



Crescent Town October 2017 Newsletter

Principal's Message



Dear Parents/Guardians:

As the month of October draws to a close we want to congratulate the many students who were recognized for demonstrating **Responsibility** each and every day. You were selected by your teacher for being a role model for your peers and Mrs. Myrvold and I are very proud to have leaders such as yourselves at Crescent Town! Empathy will be our Character Trait focus for the month of November.

In honouring our commitment to **Truth and Reconciliation**, we were pleased this month to have some very significant and symbolic lines and phrases painted on the school walkway. These highlight our focus on **Aboriginal Education** and showcase the Seven Grandfather (Sacred) Teachings. The teachings also connect with our core values as a school community in nurturing environmental stewards and global citizens. In addition to this

work, we are also pleased to see the completion of various line games painted on the school yard (e.g. soccer area, four squares, etc.,) for students to explore and enjoy.

I want to acknowledge and thank those of you that have shared both concerns and questions regarding **Site Enhancement Projects and Construction Work** at the school. (e.g. stone steps on front walkway, lack of shade in the kindergarten yard). I have shared these concerns with both our Trustee and Superintendent of Education and will be conducting a site review in the coming weeks with the Senior Manager of Facilities. This will enable us to explore solutions and further improvements that can be made on site and we will continue to update you as we make progress.

On October 18th, we held an **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) Play Day in partnership with Earthy Day Canada**. Classes were able to spend some time outdoors in exploring loose parts play and use their creative imaginations while interacting with their peers. From cardboards and wooden spools to loose fabric and tires, our students created vehicles, built forts and engaged in a unique form of outdoor play. We look forward to rolling out more loose parts play experiences for students throughout the school year.

We want to thank the many parents that were able to come out in support of our first **School Council** meeting on October 19th. We appreciated greatly the insights which those of you in attendance shared regarding your child's education and encourage all parents to attend future sessions. Please note the next meeting will take place on **November 23rd at 6:00pm**. This meeting will feature some information sharing on key positions that support School Council activities in the school (e.g., secretary, fundraising rep, treasurer, etc.,). We want to thank Beth Gebreab, our **School Council Chair** for her leadership thus far in supporting parent engagement and we look forward to collaborating with the community in the months ahead.

It is an honour to serve the students, staff and parents of Crescent Town.

Sincerely,

Harpreet Ghuman



THIS MONTH'S
TOP STORIES



Greening the Schoolyard

by **Mr. Ghuman**

Our Kindergarten students in Ms. Truscott's class were able plant this month in one of the new planters in the Kinder Yard. Please note three additional planters will be placed in lower pavement of the school yard and we look forward to having more classes participate in these experiences.



Young Women on the Move

by **Ms. Goldberg and Ms. Khandaker**

To celebrate International Day of the Girl, the Girls Club had an opportunity to discuss and brainstorm various barriers that exist in society which prohibit access to women, children, and other minority groups. Jyoshika (Grade 4 student) made a connection to a book she was reading and said that women and girls, like Malala, have to fight for their education because they are not seen as smart and strong as men and boys. Faiza (Grade 4 student) added that

we should celebrate ability and that everyone can do anything if they just put their mind to it. The girls had an opportunity to experience and understand how it feels to face a barrier by blindfolding themselves and trying to move around the classroom with and without help. At the end of this unique hands-on experience, the girls concluded that all abilities need to be celebrated and honoured and that we need to make space and opportunities fair to all.

Also in honour of International Day of the Girl, four Grade 4 students accompanied Ms. Goldberg to the annual Young Women on the Move conference. On Tuesday, October 17, Spriha, Nabiha, Joy, and Maya Rai spent the morning being inspired by *Unstoppable Tracy's* incredible stories of spirit and perseverance. After lunch, the girls were able to participate in a series of activities related to growth mindset, goal-setting, and mindfulness. It was an exhilarating day, and we all left feeling that we are truly unstoppable!



Visiting our School Library

by **Mrs. Hasan's class**

We went to the library to learn how to take care of our library books. Thanks Ms.Thompson!



Grade 3 Students visit Toronto Botanical Gardens

by **Ms. Stoyanova's class**

We went to Toronto Botanical Garden where we saw many different plants-trees, flowers, veggie plants, and shrubs. It was exciting to see a tree from the Dinosaur's time! We planted garlic cloves and conducted scientific experiments as real botanists with seedlings. Now we know the different ways seeds travel. In small groups we investigated what types of plants and seeds were in our area. The scavenger hunt was really fun. We had to look for different types of plants by texture, colour, and size of the leaves. Our trip was very spectacular and fun. We learned a lot!

P.S. On the picture our class is playing a game called "Plant needs". There was a call for "soil" and we acted in pairs as "soil" and a "seedling".

Gr. 3/4, Room 217



Crescent Town Cougars at Cross Country Qualifying Meet

by [Ms. Perrotta](#)

On Tuesday, October 3 Crescent Town runners in grades 2-4 attended the South Qualifying Cross Country Meet at Ashbridges Bay. We had our biggest team yet of 103 Cougars. As always, our students tried their hardest, showed excellent sportsmanship, and did an awesome job of representing our school. Way to go, Cougars!!!



Crescent School Partnership

by [Ms. Lloyd's class](#)

Some of the best relationships start out as the most unlikely ones! The boys and girls in Rm. 213 have enjoyed working and learning with the high school boys from Crescent School every Wednesday since the beginning of October. They have been wonderful mentors, working with us on our science experiments and helping us during our plant and soil investigations in the valley. It has been interesting getting to know each other and we look forward to visiting them at Crescent School where we will find out more about our historical connections through the Massey Family.



Coffee, Tea and Conversation: Reading Parent Workshop

by **Ms. Hart, Ms. Kurita and Ms. Myrvold**

Thanks to all the parents who came to our first Coffee and Conversation to support your child's reading at home. During the workshop we shared ideas and strategies about reading. We believe families are composed of individuals who are competent and capable, curious, and rich in experience. Families love their children and want the best for them. Families are experts on their children. They are the most powerful influence on children's learning, development, health and well-being. (*The Kindergarten Program 2016*)

Some key strategies we discussed are:

- Make reading with your child an enjoyable experience. Select books together that reflect your child's interests.
- Talk about what you read. Ask your child questions that will lead your child to talk about his/her ideas.
- Talk with your child in his or her first language. Children transfer their knowledge of one language to another very well. Speaking in your first language will help your child with English and French and other languages as well.

Please join us for our next workshop about supporting your child's writing development on Tuesday November 7 -8:45-9:45am in Room 218.

Upcoming Events

November is Aboriginal Education Month

November 9 - Photo Retake Day

November 10 - Remembrance Day Assembly

November 14- Progress Reports/Initial Observations sent home

November 14 - Pizza Lunch

November 16-evening - Parent teacher interviews

November 17- PA day/ Parent teacher interviews

November 23 - School Council Meeting

November 29 - Character Assembly

December 1 - P.A. Day

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)



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