



January 2016

Ridpath Jr. Public School

“SEEKING, STRIVING, BELIEVING, ACHIEVING”

Principal's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year. It is often during this time that people make resolutions to work on themselves and better their lives in some way. It is not unheard of that some of these resolutions are broken as we often have high expectations of ourselves that are beyond our ability to uphold given the day to day stresses that exist in our lives. Here is an example of a manageable and yet important resolution:

“I resolve to try to positively affect at least one individual's life each day.”

This resolution is almost fail safe, as with just a little extra effort of my part I am ensured of success. Each of our students here at Ridpath is encouraged to adopt a similar resolution as again success is almost guaranteed - with a little effort we can all think of others and do positive things for each other. As students continue to focus on doing their best and modelling their best behaviour for others it is assured that our school will continue to be a positive place to develop academic as well as social-based skills.

We are continuing our emphasis on academic excellence in both language and mathematics this term and we would welcome any volunteers who are available to come in and support our students as they learn to be critical thinkers in all areas of the curriculum. A police check is needed for our volunteers. Please call the school if you have the interest and time to volunteer.

We are also focusing on addressing issues around safety and bullying at the school. We are working with our student leadership group to clarify the differences between conflict and bullying and helping students to feel more able to address any peer related concerns. We are having a presenter who speaks internationally to students about bullying issues come to us in January to help us in this area.

Penny Hope,
Principal

January is all about Initiative

I am eager to do what needs to be done without being prompted by others. I seize opportunities and willingly take the steps necessary towards achieving a goal.



We're on the web!

<http://ridpath.kprdsb.ca/>

Principal

Penny Hope
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Inclement Weather and Busing

The winter season is fast approaching. Please ensure that students are dressed warmly for the weather conditions and carefully obeying all traffic rules when walking in the community. If your child is a bus student, bus delays and cancellations will be posted on the www.stsco.ca website. Also area radio stations and media outlets will broadcast related information. As a parent or guardian, it is recommended that you know your child's school bus route number, the name of the bus company operating the route. Also, if your child's bus is cancelled due to weather conditions and you choose to drive your child to school, it is then the parents responsibility to pick them up at the end of the school day. Radio stations & media outlets:

The Kruz - 980 AM The Wolf - 101.5 FM Country 105 - 105.1 CHUM/City TV

Some Hints While Shopping For Lunches

- * Read lists of ingredients whenever you shop as the ingredient list could change week by week
- * Please try to ensure that there are NO NUT PRODUCTS or SESAME PRODUCTS in lunch items.
- * Try to increase the number of unprocessed foods that you buy. The less processing the less likely there will be nut products in the item.
- Nuts are known by many names. Here are some other names that could be on labels that mean there is a nut product present: peanuts, mixed nuts, ground butts, mandelonas, peanut butter, peanut meal, peanut oil, goober nuts, goober peas, beer nuts, peanut flour among others. If you have any doubt about an ingredient or item then please contact the following agency for assistance and do not purchase that item for lunches.

Safe Arrival #

705 652-3811 ex 40



Safety Patrol

Our safety patrollers continue to patrol the crosswalk in front of our school and the crosswalk out by the buses at the end of each day. Traffic in both locations can be quite a challenge. Please respect their position as they are helping to keep you and the students safe! Thank you, students, for taking on this very important role.



School Council Meeting

On January 18th at 6:00pm we are having our school council meeting. We will be discussing the review of the Lakefield District Intermediate and Secondary School ARC process with two of our local superintendents. Greg Ingram and Steve Girardi will be joining us for the meeting, so if you are interested in hearing an update about the process, please plan to join us in the library for our meeting.

I would like to offer a huge shout out to the council and all parents who were able to volunteer their time and ensure that our Celebration of Light hot lunch was a resounding success. Your efforts to get involved make our school a better place to be.

We are also looking for volunteers who are interested in support our students in developing their literacy and numeracy skills. If you are interested in being involved at the school call and leave your contact information and area of interest with the office staff who will forward it on to the appropriate person.

Extreme Cold Weather Alerts

Parents are reminded on particularly extreme cold days to remind their children to dress accordingly and in layers - cover ears, nose, fingers, toes and head. The school will make decisions as to the appropriateness of outdoor play in accordance with the School Board guidelines (i.e.) avoid going outside when wind chill is - 26C or lower.



Playground Expectations Reminder

Now that winter has finally arrived, a review of playground expectations is provided below:

- The climbers are out of bounds until further notice due to slippery conditions.
- If students are sliding, they must be wearing snow pants, sit down to slide and slide one at a time.

Snow stays on the ground. Students are not allowed to throw snowballs.

Students are encouraged to respect the snow sculptures of others. Please work together to build and repair, not destroy.



FRENCH IMMERSION PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Students who are entering the Senior Kindergarten program in September 2016, have the option of entering the regular English program at Ridpath Jr PS, or registering for the French Immersion program.

An information session to assist parents in making the decision as to whether the French Immersion program is a viable option for their child is being held on **Thursday, January 28, 2016** at 6:00 p.m. in the SK FI classroom. You will have an opportunity to learn about the program, ask questions, and meet the teacher.

REGISTER CHILDREN NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN STARTING SEPTEMBER 2016

It's not too early for parents to begin preparing their children for that exciting milestone: starting school in September 2016. Elementary schools throughout the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPR) are taking registrations for children who will be starting Junior or Senior Kindergarten programs in September 2016.

School registration forms are available at www.kprschools.ca and in each school office. All parents and guardians are invited to register their children for September 2016, as soon as possible, if either of the following applies:

Junior Kindergarten - child must be four years of age by December 31, 2016

Kindergarten - child must be five years of age by December 31, 2016.

When registering their children, parents should bring a birth certificate or other proof of the child's age, proof of address, and current immunization information. As school office times vary, parents should contact their local school for details. Parents who are unsure of which school their child will attend can visit: www.kprschools.ca/Schools/FindaSchool.html to see school attendance boundaries, or call 705-742-9773 or toll-free 1-877-741-4577, ext. 2127.

Once children are registered, schools will provide parents with a wealth of information on helping to prepare their children for school. This includes publications from the school board and community organizations serving children, as well as information nights in the winter and spring.



**Kawartha Pine Ridge
District School Board**

1994 Fisher Drive
Peterborough, ON K9J 6X6
(705) 742-9773

We're on the web!
<http://ridpath.kprdsb.ca/>



39 Ermatinger Street
Lakefield, ON K0L 2H0
Phone:705-652-3811
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Nuritional / Recess Break Times

School Day Starts 8:55 am

10:55-11:15 (JK-1/2 will eat, 2/3-6 will go outside)

11:15-11:35 (JK - 1/2 will go outside, 2/3-6 will eat)

1:15-1:35 (JK-1/2 will eat, 2/3-6 will go outside)

1:35-1:55 (JK - 1/2 will go outside, 2/3-6 will eat)

Dismissal time 3:15 pm

Important Dates in January...

- January 8 Anti Bullying presentation
- January 13 & 14 Vision screen SK & 1
- January 14 Pizza Lunch
- January 18 School Council @ 6
- January 19 Head checks
- January 28 French Immersion Parent Info Night @ 6
- February 5 PA DAY

School Council is working on Hot Lunch orders. Forms will be sent home shortly.

On Friday, January 8th Rob Holladay, international communicator and author will be presenting at Ridpath. He has been speaking to teens and adults for almost two decades, as a recognized expert on bullying, cyberbullying, internet safety. Rob is keenly attuned to the needs of educators, parents and students.

Volunteers

Volunteers are greatly appreciated and enrich our students' school experience. In order to volunteer you need a current Police Check that is valid for one year. Please verify the dates of your police check to be sure it is up to date if you plan to volunteer.

City Residents

If you live within the Peterborough / Lakefield City Limits you must pick up a police check request sheet from the school office and take this form with two pieces of Identification to the local police station in Lakefield. The cost is \$6.34.

County Residents

If you live in the OPP area you need to pick up the paper work at the school office and take it to the OPP station in Peterborough. You must bring two pieces of Identification.

Curve Lake Residents

Curve Lake volunteers will need to pick up a police check request sheet from the school office and take this form along with two pieces of identifications to the Curve Lake Police Station.

Character in the Workplace

Monthly Attributes

September – Respect

October – Fairness

November – Courage

December – Empathy

January – Initiative

February – Perseverance

March – Integrity

April – Responsibility

May – Optimism

June – Honesty