



Principal's Newsletter

Iroquois Falls Public School

January 2020

Iroquois Falls Public School's Goal for 2020

Through reflective and collaborative practices, we will strive to foster a positive, safe, engaging, and inspiring learning environment that promotes a sense of community; all while ensuring that student well-being and student success are always at the forefront of every decision.

Upcoming Events

Soupy Tuesdays

Every Tuesday Until March Break

- Bring a bowl, a \$1.00, and a spoon.

SOUP FLAVOUR

January 28th – Vegetable Soup

February 4th – Tomato Macaroni

February 11th – Chicken Noodle

February 18th – Italian Wedding

February 25th – Cream of Cheese and Potato

March 3rd – Beef Barley

March 10th – Hulk Soup – Cream of Broccoli and Cheese

HOMEMADE SOUP!

“The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.”

- Denis Waitly

Dear IFPS Families,

The month of January is always an exciting time of the year, not only because students have wonderful stories to share about their winter break, but more so as this is usually when we see many students take giant leaps in their learning. This January was no exception to the rule!

Often, during the month of January, students who have struggled with being “tuned into” learning are starting to take off. We see struggling readers begin to read more fluently, or students who had difficulty with establishing routines, usually have a solid grasp of what is expected of them.

January is truly a true testament to all the work done at school and at home since the start of the school year.

So, let's keep the positive growth going with the coordinated efforts between home and school.

Remember, you can/should read with your child each night. Students need to read with you for:

1. a fluent model of what reading sounds like
2. seeing that you value the practice needed to grow as a reader
3. continued practice of strategies and skills learned at school, and
4. quality time for you and your child.

Thank you for your continued support at home!

Mr. Mineault
Principal

“It is the function of parents to see that their children habitually experience the true consequences of their conduct.”

– Herbert Spencer

Parenting Corner

Our 'BE' of the month is **BE A PROBLEM SOLVER!**

(From **About Parenting** by Amy Morin)

For most of us, problem solving is just something we do, without ever thinking about the process we use. It can be helpful to teach children a more formal strategy to solve their problems.

When kids lack problem-solving skills they may avoid doing anything to try and resolve the issue. For example, if a child is being teased by peers and isn't sure how to respond, he may not address it. Instead, he may grow to dislike school, his grades may decline, and he may complain of physical health problems such as stomach aches or headaches. Other children who lack problem-solving skills may not recognize they even have choices in solving problems. These kids may react impulsively without thinking through their choices. For example, a child who doesn't recognize his options when his friend takes his toy may lash out by hitting because he thinks this is the only way to get his toy back. Helping kids learn how to identify their options can help them ensure they are making healthy decisions for themselves.

1. Identify the problem and brainstorm at least four possible solutions, reassuring them that if one doesn't work, there are other ones to try.
2. Actively discuss the problem together. Role playing and asking "What would you do?" helps children plan for problem solving.
3. Allow for natural consequences, only if there are no safety concerns.
4. In my classroom lessons, I always teach 'rock, paper, scissors' as a fair and just way to choose teams or make decisions.

Derek Peterson's Webs of Support encourages us to gently push children into more difficult situations to build their 'courage' and resiliency. He asks us to create safe and supportive environments and classrooms where children are encouraged to take risks and expand their comfort zones. Finally, he says to give students the skills, language and permission to stand up for themselves and others.

Nutrition Program/Breakfast Club

Our Nutrition Program provides students with healthy snacks, breakfasts, and lunches throughout the year. This program is mainly supported by donations. These donations enable us to provide snacks, as well as breakfast and lunch items for students when needed. Tax receipts will be issued for any donations of \$25.00 and over.

A huge thank you goes out to Brenda, Victor, Mrs. Fike, Ms. Stephanie, Mrs. Fox-Demers, and Mrs. Forsythe for running and volunteering during our program!



Food Bank - Thank You!

During the month of December, the students and staff of IFPS collected donations for the Iroquois Falls Food Bank.

Thank you for helping to make this year's Food Bank drive a tremendous success as we were able to collect more than 7 boxes of non-perishable food items.

When discussing with the students why we help the Food Bank, it was mentioned that one student was giving items to the Food Bank because in the past, their family needed their help.

Now that their family was doing better, they thought that giving back was the best way to thank the people at the Food Bank. This only proves that Christmas means more when we take time to share our blessings with others. Thank you to everyone who donated to our campaign and helping make Christmas a little better this year.



...when in doubt,
choose the kids.
there will be
plenty of time
later to choose
work... ANNA QUINDLEN

Free Hot Lunch Program

We are happy to announce that our Free Hot Lunch Program will continue in the New Year. Please view the monthly calendar so you are aware of this date.

Next Free Hot Lunch

Friday, February 21st, 2020
Chicken Fingers and French Fries

Thank you Miss Amanda for providing our students with this wonderful opportunity!

SSSSoupy Tuesdays! Homemade Soup

Soupy Tuesdays began Tuesday, January 14th, 2020 and will be offered every Tuesday until March Break. If your child would like soup or milk on Tuesday, we ask that you send a bowl, a spoon and \$1.00.th, 2019.

Cost: \$1 per bowl and \$1 per milk.

Please send a non-breakable bowl and spoon with your child each Tuesday if they wish to purchase soup.



“Children must be taught
how to think, not what
to think,”

Margaret Mead

Tips for Parent-Teacher Conferences or Meetings About Your Child's Success

- **Get ready.** Jot down notes about that you want to share or ask about.
 - Any questions about the school's programs or policies.
 - Things you can share with the teacher about your child and his/her life at home.
 - Questions about your child's progress.

- **Ask questions.** Don't be afraid to ask the teacher directly if there is a concern or something is unclear.
 - What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
 - How does my child get along with classmates?
 - Is my child working up to her ability? Where could he/she use improvement?
 - What can we do at home to support what you are doing in the classroom?

Children don't
need more
things. The best
toys a child can
have is a parent
who gets down
on the floor and
plays with
them."
- Bruce Perry

Student Absences

Student absentee checks are done daily. If you need to report a child's absence, please call 705-232-6651. If you are calling after hours, please be sure to leave a message including your child's name, class and reason for the absence.

Children are made
readers on the laps of
their parents.

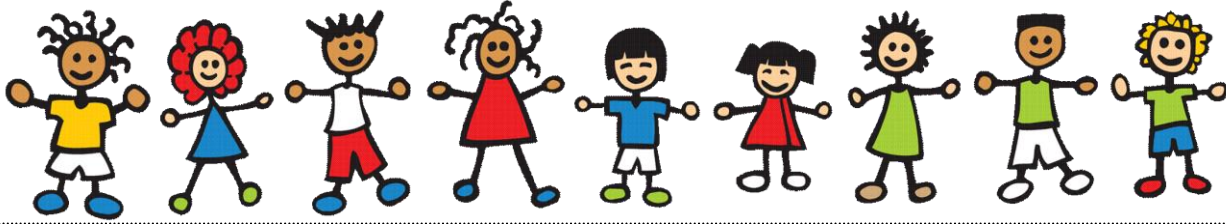
- Emilie Buchwald

"You blink and they are 8, then 28. And then they are parents. So take it in Dads/Moms. Let them climb into bed with you. Sing a song they requested for the 10th time. Hold them a little tighter when they want to hug you. Maybe in raising children you lose your mind a bit, but boy do you find your soul."

Quote Taken From - The Dad Corp
Through the above message, should WE all be
fortunate to find our soul.

JK REGISTRATION

January is the time of year when we begin registration of kindergarten students for the next school year. If you have a student in your family or know a friend/neighbour with a child who will be eligible for kindergarten next year, please come see us in get registered.



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!!



Playground Safety

Rest assured that our playgrounds are fully supervised.

Nonetheless, accidents do happen. To minimize risk, discuss the following precautions with your child:

- Tie back long hair;
- Zip up jackets;
- Remove drawstrings on hoods and jackets;
- Wear a neck warmer, rather than a scarf, in cold weather;
- Do not throw snow / stones or other objects on the playground;
- Respect the rights of others by taking turns on the equipment;

There's an app for that!

A few apps that you might want to try in an effort to support learning and fun are highlighted below. These apps are all free, some with additional options available for purchase within the app.

Cyber Chase Shape Quest! – This app gives students a chance to build their geometric knowledge, spatial reasoning, and problem solving. This app was developed by PBS Kids.

Pan: Chasing the Keeper – Students can read with the main character “Pandora,” do mini activities as they read the story, and enter a magical world.

Bloxy World. Bricks for Kids – Explore with 3D bricks that allow you to build and create. Children can look at models and other people’s projects, in addition to sharing their creations.

Video Star – How about an app that allows your child to create his/her own movie? Explore the possibilities and the fun with this app!

Outdoor Recess

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 of year.