff who are peanut/nut anaphylactic. Due to the difficulty in differentiating between peanut butter and a peanut butter/nut substitute, these products are not permitted. We thank you for your support in keeping a safe environment for all.

We also ask students and staff to avoid use of body sprays, creams, perfumes, cologne, essential oils etc., with heavy scents. These can be triggering for persons with allergic sensitivities and conditions such as asthma.

Thank you for helping to keep everyone safe!

Indigenous Self-Identification

Indigenous self-identification is a process that provides an opportunity for those of Indigenous ancestry – First Nation, Inuit or Metis to voluntarily identify themselves to the Upper Canada District School Board.



The UCDSB, along with the Ministry of Education, has identified Indigenous Education as a priority and has identified two areas of focus: to improve achievement among First Nations, Metis and Inuit students; and

- to close the education gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students.
- The UCDSB wants to provide First Nations, Metis and Inuit Students with educational opportunities that honour their mental, physical, emotional and spiritual well-being.

Benefits of self-identifying:

- access to cultural programming and information about post-secondary pathways;
- opportunities for Indigenous students such as First Nations, Metis and Inuit camps, bursaries and Indigenous Leadership Program (iLeads); and
- stronger partnership between Indigenous parents and communities.

The Indigenous self-identification form is voluntary and confidential. Parents/guardians or students over the age of 18 can fill out the self-identification form and return it to their school at any point during the school year. For more information please call the school 613-989-2600 or check here:

<https://www.ucdsb.on.ca/cms/One.aspx?portalId=148427&pageId=23875093>



Operation Backpack is an important program that supplies nutritious meals and snacks for local children to eat over their weekends, free of charge. Volunteers from the House of Lazarus pack and provide food for 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches and snacks, fresh fruit and vegetables, and students take it home on Fridays. If you would like to sign up for this program, please email lois.serviss@ucdsb.on.ca

January usually brings with it lots of chilly temperatures and we ask for your help, please, ensuring that children are prepared to go outside. The wind can be quite brisk on our broad, open yard. Extra mitts, hats and socks are often appreciated by our students as they are outside several times each day. Our afternoon recess is forty minutes and warm wear helps children stay cozy so they can enjoy all the opportunities of outdoor learning. We also appreciate donations of clean (used or new) socks. Our supply of larger socks is dwindling.

