



# Iroquois Falls Public School

## January 2018 Newsletter

### PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Happy New Year! At this time I would like to once again “Welcome Back” all of our families at IFPS. I trust that you all had a safe and enjoyable holiday season with friends and family. It was great to see so many of you at our Concert and Turkey Dinner. From all of us at Iroquois Falls Public School, we wish the best to you for a happy and successful year ahead.

As always, we welcome your input and support as the New Year begins. We are always looking for ways to best support your children as they make their way through school. If you haven't had the opportunity to return the survey asking for input, it isn't too late as we attached another copy.

We have a busy couple of months ahead of us with cultural events, game nights, curriculum nights, sporting events, and school spirit activities. Please check the calendar regularly for specific events planned for the month of January, or call the school for more information about each event. In addition to the monthly newsletter, don't forget to visit the IFPS Principal Blog at <https://ifpsprincipal.wordpress.com/> for a window into the walls of our school community. In the months to come, this blog will continue to host pictures, stories and information which will help keep you informed on what happening at IFPS. To receive up-to-date notifications the moment a post occurs or to receive paperless newsletters the moment they are published, if you haven't done so already please email me your address and asked to be linked to the IFPS Principal Blog.

We are all ready for January and all the learning and special activities that go with it! Let's continue to work together in creating a positive climate for learning and excellence.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me at [rodger.mineault@dsb1.ca](mailto:rodger.mineault@dsb1.ca) or by phone at 705-232-6651, ext. 1.

Mr. Mineault

Principal

# NEWS FLASH.....

In 2010, Bell Let's Talk started a conversation about mental health, and since then momentum has been building toward our ultimate objective – creating a stigma-free Canada.

With support from Bell and Cisco, Clara and her special guests, host of TSN's OFF THE RECORD Michael Landsberg and comedian Kevin Bree, have teamed up in the past to deliver a special online webcast aimed at empowering the next generation of leaders.

Bell Let's Talk Day, scheduled for January 31<sup>st</sup>, provides an additional opportunity to promote a mentally healthy school climate by prioritizing positive relationship, social emotional learning and connectedness. IFPS and our staff will be recognizing this day with a few activities planned. Please stay tuned for a school invite to our events.



Please view the monthly calendar for upcoming events. Students and classes who participate are often eligible for prizes. We are asking you to support our school community by encouraging your child to participate in these activities.

## Breakfast Club / Snack Program / Fruit and Vegetable Program

Iroquois Falls Public School is excited to once again be offering fruits and vegetables to all students. For the next six months, your child(ren) will be provided with a variety of healthy fruits and veggies to enjoy as a weekly snack. We are very thankful to our community partners, such as the Porcupine Health Unit, for funding the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Project. In addition, we further thank the Breakfast For Learning Program, and our local sponsors for supporting the Breakfast for Learning Program and the Canadian Red Cross as they are all valuable assets to our nutrition programs.

If you are interested in donating to our school nutrition programs, please contact the principal at 705-232-6651 for further information.



A new year always gives us the opportunity to reflect upon what we have done well and what we can do better. Have you been trying to figure out a new year's resolution? If the answer to the question is yes, I have a great suggestion for you. How about setting plans to help your children experience greater school success in 2018? Here are some ideas to be sure your child is successful at IFPS.

1. Monitor your students' school work. One way to do this is to have them check in with you after school and share how their day went. A good opening question to help them communicate about this is to ask, "What did you learn in school today?" If you get a vague answer, follow-up by asking them about specific subjects such as: math, reading, or science. Another important way to monitor their work is to have them share any corrected school papers they brought home and discuss them together. You can further monitor by checking on their homework. While parents should never do homework for their children, it is sound practice to help them if they are struggling, or check it over for them once they are finished.



2. Make sure your child(ren) attend school. The more students are in school, the higher their achievement. Children cannot learn if they are not in school. In addition, poor attendance causes students to get behind in their learning and catching up can be very difficult when they return. In fact, poor attendance is often the first step to students being unsuccessful at school.



3. Reward their efforts. Rewarding students for high grades is not as effective as rewarding them for their effort. Students are always trying and want to make you proud. Therefore, the best way to motivate further effort is to notice it, to praise it, and to reward it!!!



4. Talk up the idea of going to college/university or receiving a trade certification. I know your child(ren) are only in elementary school, but this should start at a very young age. As a staff we are always talking about where we went to school and how we benefitted from college/university. Having students set higher education as a target early in their lives will help them set ambitious goals for their academic progress as they proceed through school.



5. Finally, be involved! How important is parent involvement in their children's education? Study after study shows that it may be the top factor leading to student success. At IFPS, we offer many opportunities to be involved in your student's education. Please join us whenever you are able!



## Kindergarten Registration

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2013 or 2014? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten! Beginning on January 23, 2018, IFPS will be registering children for Junior and Senior Kindergarten classes for the 2018-17 school year.

Kindergarten! ... here I come!



**This month's reading tip:** Talk all the way through the book. Why do you think the character did that? Did that surprise you? The skill of learning to understand the story while reading will help your child switch from a word-by-word reader to a fluent reader.



## VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Thank you to the many volunteers who are helping out in our school every day. Your commitment to supporting the programs and activities we offer to students is greatly appreciated! Without your efforts and hard work, we would not be as successful!

Thank You!!





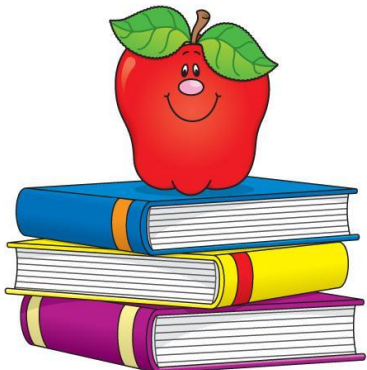
## IFPS WELCOMES NEW STAFF

Although these two are not new to the education profession, we are delighted to welcome Mrs. Kerry Stack and Ms. Amanda Claridge to our IFPS Staff. Mrs. Stack will be co-teaching the grade 2/3 class while Ms. Claridge will be replacing recently retired Educational Assistant Ms. Julien.

Welcome Mrs. Stack and Ms. Claridge!

### FRIENDLY REMINDER.....

IFPS's school day begins at 8:30 a.m. (Breakfast Club) and concludes at 3:10 p.m. For the safety of your child(ren), and to minimize classroom interruptions at the conclusion of the day, we ask for your support by following the regulated school hours. If your child has a scheduled appointment or requires to be picked up earlier than 3:10 p.m., please contact the school before 2:00 p.m. or send a note with your child informing the classroom teacher of the pick-up time.



#### IFPS Office Hours

8:00 a.m. – Office Opens  
8:30 a.m. – Breakfast Club Opens  
8:50 a.m. – Bell – School Begins  
10:30 a.m. – Office Closed for 15mins  
10:30 a.m. – First Nutrition Break  
10:50 a.m. – First Recess Break  
12 – 1 p.m. – Secretary Out of Office  
12:50 p.m. – Second Nutrition Break  
1:10 p.m. – Second Recess Break  
3:10 p.m. – School Day Ends

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT IFPS

January

Jan. 19 – Backwards Clothes Day

Jan. 23 – JK/SK Registration

Jan. 25 – Subway Day

Jan. 26– Literacy Day

- Activities Planned
- Breakfast (9-9:30)
- Stay tuned for schedule!!
- FAMILIES INVITED!

Jan. 31– Bell Let's Talk Day

Jan. 31 – Spirit Assembly

STAY TUNED FOR  
FEBRUARY'S EVENTS!

## School Council Corner

**Happy New Year to all at IFPS and to Our Parents/Guardians at home!!!**

Parent Council would like to remind Parents/Guardians how much we appreciate your involvement in your student's school life and programs. We understand how busy life can be but your support is tremendous and we just want to say a **Huge Thank you!!** Your support for all the various fundraisers your students have been involved in and sure to be continuing in this the New Year is amazing! Your presence for our dances, the Concert program and the Turkey Luncheon is very telling of your ongoing encouragement you give to your student(s) and in turn all students!!

Also, Parent Council would like to continue to encourage your involvement in the different programs IFPS is offering, like the Breakfast Club, and the upcoming Soup Days, just to name a couple, we appreciate any assistance you are able to offer. We welcome you to attend any of the meetings that we have, and your input is always appreciated!

Looking forward to 2018!

School Council Chair

Lynne Lachapelle



Please ensure your child has warm clothing for outdoor play. We will be outside most days, unless weather conditions are extreme so it is important for children to be dressed in warm, dry outdoor clothing. Sending extra clothing including extra socks to school would also be a good idea this time

# Parent / Student Survey

Dear Iroquois Falls Public School Family,

Iroquois Falls Public School is very interested in providing appropriate and engaging programs and activities that students and families would be interested in attending. We want to hear from you, as parents/guardians, to let us know what you feel would be beneficial for your children, yourselves, and for the community. Please check off all the options that apply and please feel free to add in your own ideas as well.

**1. What are some evening programs or events which both you and your child(ren) would be interested in:**

- Math Night
- Literacy Night
- Cultural Night
- Arts Night Showcasing Student Work
- Math Night
- Career Night
- School Carnival
- Athletics Nights
- Games Night
- Other Ideas:  \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Which day works the best? (check all that apply)**

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday

**3. Which time works the best? (check all that apply)**

- 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
- 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**4. How frequently would you like the school to host evening events?**

- Once per month
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Twice per month
- Every Two Months

On the back, provide any comments you wish! Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey as it will help direct us with our future planning. Please submit this form to school by January 19th, 2018.