

# MACPHAIL NEWS

September, 2023



*Apprends aujourd'hui.....Leaders tomorrow!*



Welcome everyone to another exciting school year at École Macphail Memorial School.

Everyone has been working hard getting the school ready for our students and we are off to a

great start.

Welcome to our new staff: Mr. Blais, Ms. Lillie, Ms. Postings, Ms. Mulholland, Ms. Fawcett, Ms. Demers, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Petramala, Ms. McCallum, Ms. Welch, Ms. Schildt, Ms. Thompson, and Ms. Orosz.

Ms. Vincent and Ms. Motay have been very busy these last few weeks getting the office ready for another school year. Thank you Amy and Michelle!

Our custodial staff have been busy this summer putting a shine on the building. Thank you to Ms. Inacio and our custodial staff for their hard work!

The staff of Macphail continues to be dedicated to providing the highest quality education for our students. Our teachers, ECE's and EAs have been very busy getting classrooms and learning spaces ready-to-go for our students. Thank you everyone

Welcome to our new Vice-Principal Ms. Lindsay Boag! Ms. Boag is already showing her strong leadership and her ability to support our students and staff.

Working in partnership with our parents and community we strive to provide a positive and safe learning environment for all. Students are encouraged to 'do and be' their best in all areas.

It is our belief that all students can learn and be successful, and we look forward to helping each student reach their potential. We are looking forward to a busy and productive school year. We strive to create an inclusive and equitable environment where everyone feels safe and welcome. This makes Macphail a great place to learn and grow!

We have a very 'open door' policy, and would encourage parents to call if any questions or concerns arise. Open and ongoing communication between home and school is an important factor in the success of our students.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us (After hours go to extension 527 for Mr. Strong, Ms. Boag extension 526.)

Eron Strong  
Principal

Lindsay Boag  
Vice-Principal

## Events

**September 18** - School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.

**September 20** - First Pizza Day, Every Wednesday after that

**September 21** - Grade 5/6 and 6 trip to Intl. Ploughing Match

**September 22** - PA Day - no classes

**September 25** - First Popcorn Day, every Friday after that

**September 29** - Orange Shirt Day at School - Every Child Matters

**September 30** - National Truth and Reconciliation Day

**October 2 - 6** - Scholastic Book Fair

**October 9** - Thanksgiving Monday - no classes

**October 20** - Picture Day

**October 27** - PA Day - no classes

**November 11** - Remembrance Day

**November 17** - Picture Re-takes

## Nutrition Program Volunteers Needed!

We are always in need of volunteers to help clean, prepare and serve the snacks everyday! If you are able to help, we would greatly appreciate it.

Please email us at:

[MAC.nutritionprogram@gmail.com](mailto:MAC.nutritionprogram@gmail.com)



## Back To School Barbecue

You are welcome to join us for our  
Meet the Teacher and Back to School BBQ

On Wednesday September 13, 2023

Between 3:30-6:00pm!

Be sure to come to the school and have an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and visit their classroom.





## Soccer

Tryouts for both girls and boys soccer teams are underway! Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 are encouraged to participate. Thank you to Mr. Taylor, Ms. Walker, Mr. Rupoli and Mr. Walker for coaching our teams this year!



## Yearbook Club

Intermediate students interested in helping with the Yearbook are asked to let Mme. Horner or Mr. Legate know.

## Cross Country

Students are asked to listen to morning announcements for upcoming information about cross country. Thank you to Ms. Swayze, Ms. Mulholland, Ms. Lillie, Ms. P.L. and Ms. Verbeek for coaching our runners!



## Black Student Alliance

Students in grades 3 to 8 interested in joining the Black Student Alliance are asked to see Ms. Yomi. This is a great opportunity to get involved! Thank you to Ms. Yomi for organizing this group!

TOONIES  
FOR  
TERRY



## Toonies for Terry

Plans are being made for our Toonies for Terry event. Stay tuned for more information!

## September 30th is National Truth and Reconciliation Day.

### We will observe this on September 29, 2023 at school.

In order to understand what it means to *Reconcile* with Indigenous people, we first need to learn about the *Truth*.

When we know the truth and can talk about the truth, we can take the next steps that are needed to reconcile and make things better.



We need to learn the history AND listen to Indigenous people's stories, like Phyllis who brought her orange shirt to wear to residential school and was told to remove it.

We wear orange as a symbol to show our commitment to honoring the truth and taking the steps needed towards reconciliation.

Through Canadian history, Indigenous people, and more specifically, Indigenous children were forced to become more European and less Indigenous. The word often used to describe forcing a group of people to become more like another group is assimilation. When Canada became a country, the Canadian government thought it would be better if everyone in Canada was the same and the people had a shared language and culture. Unfortunately, this led to the terrible treatment of Indigenous people including the creation of Residential Schools and the Indian Act

Canada's leaders at the time believed that this would unify Canada. They thought if Indigenous people forgot about their Indigenous roots, this would make Canada more orderly and less complicated. The way they thought to do this is by trying to teach children to forget about their backgrounds in Residential Schools. Indigenous families had children stolen from them by force so they could attend Residential Schools.

The Indian Act, created in 1876, gave a lot of power to the Canadian government over the Indigenous people. They would decide who could receive rights and benefits and they controlled the elections that Indigenous people held. The Act also made it illegal for Indigenous people to vote in Canadian elections or practice their religious ceremonies. It was called the Indian Act, even though Indigenous folks did not want to be referred to as Indians, and it is STILL called the Indian Act today.

Over the years, more changes were made to the Indian Act to make it harder and harder for Indigenous people to live in Canada without assimilating. Some became very ashamed of their heritage and felt that they had to hide it and pretend they weren't Indigenous.

When we take steps towards reconciliation, we are taking the time to learn about Indigenous people - their culture, language, customs, history, beliefs and traditions.

We should celebrate Indigenous people and their history and welcome them into our communities as they have welcomed us into theirs!

### Professional Activity Days

#### No Classes

September 22, 2023

October 27, 2023

November 24, 2023

February 2, 2024

April 26, 2024

June 7, 2024

June 28, 2024

### Switch Days

Tuesday September 26 - Friday Schedule

Wednesday October 11 - Monday Schedule

Thursday November 2 - Friday Schedule

Monday February 5 - Friday Schedule

Tuesday February 20 - Monday Schedule

Wednesday April 3 - Friday Schedule

Thursday April 4 - Monday Schedule

Tuesday June 11 - Friday Schedule

### Allergy Alert —Entire School



**Some of our students have a life-threatening allergy to peanuts. In order to assist us in safeguarding the health of these students we ask that you ensure that the ingredients in the food your children bring to school have no traces of nuts.**

**Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Strong at the school anytime.**

### Keep Track of Clothing and Personal Items

It is recommended that you label your child's clothing and personal items so they can be returned if lost. We also recommend you check our lost and found should something go missing.

### Popcorn Fridays!



Popcorn is now available to purchase weekly in SchoolCash for \$1.50 a bag with an option of donating a bag. First day will be Monday September 25 and then every Friday after that.



Pizza is now available to purchase weekly in SchoolCash for \$2.50 a slice. First day is September 20 and every Wednesday after that.

### School Council

Our next meeting will be Monday September 18, 2023 starting at 6:30 p.m.

All School Community Members Welcome!

Visit Our School Website at: [mac.bwdsb.on.ca](http://mac.bwdsb.on.ca)