



# THE STORRINGTON STAR

## March/April at Storrington Public School

MARCH/  
APRIL

Dear Parents,

It's so nice having longer days. Hopefully spring will be soon in sight. It's amazing how quickly the year is going by and how much the students have accomplished!

The focus this last term is consolidation of skills and in some grades, assessment. The Grade 3's and 6's are beginning to prepare for EQAO testing, which will be held the end of May. In all classes, teachers are using problem solving approaches with the students ensuring that they have opportunities to model correct answers and techniques, share their answers and demonstrate their knowledge independently. We are talking about reasoning, and how it relates not only to math, but to situations in life. Some of the things we're teaching the students is to identify what the problem is, what information they know about it, what they need to find out and what ways they can use to solve it. Not only will it help with finding the area of a room, these skills will come in handy when being asked to do a task at home, build a tree fort or to figure out a winning strategy at a board game. We call it critical thinking—all good skills in life!

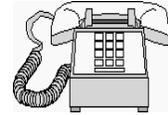
We were very fortunate to have Constable Jim Morris from the Frontenac OPP talk to the grade 6 students about drug safety and peer pressure. It was very informative, and the students asked excellent questions. This is a critical skill our children need in this day and age.

We were fortunate to have Lara Paterson, our Physical Activity Specialist train our DPA leaders to lead outdoor games as well. We're looking forward to the children playing 'Flag Tag', Inner Tube Soccer and many other fun games at recesses.

There is a very strong and committed group of students here who are actively involved in making Storrington a safe, welcoming school. Recently four of our Grade 8's attended an anti-bullying conference at St. Lawrence College along with representatives from schools across the Board. They shared this experience at a school assembly during Pink Shirt Day. As well, we have started a 'Bullying Box', where students can report incidents anonymously. Within the next month, there will also be a system that is being put in place Board-wide where parents and older students may report bullying on-line. When we receive the reports, we will look into the matter and, if we know who is reporting it, we will respond to them.

Thanks to all of you for your support and help. It's a privilege working in partnership with you!

Sue Perry and Ean Pattison



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Web Address:

http://

www.storringtonpublicschool.  
com/

Reminders:

**All visitors and  
volunteers should sign  
in at the office and wear  
a visitor tag so that we  
know they have been  
checked in.**

### Online Bullying/Safe Schools Incident Report Form

The safety of all of our students is of utmost importance to us. When investigating issues between students, getting timely information is critical. The school website has a new reporting mechanism for students and families. The Bullying/Safe Schools Incident Report Form is an anonymous online tool for submitting information to the school administration. This reporting tool is not intended to replace phone calls or meetings, but as another way of reporting information, particularly for students who may not feel comfortable reporting to the office.

## Director's Annual Report 2011-2012

The Limestone District School Board's *Director's Annual Report 2011-2012* is now available online in its new, eco-friendly, electronic format. The report is an opportunity to celebrate the many success of our students and schools, and integrates highlights from the 2011-2012 school year against the Board's five-year strategic plan, *Success for All: Strategic Directions 2009-2014*. You may find the report linked off the home page of the LDSB website, or at [www.limestone.on.ca/Annual\\_Report](http://www.limestone.on.ca/Annual_Report).

## Emotional Literacy

Children with high emotional literacy skills:

Recognize and understand emotions in themselves and others

Handle and express emotions appropriately

- When sharing picture books together, take time to look carefully at the faces and body language of characters in the book.
- Ask your child what the story character may be feeling and why.
- Can your child think of times they felt the same way?
- Does your child think the characters made good choices in the story? Why or why not?

Provided by: **Ontario Early Years Literacy Specialists**

## Chapters Night

Everyone is welcome to join us on April 11 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. For every purchase you make that evening, Chapters will donate 10% of your total to the school in Chapters gift certificates. Please join us for this fun event—it's a great chance to stock up on presents!

## Congratulations!

All our best wishes to both Laura Flanigan and to Ean Pattison who are both new parents! Laura and Brad are the proud parents of Nicholas Keith who was born on February 25, and Ean and Jess welcome Olivia Grace to their family. She was born on February 8.

## How is your child developing?



### Most Parents want to:

- better understand how their child develops
- recognize their child's skills and abilities
- identify developmental areas that may need extra attention and get help if required

**Nipissing District Developmental Screens (NDDS) can help you know what to expect.**

**NDDS is a quick and easy checklist of skills typically observed in children. It will help you know if your child is developing as expected.**

Developmental screens help you check your child's gross motor and fine motor (large & small muscle); vision; hearing; communication (speech-language); social-emotional; self-help; and cognitive skills.



**Get your checklists on-line for free!**

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## Kindergarten Registration has started!

We are really excited about being one of the schools that will be offering Full Day Kindergarten this fall! If you have a child or know of someone with a child who will be going into Junior Kindergarten, please feel free to drop in anytime to pick up a registration form. When you come please also bring your child's birth certificate, immunization card and health card. Later this spring we will be inviting our newest parents and students to our Welcome to Kindergarten session.

