

# School Council Meeting: October

## - Teacher Update -

October 9, 2019

### Classroom Events Updates

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**Monarch Butterflies:** We had the butterfly ladies present about Monarch butterflies on October 1st. There are 6 classes interested in having butterflies in their classrooms to link to the Science curriculum. Other classes expressed interest in sharing with others. A request for funds was put forward for these, which would be ordered and delivered in late May/early June.

**Take Me Outside Day** - Take Me Outside is a Canada-wide initiative to grow outdoor learning for children. The event takes place on **October 23rd** and is about Committing to spending at least 1 hour outside with your class. The purpose of the day is to extend learning beyond the walls of our school and to promote a healthy connection to the outdoors and outdoor learning. We are meeting again on Tuesday to discuss the logistics of the day. A synervoice will be going out to the families about the day shortly.

**Golf with Mr. Frost** - We're so lucky to have Mr. Frost, a golf pro from Loch March, back again this year to teach golf to all primary classes. All classes will see him once a month, for a total of 8 sessions, beginning on November 25th. Grade 3 students will get to go to Loch March for a day on Thursday, June 4th to see the golf course and practice their new skills on the driving range.

**Bag to School Initiative** - Mrs. Sommerville is starting the 'Bag2School' initiative. This initiative invites students, staff and parents to work together to contribute previously enjoyed clothing and textiles to cut down on the amount of textiles in landfills. After the two week donation period, the donated textiles are weighed and exchanged for cash that goes directly to the school to support school-based initiatives. Most importantly, students will be able to directly see the amount of textiles that they have helped to keep out the landfill! This is a free and easy way for you to help out!

***Textiles can be dropped off on the Castlefrank library stage during the weeks of October 14-25.***

**What can you donate?**

ALL men's, women's and children's clothing including all footwear and outerwear, belts, purses, handbags and clean linens and towels that you no longer need. See the flyer attachment for more details and ideas!

We are asking all Castlefrank families to donate as much unwanted clothing as they can, but also for you to ask family, friends, neighbors, etc. to help increase the total weight collected and raise the highest amount possible for our school. If each of our students brought in just one bag, think of the amount we could collect!

*The textile industry is the second greatest polluting industry in the world after only oil. Currently 85% of textile waste is disposed of in landfill yet it is almost 100% recyclable.*

*Thank you for supporting our program which exists to educate your families and students about the Textile Crisis.*

**Yoga Club** - Yoga club for primary students will start on Thursday, Oct. 24th with Mme Toye in the Library and will run every 2nd week. The dates for yoga club are on the school calendar.

**Donations of Cause and Effect Toys for Kinder Classes:** Mrs. Wynn and the Kinder teachers are looking for donations of some cause and effect type toys to help support all of their learners. If parents have some of these toys at home that they're looking to rehome, they would appreciate any and all donations. One proviso, we're looking for quieter toys. Examples of the types of toys that would be helpful have been share



Dimpl



Robot Gears



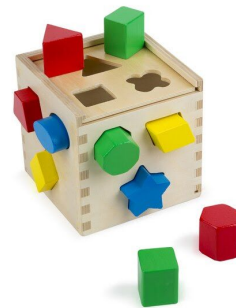
Soothing Rain Tubes



Cascade S Timer



Ooze Tube



Wooden Shape Sorting Cube



Jacob's Ladder



Hammer and Ball

**Remembrance Day Ceremony:** Parents are welcome to come to the ceremony and students are invited to wear their brownies, sparks, scouts, cubs, etc. uniforms. The exact time is still to be determined.

**Halloween:** students are welcome to wear costumes to school for Halloween. We ask that they are sent to school in their costume so that teachers do not have to assist with putting on all the costumes. Masks and props are to be left at home so they do not get lost. Please also send an extra set of clothes so students can change into them if they get tired of wearing their costume throughout the day.

**Holiday Concert:** The dress rehearsal for all classes will be on Wednesday, December 11th. This will be an opportunity for all students to see the performances of other classes. The performance for parents is scheduled for Thursday, December 12th from 1:10-2:45 (time to be confirmed later), with the snow date for Friday, December 13th at the same time.

**Choir Concert Sing Along:** The date is Tuesday, December 17th. The time is to be determined. Students will be invited, and the parents who have students in the choir are also invited to come.

**Spirit Day:** Last Wednesday of every week

Oct - Black and Orange day (Halloween is the next day)

Nov - Crazy Sock day (Down Syndrome awareness month)

Dec - Holiday Sweater Day

Jan - Pyjama Day

Feb - Pattern Day (wear as many different patterns as you can!)

Mar - Beach Day

Apr - Jersey Day

May - Crazy Hair Day

June - Red/White/Canada Day wear

**Library Update from Jennifer Voelker:** Castlefrank has been registered into the Forest of Reading program for 2020. Thank you to Council for the funding. The invoice for the registration has been submitted. Books will be ordered in November.  
Thank you!

# School Council Meeting: September

## - Teacher Update -

September 18, 2019

### Classroom Events Updates

**The Rockin' Racoons class (C. Powe)** - has planted the seeds to put into the garden tower that was purchased by council last year. Before planting them, they did a writing activity to make a prediction about what the tower was for. Some of the predictions included an oven to make pizza; a robot maker; a big kettle to make water hot and cold; a cupcake maker; a house for a man; a wind machine; and an apple or orange tree. The seeds take 10-12 days to begin to sprout, and then can be put into the pods in the garden tower. The full growing time is about 3 weeks, and the vegetables that have been planted (arugula, a few different types of lettuce, swiss chard, and basil) can be re-cut over and over, so should hopefully be able to make it through a few classrooms before re-starting the process with new seeds. We will be making a class book to show the process from seeds to salad.

**The Owls (C. Stephens)**- Have two monarch chrysalis' in their room that are almost ready to emerge, as well as a full grown praying mantis that was hatched last spring. There will be lots of different critters that visit this classroom throughout the year.

### School Events Updates

**Monarch Butterfly Presentation:** Tuesday, October 1st from 9-10 am there will be a presentation from the Butterfly Ladies for classes that signed up. The butterfly ladies are retired teachers who go around to schools and present about Monarch butterflies. There will be a 20 minute skit about butterflies and a 20 minute video about the life cycle of butterflies and their conservation. The presenters will also be available to answer questions about creating a butterfly garden at the school if there is interest.

**Choir** - The first choir practice started today. Choir is meant for Grades 2 and 3 students, and after Christmas, Grade 1 students are welcome to join. Mme. Martel will be directing the choir again this year.

**Terry Fox Run** - the school will be participating in the Terry Fox run on Thursday, September 26th, with the rain date being Friday, September 27th. Permission forms and pledge forms should have been sent home earlier this week. The Kindergarten students will remain at the school. Grade 1 students walk to Katimavik, and Grade 2 and 3 students will walk to Cattail Creek Park. There will be a short assembly introducing the purpose of the walk before going out at 9:00 am. Volunteers are required for this trip.

**Library Update from Jennifer Voelker:** we will be doing the Forest of Reading again and the cost will be approximately \$350. (Invoicing will be in December or January.)

Thank you!!

Jennifer

Just in case you are asked.....

The Forest of Reading is a nation-wide literacy initiative to promote a love of reading while recognizing Canadian authors. Every year preselected collections of books are introduced and students all across Canada are asked to pick their favourite story.

The cost to participate is as follows:

- \$50 registration (Registering is the only way students may vote, and every vote is tallied all across Canada in declaring the award winning author and story)
- approx \$150 for one set of ten english read-alouds in the Blue Spruce K-3 category
- approx \$150 for one set of ten french read-alouds in Le Prix Peuplier K – 3 category

Approximate total cost: \$350

All books then become property of Castlefrank's school library.