



MAYNARD PUBLIC SCHOOL



PRINCIPAL : HEIDI LINNEN-MACDONALD

APRIL 2022

From Mrs. MacDonald's Desk

Spring has surrounded us with changes in our day-to-day world and in nature with showers, new growth and the excitement of warm weather and play outside. Many students are finding and renewing friendships on our yard and hallways. Spring is a time for reflection on how thankful we are for our families and their trust and commitment in our school. We are thankful for our staff and their amazing spirit of well-being and care in all they do. Finally, it is our students that makes us Mustang Strong, and we know that we can do anything when we all work together.

To start off the month of April I spent some time with Hailey who is in grade 4 with Ms. Wilson. She has been a leader in our school this year, participating as the student representative on our Safe and Accepting Schools Team (SAST). We had a great visit about our SAST meeting and how so many things have changed after March Break. Hailey is the student voice on our team to ensure our school continues to be safe and welcoming for everyone. Here is what she had to say.

What do you think of our yard now that you can play almost everywhere? *We like playing near the long-jump pit in the sand and it is a lot of fun. Sometimes soccer can be rough and then some students get into some trouble.*

I know that you are a member of Girls Inc. Tell me more about this organization. *We meet in Prescott every Tuesday and make posters and do art projects and have snacks together. I really like it a lot.*

What are some club or activity ideas that you are interested in here at Maynard? *I would like to see art, board games and Lego.*



School Council Updates

We are so thankful for our Council members who volunteer to support us, and this is especially important during the month of April where we celebrate National Volunteer Week from April 24-30. Thanks to all members for their support to ensure families and students feel connected to our school. If you would like to join in our next meeting on Tuesday April 26 at 7 p.m., please give us a call at 613-925-4291. Our Council is very excited to share that they have received a ProGrant to support family engagement in our school in the "Science of Reading." Watch for more news to come on a "townhall" style evening (virtual and in-person) where we will share key strategies to help our students continue to grow to become skilled readers.

Kindness Counts Everywhere

Throughout this year we have continued our focus with students building their independence to show kindness in all spaces of our school. Sometimes the less structured and supervised places can become challenging such as our yard and busses. Our junior (gr. 4-6) yard continues to require a lot of support from our staff and myself in peer conflict resolution. Similarly, some of our busses have require more supports and interventions. We are so grateful for your connections with your children as we recognize "expected behaviour," develop success interventions and use progressive discipline when necessary. We will continue to reinforce using kind words, images, and actions. We discuss when to Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out, and Seek help, to support students to learn safe and independent ways to solve challenges with peers. Together, we will continue to create and ensure a positive school climate for our children to grow and learn.



Attendance for Learning

As we move into spring and so many successes with our in-person learning, we want to share the importance of consistent daily attendance for our school instructional day which is from 9:20 a.m. – 3:40 p.m. When children are frequently late and/or absent we know this may affect their wellness and the teaching and learning needed for your child to grow under our care. If we can support you and your child in any way with developing consistent attendance, please reach out to your child's educators and/or myself, Mrs. MacDonald. We will also reach out to you about any concerns we have with your child's attendance at Maynard.

Kindergarten Registration

"When should I register my child for Kindergarten?" *If your child will be 4 years old by December 31, 2022, then it's time to register.* We have begun the process of Kindergarten registration for next year. Families who are interested in pre-registering their child for kindergarten can complete the online registration at www.myfamilyroom.ca or by contacting us at Maynard at 613-925-4291. If your child already attends our Junior Kindergarten program, there is no need to register them for Senior Kindergarten.

Our **Kindergarten Virtual Information Session** is on **Tuesday April 5, 2022, from 6-7 p.m.** Please call us if you, or anyone you know, needs help registering for this Microsoft Teams Webinar. The event details are posted on the Maynard

Facebook site. We can't wait to have them "in-person" too and there will be more news to come on class visits into our spring.



MTJB – Just a reminder about the amazing daycare which shares our Maynard facilities. If you know someone that is interested or needs to know more about MTJB as they register their child, they can contact them at 613-925-4032.

Skates and CSA Helmets – Donations Needed

We continue to make plans with the Augusta Township to use their "outdoor rink" and spaces in the years to come. We would greatly appreciate your help as some students need skates and/or CSA approved helmets to be able to join in this experience. We would like to start now, to be ready for next year. If you can **donate skates or helmets**, please drop them into the bin that will be set outside our Main Office doors until the end of April. You could also send them in with your child on their bus if they are safely secured in a storage bag. Thanks so much for any donations and your ongoing support as we provide exciting learning experiences in our school.



Reminder – Water Filling Stations: We have water filling stations throughout Maynard. Please send your child daily with a water bottle so that they can stay hydrated every day. This is also great for our environment.



World Autism Awareness Day - Saturday April 2, 2022

On Friday April 1 we wore red or blue in support of people with autism. Please, see Autism Ontario resources and information at <https://www.autismontario.com/> as we continue to spread kindness and awareness over April, which is Autism Awareness Month.



International Day of Pink – Wednesday April 13, 2022

The International Day of Pink is when we get on a pink shirt, or any pink, and show our support in creating a more inclusive and diverse world. We will raise up our voices to challenge social norms in schools and communities world-wide. We will stand up against bullying towards 2SLGBTQIA+ peers.

“Discrimination takes many shapes, whether it’s based on race, age, disabilities, gender or sexuality. The 2SLGBTQIA+

community is no stranger to the bullying and violence that stems from hateful beliefs. While progress has been made towards removing these social barriers from our society, discrimination still persists.” www.dayofpink.org

E-Bits April 2022 - LLG Health Unit

New School Phone Line Hours: Due to low call volume on weekends, the Health Unit’s School Phone Line at 1-866-236-0123 will operate Monday to Friday only from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm.

If you have questions about COVID-19 testing and isolation guidance, you can call Ontario’s 7 day a week information line at 1-888-777-0730 that is open from 8am-6pm, Monday to Sunday.

Mask Use in Public Settings: As of March 21, Ontario no longer requires masks to be worn in most indoor public spaces. However, some people may choose to continue to wear masks to protect themselves or others. We all need to go at our own pace and show kindness and respect about the choices we all make. Did you know some settings and situations still require masks? Places that still require masks:

- Health care facilities (e.g. hospitals, doctor’s offices, clinics).
- Higher risk congregate settings like long-term care or retirement homes, shelters and jails.
- Public transportation (excluding school transportation).
- Businesses or organizations that have implemented masking policies to continue to protect their staff and clients. People who must still wear a mask in public settings:
 - Anyone who is a close contact and not required to isolate; they must still wear a mask in all public settings for 10 days from their last exposure. Also, avoid visiting vulnerable people or high-risk settings during this time.
 - Those with COVID-19 who are only required to isolate for 5 days must wear a mask in all public settings for days 6–10. Also, avoid visiting vulnerable people or high-risk settings during this time.
 - Under current federal travel requirements, anyone returning from international travel must wear a mask in all public settings (including schools) for 14 days upon arrival to Canada. For more information about mask use visit: <https://healthunit.org/health-information/covid-19/face-coverings-masks/>.

Wondering what to do if you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and are experiencing COVID like symptoms again?

- If you are experiencing symptoms again after having a close contact with someone with COVID-19 – then assume this is a new COVID-19 infection, isolate and use a Rapid Antigen Test, if available. Review this flowchart for more details.
- If you are experiencing symptoms again and have had no known recent contact with someone who has COVID-19- then you can assume your current symptoms are less likely to be a new case of COVID-19 and just stay home until your symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (with no fever, and gastro symptoms must be improving for 48 hours).

Do you have a child who missed their grade 7 school immunizations due to the pandemic? The Health Unit is offering catch-up clinics for students in grades 7-12 to get their Hep B, HPV, Meningitis and Tdap vaccines. Book online or by phone. Booking info and more details: <https://bit.ly/35RlcEy>

Spring Fling Spirit Days & Rocks and Rings

Thanks to Ms. Scott, we will have curling set up in our Gym from Monday April 11 to Thursday April 14. We look forward to learning the ways of curling and sharing this with our students. Watch our school Facebook site for “shots” of us in action as curlers. Check out <https://ringsandrocks.com> to see what this will look like in action.

This four-day week will also be a “**spirit week**” when we are introducing new activities onto our school yard for recess play.

Monday April 11 – Bring a stuffy or favorite comfort item

Tuesday April 12 – Wear a sports item or dress as an athlete of your choice

Wednesday April 13 – International **Day of Pink**

Thursday April 14 – Beach Day – dress in sunglasses, beach shirts or whatever represents a beautiful beach day

Volunteers at Maynard

We are looking to build up the support of volunteers back in our school. If you are interested in volunteering with us, particularly around supporting students with their reading skill development, please call us at Maynard at 613-925-4291. Volunteering requires the individual to have a Vulnerable Sector Check completed.



Important Dates in April

Good Friday is on Fri. Apr. 15 and Mon. Apr. 18 is Easter

Monday – there is no school on these days

Sat. Apr. 2 – World Autism Awareness Day

Tues. Apr. 5 – 6-7 p.m.- Kindergarten Virtual Information Session

Sat. Apr. 9 – Vimy Ridge Day

Mon. Apr. 11-Thurs. Apr. 14 – Spring Fling Spirit Week & Spirit Days

Wed. Apr. 13 – **International Day of Pink** – get on any pink to show we will end all bullying and specifically 2SLGBTQ+ bullying

Wed. Apr. 20 – PhotoVisions - Photo Retake Day- please call us at 613-925-4291 if you are interested in your child having photo retakes

Thurs. Apr. 21 – World Creativity and Innovation Day

Fri. Apr. 22 – **Earth Day** – let’s rock the outdoors and get on **blue, green** and any accessory to show our love of nature

Sun. Apr. 24 - Sat. Apr. 30 – National Volunteer Week – theme is “volunteering is empathy in action”

Tues. Apr. 26 -7-8 p.m. School Council Meeting

Wed. Apr. 27 – Administrative Professionals’ Day – with cheers and thanks to these amazing professionals and to Mrs. Sargeant whose support and care makes each day a joy for so many