

YEAR IN REVIEW 2013/14

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As the school year for 2013/2014 draws to a close, I can't help but reflect upon all of the good times and challenges that the members of our school community have shared with the staff and students here at Adjala Central P. S.. June is always such a busy time in schools and also a little bitter sweet. Everyone is looking forward to summer holidays (and hopefully some summer weather) but it is also a little sad to be saying goodbye to our Grade 8 Graduates. Many of this year's grads have been with us at Adjala since Junior Kindergarten and have literally grown up at our school. They will be missed. However, we are excited for them and the wonderful opportunity that going to High School presents. On behalf of myself, my staff and all of our Adjala Central Community, I wish our Graduates all the best in their future endeavors.



"Where seeds of success are sown."

Keeping up with all of the enthusiasm is the only difficulty I have faced as Principal of Adjala Central P.S.. Thank you to everyone who has become involved in their school and helped to make a difference. Our school is not a community without you.

Being involved in the lives of such wonderful young people has given me a sense of optimism for the future. We may not know the road that lies ahead for each of us, but whatever comes, we can delight in knowing that here at Adjala we will have traveled that road well.

Thank you for letting me be a part of your extraordinary community.

C. Russell

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- * Out of Area Requests
- * Saying Goodbye to those moving on

GIRLS ON THE RUN/TRACK A BIG SUCCESS!

Saturday June 14th, 2014.

Our inaugural Girls on the Run/ Girls on Track 5 KM celebration run was a lot of fun! Thank you to all the families that came out to support our girls and join in the run and/or cheer them on. A huge pat on the back for our coaches: Coaches Kim, Tracy, Adine, Rosie

and Tracey who championed the day from first practice back in April to successful completion.

The day started out bright and sunny and stayed that way the whole time. Perfect conditions for running 5 KM.

Our students runners did a

wonderful job of demonstrating what wonderful young people they are. They should be very proud of themselves and know that we too are very proud of them and what this program stands for.

Well done everyone and see you next year for another exciting season.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON A BIG SUCCESS!

A great big thank you to Deanna Allen for catering our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Wednesday, June 18th. The food was excellent and the entertainment was stellar. Thank you to all of our Volunteers for giving freely of your most valuable commodity... your time! We really appreciate all that you do to support Adjala Central and want you to know just how much we appreciate you.

<http://adj.scdsb.on.ca>

SAYING GOODBYE

Saying goodbye is never easy! This year we are saying goodbye to a number of staff for a variety of reasons.

Transfers to Other Schools:

*Susan Spence
Kelly Brown
Karin Ibscher*

Long Term Supply Teachers:

*Nicole Stewart
Anita Ward*

HOMWORK HELP IS AVAILABLE THIS SUMMER

Homework Help's "Ask a Tutor" chat service will be open for the month of July. Every Monday to Friday, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., Ontario-certified math teachers will be available online to help grade 7 to 10 students with their math questions. This service will be available from July 2 to 31. Visit <https://homeworkhelp.illc.org/>.

Updated Tentative Assignment for all Teachers Next Year

Kindergarten	Janya Strever
Kindergarten	Robyn Leoni
Kindergarten	Kim Bodner
Kindergarten	Rosie Poot
Grade 1	Michel Godbout
Grade 1/2	Tracey Winegar
Grade 2/3	Carole Jones
Grade 3/4	Angela Warnock
Grade 4/5	Linda McCluskey
Grade 5/6	Ken Moon
Grade 6/7	Karen Leek
Grade 8	Tracey Kearney
Special Education	Tim Hatch
Special Education	
Librarian	Adine Ruhl-Burton
FSL	Jennifer Poulin
Custodian	Claudia Navarra
Custodian	Jeff Hurtault

Final class placements - Students will arrive on Sept 2nd and go to the back of the school where teachers will call their classes. Every effort was made to accommodate requests but not all parent requests could be met.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are a number of Volunteer positions that we require volunteers to help us out with (many hands make light work). What follows is a list of the areas of need with a brief description of the commitment required. If you have further questions or ideas to share please contact the office at 705 729 2624.

Hot Lunch Fundraiser:

(If two parents can do each day of the week for hot lunch the work load is very manageable)

M, T, W, Th, F - arrive at 12:30, open kitchen, food arrives, package into baskets for classes, have ready for students to pick up at 1:15 - tidy up and leave by 2:05.

Coordinator - work with online order system to place food orders with various stores and/or companies (e.g. order milk for delivery) - approx. 1 - 2 hours per month

Teacher Appreciation:

Coordinate food and beverages with other parents.
Coordinate yard assistance with Principal

Set up on day of event

- 4-6 hours total time commitment

Reading with Students:

As per your availability but you should be able to commit to one day each week minimum for 1 hour minimum

QSP Magazine Fundraiser:

Coordinate with QSP personnel and Principal and help collect money/deliver prizes

- 6-8 hours total time commitment

Dance-a-thon Fundraiser:

Coordinate with Principal to pick day, send out collection forms, collect money

- 6-8 hours total time commitment

Track and Field (Adjala):

Mostly the day of to help time, cook food, or sell food.

- 6-8 hours the day of the event

There will be more events added as the Fundraising Plan is approved for next year - update in October

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

June 30 July 4 10 am - 2:30 pm
August 25 - 29 10 am - 2:30 pm
School Closed July 1 & July 9 - August 24

New public elementary student registrations for the 2013-2014 school year will be accepted at the Simcoe County District School Board's Education Centre in Midhurst. For details or to schedule an appointment to register in person at the Education Centre please call 705-734-6363 extension 11750 or visit the board website at <http://www.scdsb.on.ca>.

FIRST RIDER PROGRAM IN AUGUST

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) offers a free *First Rider Program* for first time school bus riders, which includes a ride on a real school bus. This safety program is provided by the SCSTC, in partnership with our school bus operators, to educate students and their families of the rules and responsibilities on and around the school bus. Sessions will take place in August across Simcoe County. Parents/guardians and their children attending any school in Simcoe County may attend any of the sessions. For more information and *First Rider* session dates, see the SCSTC website at: <http://main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca/safety>.

SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Registration is still available for SCDSB's summer school courses. Students in grades 7 to 12 can register for credit courses, upgrades, numeracy prep, co-op, travel opportunities and leadership camp offerings. Summer school programs are offered throughout July and August. The travel courses are offered during July only. Details, locations and registration information can be found at The Learning Centres website: <http://www.thelearningcentres.com/learning-centres/programs/summer-school>.

How to Continue Your Child's Learning Habits Over the Summer Months

As the school year winds down and kids look forward to summer vacation, parents wonder, "How can I help my child stay interested in learning over the summer?" Making learning fun throughout the year is the key to fostering your kids' love of learning, even while away from school. There are many ways for parents to inspire learning at home, on the road and at the cottage or campsite this summer. It's all about incorporating learning into daily life.

Here are some ideas:

Take the time to thoroughly explore your child's current chief interest. Take a trip to your local library or do some searching online to find out more about their favourite subject or topic that they want to learn more about.

Taking a trip? Keep your kids occupied in the car by thinking beyond the DVD player and checking out audio books from your local library or finding child-friendly podcasts. Travelling to a new city or town is also a good opportunity to check out local museums, historical sites or science attractions.

Try different theme nights where you can cook a meal together and teach your children about the culture the food comes from - ask them to research the culture and recipe. Or, go to the local farmers market together to learn about farming and local foods.

If you have a garden or belong to a community garden, get children involved in planting. If you have a balcony, fill a couple of pots with soil and plant flowers or vegetables. Or fill an inexpensive window box with herbs or flowers.

On rainy days, bring out the arts and craft projects! Special treasures can be made from things found in your household - egg cartons, glue, crayons, etc. Getting crafty stimulates the brain and develops artistic creativity.

Keep up bedtime reading sessions. Your child craves routine (yes, even in summer), and reading together is an investment that you should keep up year round. Seize this time to delve into longer adventures or series that might be too daunting for the school year.

Encourage your child to extend their writing skills by keeping a nature, travel or reading journal. They can write about the places they see on family vacations, create a scrapbook with photos, record nature walks and things they see, or keep a log of good books they have read.

Get outside and play!

Staff Appreciation Week Was Awesome!

Thank you to Karen Van der Linde and Jennifer Schmid for planning and coordinating our Staff Appreciation Week on behalf of School Council. The week started with a smorgasbord of yummy breakfast treats, ended with a soup lunch and in between staff were treated to small gifts of appreciation. Thank you ladies and well done! The staff certainly felt appreciated.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND FAMILIES REGARDING OUT-OF-AREA REQUESTS

Under the Simcoe County District School Board procedures (APM A7000), students can apply for and receive permission to attend an out-of-attendance-area school. Students will be permitted to continue in attendance as long as there are pupil places available. They may be required to return to their home school or transfer to another school when the capacity of the school they are attending has been reached and pupil places are required for students residing within the attendance areas.

An approval may also be revoked by the Superintendent of Education after consultation with the receiving school principal for reasons related to the student's behaviour, attendance, actions or inactions at a future date. Even with this permission, however, transportation to and from school is the responsibility of the out-of-attendance-area student and/or parent/guardian.

BECOME A ROOTS OF EMPATHY INSTRUCTOR FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

Are you looking for ways to contribute to the growth and well-being of students and communities in Simcoe County? The SCDSB is looking for volunteers to undertake an exciting and rewarding opportunity as a *Roots of Empathy* (ROE) Instructor. At the heart of the award-winning program are a neighbourhood infant and parent who visit the classroom several times over the school year. A trained ROE Instructor coaches students to observe the baby's development and to label the baby's feelings. Instructors deliver all aspects of the *Roots of Empathy* curriculum in the classroom and build respectful relationships with the participating family, classroom teacher and students.

Roots of Empathy Instructors come from diverse professional backgrounds. Many have backgrounds in education, health, social work, counselling, speech therapy and recreation. ROE also has retired principals, school board superintendents, and police officers delivering the program. Classroom experience and knowledge of infant development are major assets. Volunteers must be willing to make a two-year commitment to *Roots of Empathy* to deliver the program on a weekly basis throughout September to June. For more information, or to apply to become a volunteer instructor, please contact roots@scdsb.on.ca.

TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL PERSONAL INFORMATION

As Grade 8 students progress from elementary school to secondary school, important personal student information is shared which eases each student's transition to secondary school. Sharing this information also improves our ability to program effectively to benefit all students. Select student information will be shared at different times as appropriate. The collection and use of personal student information for such purposes is authorized under sections 170, 171, 190 Part X and Part XIII of the Education Act. Please note that all information used for the transition process is limited, secure and protected at all times. Please contact John Legere, Superintendent of Education for this area, if you would like more information about the transition process at Adjala Central P.S.

PLAN AHEAD WITH THE 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

You will find the 2014-2015 School Year Calendars under 'Schools' - 'School Year Calendars' on the Simcoe County District School Board's website (www.scdsb.on.ca). Some of the key dates include:

Students start school on Tuesday, September 2, 2014. The last day for elementary students will be Thursday, June 25, 2015 and for secondary students it will be Wednesday, June 24, 2015.

The holiday break is December 22, 2014 to January 2, 2015. Students return to school on Monday, January 5, 2015.

March Break is March 16 to 20, 2015.

ADJALA CENTRAL SCHOOL COUNCIL YEAR IN REVIEW

2013-2014

The School Council at Adjala Central had a very productive year and managed to set the groundwork for this work to continue into future years. Council is one venue that parents have to become involved in their child's school. The Principal relies on information and opinions from council members to make informed choices about how to proceed with various initiatives throughout the school year.

Meetings are held roughly one time per month, usually on alternating Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the school library. An election is held in September and Council executive is decided for the year. This year, Council continued with their existing norms and by-laws to ensure that meetings were productive, orderly and finished in a timely fashion. Nine meetings were held in the 2013-2014 school year (Sept. - June) and many important decisions were better informed because of Council's efforts.

Council has worked very hard to help support the change initiatives that have continued this year. School Council supported things like, student subsidies (for students of families that were unable to afford a particular trip and/or school visitor), the purchase of classroom playground equipment, Agendas and Big Kid Entertainment character presentation to name just a few of the initiatives that were made possible by the dedicated efforts of School Council and the many volunteers at Adjala Central.

One mandate that Council continues to work toward, is making a move from always discussing fundraising/ money and getting to more of a focus on student well-being and achievement here at Adjala Central. Money is always necessary to implement change and bring new initiatives but an important shift this year has seen Council working at better alignment of 'WHY' money is being spent and how it impacts student learning and the culture of our school.

Below is a summary of the Fundraising and Expenses for the year.

Income (Fundraising)	Balance
Dance-a-thon	3303.90
Fall Festival	1865.68
Lunch Program	8519.07
Magazines (QSP)	3096.66
Track and Field	547.51
Acorn Cards	746.92
Grocery Tapes	399.78
Total Fundraising	18479.52
Expenses	Balance
<u>Fieldtrips</u>	5279.60
<u>In School Presentations</u>	8425.89
Total Expenses	13705.49
Total Remaining (not including year end costs like graduation, final hot lunch expenses, etc)	4774.03
	For a complete breakdown (balance sheet) feel free to contact the office

How to Participate in Council Meetings

Any and all parents are invited to come to Council Meetings. These meetings are held in the school library from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. They will be clearly advertised in the Calendar (in the newsletter and on the web page). For those parents wishing to make a delegation to the Council please contact Mr. Russell at least 5 business days prior to the meeting for inclusion on the agenda. Parents arriving at meetings wishing to delegate who have not followed this procedure will have their item tabled as 'New Business' for inclusion in the next School Council's agenda at the next regularly scheduled meeting.