



The ECCS Comet Connection



“Community of Excellence” “Communauté d'excellence”

Dec/Jan 2017-18

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Admin Team Musings:

We are happy to report as the weather turns cold, our learners are heating up! Our focus on **Joyful Grade Level Readers & Writers** is evident on each tour around the school. We can assure you our staff and students are working full out to make our goals come to life.

Please continue to speak to your children about what they are learning and of course make that critical commitment to *reading every night!*

A celebration that we are shouting from the rooftops is that our grant application and video that we created last year to Indigo was worth the time. We have just learned that we were in the top applications and as a result we are **receiving a \$10,000 grant from Indigo** to purchase books for our library!

This month our SOAR Leaders are constructing their knowledge on what it means to act responsibly as a leader. Please discuss why responsibility is a key leadership trait and find opportunities to practice “being responsible” at home.

As a school community we are loving each new celebration, family day or activity. It is a gift to develop traditions that will represent our “Community of Excellence” for the decades to come. We look forward to seeing you all at our first Comet Winter Carnival in our new school.

“The holiday season we ask that all families work on writing a special message or card with their child. Use the power of word to make someone’s day. Real life opportunities for literacy help to build purpose and joy! Tweet out a picture of the writing session to @Connaughtcomets #SpreadJoyThroughWriting

We thank-you for your support, words of encouragement and above all else for giving your children the gift of an education! You are truly our partners in building joyful learners & extraordinary leaders.

*Your ‘we love learning and life to be joyful’, Admin Team,
Mrs. Lori Daelick & M. Mitchell*

5 Daily Reminders

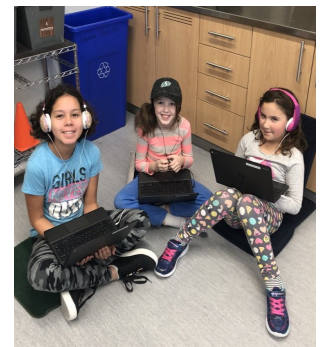
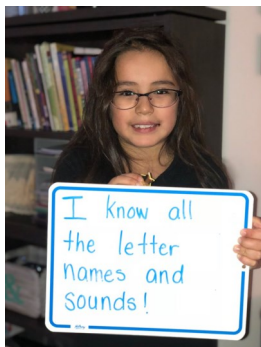
1. I am amazing.
2. I can do anything.
3. Positivity is a choice.
4. I celebrate my individuality.
5. I am prepared to succeed.



We believe it takes a village to raise a child.

We want you! Here are some ways you can get involved:

1. Library Volunteer
2. Prepping snack with Ms. Hess in the Bistro.
3. Reading Volunteers
4. Recess Play Ground Games Coordinator



At ECCS, we are a community of leaders creating excellence in life and learning. No Excuses.

S.O.A.R. Leadership Learning

Have you heard about our in-house leadership program called:

Comets S.O.A.R.:

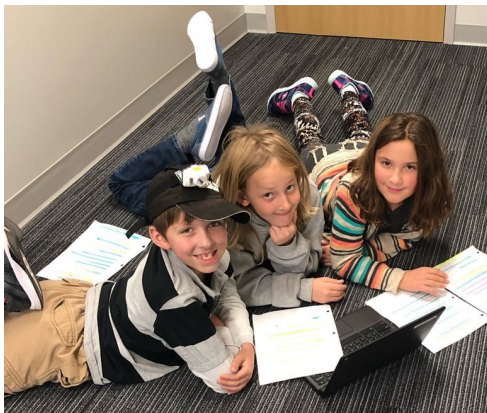
- ◆ Strive for a "Growth Mindset"
- ◆ Offer Kindness
- ◆ Act Responsibly
- ◆ Respect Others and the Spaces we Learn in

This month we are focusing on the leadership skill of Acting Responsibly.

Please discuss the following quote with your child,

"Who are you when no one is looking?"

See you at the Comets S.O.A.R Assembly on December 19th at 10:45.



Mathletics

Calling all Mathletes

Grades 1 - 8 students we are running a Mathletics **"SUNDAY Challenge"**— From now until our January Assembly our top user in Grades 1-4 and 5-8 will be awarded a DQ Sunday to enjoy at the assembly. In addition they will get to sit in a seat of honour at the front of the room. MmmmMath is AWESOME!



Santa's Shop, a Christmas Tradition



Our talented Mrs. Bergbusch runs a Santa Shop to allow our students to purchase gifts for their family. All gifts are wrapped by our volunteer wrappers (Police and Firefighters). Most gifts are \$1). Please send up to \$10 if they wish to participate.

Donations of new or gently used housewares, games, puzzles, toys, jewelry, Christmas decorations and new toiletries will be greatly appreciated, as well as gift bags, gift wrap, ribbon and cards. These can be dropped off at the office. Please Note: We do not accept donations of clothing.

All proceeds from the sale will go to buy Christmas Hampers for families in our community.

Thank-you for your support!

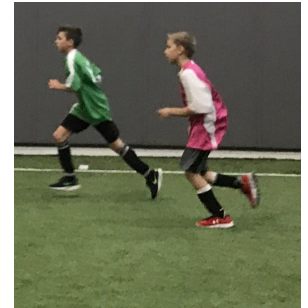
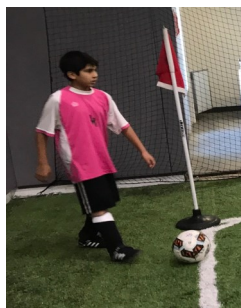


SCORE...Comet Soccer!



Connaught is a soccer school!

If you've ever passed by the school at recess, you may have noticed the Comet obsession with soccer. Our Senior Comet Soccer players had a strong showing in the first of two tournaments in November. Action continues on December 15th at the Queen City United Soccer Center when they take on Grant Road, Arcola, Rosemont and Judge Bryant.



Our School Community Council ROCKS!

Our council meetings are a great place to learn more about the school and to meet members of the community that have a vested interest in learning excellence at Connaught.

Meeting are at 7pm & held in Heritage Hall at our new school. Our up-coming meetings:

December 12th
January 17th
March 14th



Our fundraisers were very successful and we look forward to using the profits to make our school an even better place.



Join us on December 14th from 6:00-7:15 for our annual École Connaught Winter Carnival!

It will be a low stress evening filled with fun, festive Christmas Sweaters and family-oriented activities.

This year we will also feature a "Mini Concert" (Pre-k to Grade 2/3) from 6- 6:15 p.m. in Heritage Hall at the school. **Students involved in the concert are asked to arrive early at 5:50 p.m.

Come and jingle along with our staff who will be found running stations including a photo booth, caroling, crafts, cookie decorating and more! And of course, hot chocolate will be served by the SCC.

Thank-You!

Thank-you to our very own local artist, Sarah Truskowski for donating a stunning piece of her art for our school. It will be displayed with pride for the years to come.



Winter Reading Challenge



Stay tuned for a fun reading challenge for your child to complete over the break.

This is a great time for meaningful and joyful reading and writing.

United Way Fundraiser

Thanks to our SCC, Staff & School community our school raised over \$2500 to donate to the United Way Summer Success Literacy Camps. The fundraising efforts included a Jail and Bail, a STEAM Money Drop activity, a Bake Sale and much more!

Bataille de Livres!

French Immersion students at ECCS are crazy for la Bataille de Livres, "Battle of the Books".

In a short month and half, our team read 5 French books at noon hour in preparation for the Jeopardy based Battle hosted by St.Elizabeth school.

As a result of their hard work, our team of Spenc, Finn, Zanna and Ada placed in the top 10 at the competition narrowly missing the final by 6 points, the equivalent of two correct answers.

Congratulations team!



Our 2017-2018 Focus:

1. Student Leadership at all levels –S.O.A.R Leaders at work.
2. Skilled Writers - Provide opportunity to write at home
3. Grade-Level Readers - Create joyful literacy opportunities at home.
4. Improved Attendance - Value school attendance. No Excuses.
5. Joyful Learning - School should be engaging, active and fun!

December/January Dates

December 13	Band Winter Concert
December 14	Festive Sweater Day
December 14	Winter Carnival – 6:00– 7:15 pm
December 18	School Clothing Sample Available
December 19	Grade 2/3 English & 4/5 French to Musical (Do it with Class)
December 21	Comets SOAR Assembly 10:45
December 21	PJ Day—Spirit Day
December 22	Grade 7/8 French – Christmas Feast
December 22	Carol Singing Assembly 9:30am
December 22	Last day of school before Break
December 22	Early dismissal – 2:30
January 8	Students return to class
January 18	Dress as a Book Character Day
January 23	Kari-PreK Ministry Site Visit
January 26	PD Day—No School
February 2	Term 1 Progress Reports sent home.

Let's Talk the Same Talk at Home & School Zones of Regulation

We are noticing a trend of heightened anxiety in youth. As a result we are doing many things to teach strategies and to provide outlets for kids experiencing anxiety. One of these is to teach "Zones of Regulation".

You can help by using the 'Zones' language at home.

The following link provides an awesome presentation to introduce zones to parents and guardians:

<http://www.rle.sd23.bc.ca/ProgramsServices/Zones/Documents/Zones%20of%20Regulation%20Parent%20Presentation.pdf>

The ZONES of Regulation® Reproducible E The Zones of Regulation Visual

The ZONES of Regulation®

BLUE ZONE Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	GREEN ZONE Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	YELLOW ZONE Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	RED ZONE Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control

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From The Zones of Regulation® by Leah M. Koomen • Available at www.essentialthinking.com

In December, we say farewell to two incredible DREAMTEAM members. Our interns:



Miss Weber



M. St. Amand



Thank-you for your time, your talent and above all else for sharing your love for the profession with us! Your future is bright and we all wish you the best of luck!

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

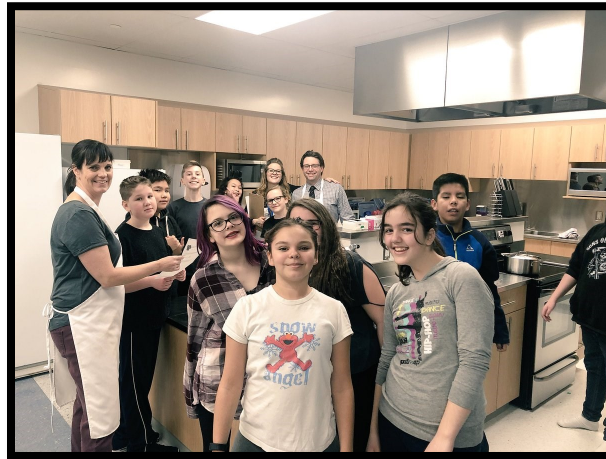
We striving for a cash-free school. All school fees can be paid on-line. If you need assistance stop by the school. You can also find instructions on our website under the parent link. Thanks for you cooperation!

Sample strategies from each zone:

<p>Blue Zone Tools: Rest Stop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take a break. Think happy thoughts. Talk about your feelings. Ask for a hug. Draw a picture 	<p>Green Zone Tools: Go Time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete your work. Listen to the teacher. Remember your daily goal. Think happy thoughts. Help others.
<p>Yellow Zone Tools: Slow Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take a break. Talk to the teacher. Squeeze my stress ball. Go for a walk. Take three deep breaths. 	<p>Red Zone Tools: Stop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take a break. Squeeze my stress ball. Take three deep breaths. Count to ten. Talk about my problem.



Senior Leaders share Books & Treats with their Kinder Buddies.



Grade 6/7 Baking Cookies to help money to help provide clean water for children in Sudan.



M. Dawuda spreads the joy of literacy.

Relationships are key to success!



From Our Comet Family to Yours We Wish You A Safe and Joyful Holiday Season.



A team that loves their jobs is a dream to work with.

"Community of Excellence"



We are thankful for our new school. Today we explored the school to find letters and numbers.



Our Choir entertains guests at the Renaissance Retirement

