



November / 2017



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# MPSS NEWS

## Message from the Principal

It has been a busy start to the semester, with both academics and extra-curricular activities, and it is now time for our first official reporting period. Please spend some time with your M.P.S.S. student reviewing their report card and together discussing their achievement. Celebrate the successes that they have achieved and use the feedback provided from various teachers to develop a plan for further improvement.

The administration and staff at M.P.S.S. are committed to creating a safe and caring school culture where students can achieve their potential. That potential, we hope, will be one at which students achieve at the provincial standard of 70% or greater, and not simply a passing grade. Very often achievement is correlated with attendance and finishing/submitting assigned work. Please reaffirm the importance of good attendance with your student and take an active role in their learning by finding out what assignments may be outstanding.

To ensure student success, staff are always willing to support your student(s) and additional help can be accessed at After School Homework Help on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Learning Resource room from 3 to 4p.m. Parents are encouraged to participate in the school by attending School Council meetings, Parent-Teacher Interviews or the various school activities that are provided by teams and clubs at M.P.S.S.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school at 905-774-4466. School information can also be obtained by viewing our social media links through our website at [www.granderie.ca/schools/mpss](http://www.granderie.ca/schools/mpss) or follow us on our Facebook or Twitter pages.

**It's not too late. Buy your 2017-2018 yearbook today! School Cash Online: \$30**



## Dates of Interest

Nov 17—P.D. Day	Jan 25—Exams Begin	Mar 30—Good Friday
Nov 22—Student Recognition Night	Feb 1—P.D. Day	Apr 2—Easter Monday
Nov 25-26—Christmas Plant Sale	Feb 2—P.D. Day	Apr 10—Gr. 10 Literacy Test
Dec 7—Grade 8 Information Night	Feb 5—First Day Of Semester 2	Apr 13—P.D. Day
Dec 8—Semi-Formal	Feb 9—Semester 1 Report Cards	Apr 27—Mid-Term Report Cards
Dec 12-14—Graduation Photos	Feb 19—Family Day	May 21—Victoria Day
Dec 22—Last Day Of Classes	Mar 8—Progress Reports	May 25—Prom
Jan 8—Welcome Back	Mar 12-16—March Break	Jun 15—Awards Assembly
	Mar 19—Classes Resume	Jun 22—Exams Begin
	Mar 22—Parent Teacher Interviews	Jun 29—Commencement

# Europe Trip March Break 2018

Destination : Spain & Portugal

See Miss Downey

Last chance to sign up!



## Out of Country or Out of Province Trips

There are private tour companies that approach students to organize out-of-province or out-of-country trips. Two such companies are "S-Trip" and "Break Away Tours".

It is important for parents to realize that such trips are not school events—there are no Grand Erie staff chaperoning these trips.

Only those out-of-province or out-of-country trips that follow the Grand Erie DSB procedures, including approval from the Director of Education, are Board-sanctioned. Such trips will have permission forms and other school/board correspondence on official Grand Erie stationary.

## MCKINNON PARK CHRISTMAS PLANT SALE November 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>

8am- 5pm

- \*Large Planters
- \*Poinsettias
- \*Arrangements
- \*Ornaments
- \*Bouquets



## Breakfast Program

For four years, McKinnon Park has offered a free breakfast program. We supply a healthy breakfast consisting of a milk product, grain product and fruit.

According to new researchers children who eat breakfast before school are twice as likely to score highly in test and assessments than those who start learning on an empty stomach. Breakfast is a crucial part of every child's day. It affects everything from memory to creativity in the classroom. Children who go hungry are more inclined to become distracted from learning at school or give up more easily when they are faced with challenges. Healthy, well-rounded breakfasts are best to maximize a child's maximum performance level.

Please donate to the breakfast program online with school cash online or contact J. Curtis to donate food products.



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Homework help is available to **ALL** students on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays after school until 4:00 pm in Learning Services. This is a great opportunity to catch up on missing work, get extra help and support, study for tests, and get organized!

Learning Services is also open most mornings before school begins and most lunch hours in order for students to use the computers, catch up on work, or study.

Please call the school at 905 765 4466 if your son/ daughter will be absent from school. All absences should be accounted for on the day of or, at the latest, on the day that follows the absence. All students must sign in and out at the main office.

If your son/daughter is signing out throughout the day, please have them come to the office prior to announcements to get a sign out slip to minimize classroom disruptions.

By law, any student who is 18 years of age or older must give consent for information to be released to parents or guardians. There is a "Release of Information Form" that must be signed at the school office. We encourage parents to convince their sons/daughters to complete this form.

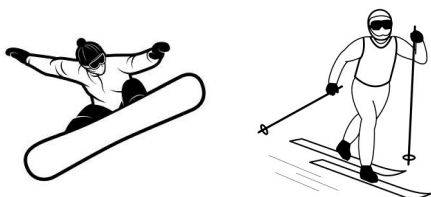


# Bonjour!

## MPSS French students are heading to Quebec!

From February 14-18, 2018, students will be travelling to St-Donat, Quebec, a beautiful village in the heart of the Laurentians. Students will be immersed into a French environment and will participate in many "fantastique" activities such as skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, a French music workshop, a scavenger hunt in the village and so much more! There is still some room on the trip, so don't delay.

See Madame Clarke in room 2028 or email [wendy.clarke@granderie.ca](mailto:wendy.clarke@granderie.ca) for more information.



## Snow Days Zone #2

In the event of bad weather, information about school closings will be on the school transportation website.

[www.stsbhn.ca](http://www.stsbhn.ca)

The Board posts information by 6:30 am.

Do not check too early!

If school transportation is cancelled then **SCHOOL is CLOSED for the day!!**



The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test is scheduled for Grade 10 students on April 10, 2018. If your son or daughter needs to write this test, please refrain from booking appointments or scheduling trips on this date if possible. The test will not be offered again until the 2018-2019 school year.

More information about the test will be communicated as it approaches.

## Giving Tree



Last year, Devils for Diversity collected new hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for our Giving Tree. We also collected dollar donations and were able to purchase a few new children's snowsuits. All of the clothing collected was donated to Dunnville Community Closet. This organization helps local Haldimand families to stay warm in the Winter months. We are hoping to double our contributions this year. If you would like to donate, send in or drop off any new winter hats, mittens, scarves, jackets, boots etc to the school office. You can also donate money online via school cash online or to the office. We will use the money to purchase new goods to donate.

## Scholarship Opportunities



### Scholarships & Bursaries Websites

There are many organizations and companies that offer scholarships, awards and prizes, often based on competition. You must actively seek out and apply for these awards. The internet is a great source of information – do your research and remember to apply early.

- [studentawards.com](http://studentawards.com)
- [scholarshipscanada.com](http://scholarshipscanada.com)
- <http://www.canlearn.ca>
- <https://yconic.com/money-for-school>

Note: Please register on these websites with your parents to avoid any unsolicited contact from a third party (ie: visa)

### Financial Aid from Colleges & Universities

You can check with the college or university you have applied to and research what financial aid programs they offer. Contact the school directly for further information.

- <http://www.electronicinfo.ca/scholarships>,
- <http://www.ontariocolleges.ca/colleges/paying-for-college>

You could be eligible for Bursaries, scholarships, work-study programs, or summer employment opportunities

### Renewable vs Non-Renewable Scholarships

A renewable scholarship is awarded for more than 1 year. Each year, the recipient must meet the university's stated criteria to continue receiving the scholarship.

A non-renewable scholarship is awarded for 1 year only. In some cases, you can re-apply for subsequent years; in other cases, you may not be permitted to re-apply.

### Employment/Club Membership Scholarships

Look into scholarships offered by organizations or community groups that you or your family belong to (4H, Rotary, Legion, Rangers, Hockey, Lions Club) as these groups often have special scholarships available only to members and their families. Likewise, ask your parents and family about any financial support programs that may be offered through their workplace (unions for steelworkers, teachers, first responders). Many companies provide scholarships to employees and their families.

### MPSS Graduation Scholarships

All MPSS graduates can apply for a variety of scholarships provided by our school and our local community. We offer subject specific academic awards, athletic awards as well as citizenship/ leadership awards. Students can apply for these awards at the graduation meeting that is held every January by the graduation committee.

### Self Funded

It's a good idea to save money from any part time or summer jobs to help pay for your education. Another option to consider is investing savings through a bank/financial institution – so that money can earn interest – if you plan to attend college or university in the future.

A Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) is an investment vehicle used by parents to save for their children's post-secondary education in Canada. The principal advantages of RESPs are the access to the Canada Education Savings Grant (CESG) and a source of tax-deferred income.

These are important dates in your application process. Please check them carefully and keep them in mind as you apply. <https://www.ouac.on.ca/guide/101-dates/>

## Late August 2017

The eINFO site goes live. Visit the eINFO website to start your research.

## September 22-24, 2017

All 21 Ontario universities are in 1 place at the Ontario Universities' Fair (OUF). Just for you! Faculty, academics and knowledgeable representatives are ready to answer your questions.

## October – November 2017

Gather information about Ontario's 21 universities at the University Information Program (UIP). The UIP travels across Ontario after the OUF, offering fair- or presentation-style events in most Ontario regions.

## By the end of November 2017

You will receive your Application Access Code Letter from your guidance counsellor with your school number, student number and temporary PIN. Keep this letter for your records. You will need this information to apply.

## January 17, 2018: Deadline to submit your completed application to the OUAC.

Note: The OUAC still processes applications received after this date and distributes them to the universities. However, specific university deadlines will apply.

The initial application includes all final grades from completed Grade 11 and 12 courses and a list of all current-year courses in progress.

## January 25, 2018

Target date for Ontario universities to receive all application data and grades from the OUAC for all applications submitted by January 17, 2018.

## February 6, 2018

Recommended last date for you to submit all information to the OUAC to be considered for early admission. This information includes university and program changes and additional active choices. Note: This is not a deadline. The OUAC accepts and processes changes at any time.

## February 15, 2018

Target date for Ontario universities to receive all final first-semester and current full-year grades for 4U/M courses from the OUAC.

## May 8, 2018

Target date for Ontario universities to receive second-semester midterm and interim grades for full-year courses from the OUAC. Grades that the OUAC receives earlier will be sent to Ontario universities when received.

## May 29, 2018

The latest date you can expect the following responses from an Ontario university: an offer of admission; a refusal; or a deferral, pending additional information.

## June 1, 2018

The earliest date you may be required to respond to an Ontario university offer of admission and give a financial commitment (e.g., registration deposit, residence deposit, etc.).

All other admissions-related elements, including scholarships, other forms of student assistance or financial incentives, and offers of residence, are considered part of the offer of admission. Therefore, you may accept these other offers prior to June 1, 2018, but Ontario universities will not compel a student in any way to make a decision earlier.

## July 12, 2018

Target date for the OUAC to transmit all remaining final grades to the universities.

## Early June to August 2018

The Admission Information Service (AIS) allows you to determine which Ontario universities still have spots available in first-year undergraduate programs.

## Summary of Fees

All fees are non-refundable. The OUAC will not forward your application to any universities until you submit full payment to the OUAC. Fees for withdrawn university choices are not refunded. Reminder: If you make a change to your program choices after you have paid, there may be additional fees. There is no fee for modifying a program choice within the same university.

## Early October 2017: Online Application Opens

In mid October, access to the online college application becomes available for programs beginning in the following academic year (August to July). You may create an account and begin your application.

## October 15, 2017: Colleges Begin Receiving Applications

In mid-October, ontariocolleges.ca begins transmitting application data to the colleges for the following academic year (August to July). This is the earliest date that colleges may acknowledge applications.

## February 1, 2018: Equal Consideration Date

Apply to college as soon as the online application becomes available in mid-October. Complete and pay for your application on or before February 1 in order to receive equal consideration for admission to programs beginning the following September.

Note: All applications to Highly Competitive Programs must be received by this date in order to be considered. As these programs receive a high volume of applicants, all seats may be filled by February 1.

Many programs continue to accept applicants after February 1. Use our Find a Program tool at any time to find programs that are still open. As long as space remains in an Ontario college program, you may apply for it.

## February 1, 2018: Earliest Offer Date

This is the earliest date that colleges may begin to send offers of admission to programs for the upcoming academic year. Offers will continue to be issued until programs are filled or wait-lists are established.

## May 1, 2018: Deadline to Confirm Offers of Admission

Applicants must confirm their acceptance of an offer of admission by this date. Log in to your ontariocolleges.ca account to confirm your offer.

Colleges may extend offers of admission after this date. Each college will set the deadline to confirm offers made after May 1, and this deadline will be communicated to you with your offer.

## Mid-June 2018: Tuition Deposit Due at the Colleges

The colleges require payment of a tuition deposit in mid-June to secure your spot in your program. Each college sets its own tuition deposit amount and payment deadline. This information will be communicated to you by the college.



OSAP, or the Ontario Student Assistance Program, is a financial aid program funded by both the provincial and federal governments that helps you with the costs of postsecondary education.

### (i) Funding through OSAP includes:

Grants – money that you don't have to repay.

Loans – money that you will have to repay when you are finished school.

(ii) OSAP considers many different factors when determining financial need including:

Your educational costs (tuition, fees, books, whether you are living away from home, travel costs, where you are studying, etc.).

The financial resources you have available to contribute towards your own post-secondary education (family income, savings, scholarships, etc.).

Watch this video for an overview of the application process – how to register, apply, get your estimate, provide your supporting documents,

check your status and get your funding. [www.ouac.on.ca/applying-for-osap/](http://www.ouac.on.ca/applying-for-osap/)

Learn more about OSAP terminology: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/learn-about-osap>

Estimate how much OSAP you may be eligible to receive by using the OSAP calculator: <https://osap.gov.on.ca/AidEstimator>

**What is OHIP+: Children and Youth Pharmacare?**

Beginning January 1, 2018, the province will provide free prescription drug coverage for children and youth aged 24 and under, regardless of family income.

Under OHIP+, over four million Ontario children and youth will have access to over 4,400 medications and other drug products. This will help many families access medications their children need to stay healthy at no cost – no co-payment or annual deductible.

Enrollment in OHIP+ will be automatic, based on age. There are no upfront costs for eligible medications. Those who are eligible for OHIP+ will only need their health card number and a valid prescription from their doctor or nurse practitioner when they visit their pharmacist.

**What drugs will be covered?**

OHIP+ will cover all drugs currently covered through the Ontario Drug Benefit program. This includes more than 4,400 drug products listed on the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary/Comparative Drug Index. Additional drugs are also eligible for funding through the Exceptional Access Program.

Examples of common drug products used by children and youth, age 24 and under that will be covered by OHIP+ include:

- Antibiotics to treat infections
- Inhalers for asthma
- Various insulins, oral diabetic medications and diabetes test strips
- Antidepressants
- Epilepsy drugs
- Medications to treat mental health conditions
- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) drugs
- Drugs to treat some childhood cancers and other rare conditions

Visit the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary/Comparative Drug Index at [www.formulary.health.gov.on.ca/formulary/](http://www.formulary.health.gov.on.ca/formulary/) to find out if a drug is listed on the formulary or ask your pharmacist for help.

**What is the Exceptional Access Program?**

The Exceptional Access Program enables access to drugs not funded on the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary, for example, some medications used to treat inflammatory bowel disease, juvenile arthritis, cancer and other conditions, or where no appropriate alternative is available on the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary.

Under OHIP+ doctors and nurse practitioners are required to submit a request for coverage through the Exceptional Access Program process on behalf of their patient. Children/youth with an approved Exceptional Access Program request will be fully covered for the cost of their medications. For more information on the Exceptional Access Program, visit [ontario.ca/page/applying-exceptional-access-program](http://ontario.ca/page/applying-exceptional-access-program).

**My child is currently on a drug that is funded by a private insurance plan. Will my child still be covered under OHIP+?**

If the drug is listed on the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary/Comparative Drug Index, coverage will be provided through OHIP+.

If the drug is available through the Exceptional Access Program, your child must qualify for coverage.

If the drug is not currently funded through the Ontario Drug Benefit program, it will not be funded through OHIP+. In this case, you are encouraged to speak with your prescriber about other treatments which may be covered.

Alternatively, the drug may be covered by a third party, such as private insurance.

**If my child was already receiving drug benefits through the Ontario Drug Benefit program, what does OHIP+ mean for my family?**

Your child may currently receive drug benefits through the Ontario Drug Benefit program if:

- Your child or family receives social assistance (Ontario Disability Support Program and/or Ontario Works)
- They reside in a home for special care or long-term care home
- They receive professional home care services
- Your family is enrolled in the Trillium Drug Program.

Children and youth already enrolled in the Ontario Drug Benefit program will continue to have access to the same medications that they are currently covered for. They will also benefit from the introduction of OHIP+, which would eliminate any upfront costs such as co-payments and/or an annual deductible. These changes will be automatic – there is no need to contact the Ontario Public Drug Programs to ensure that your child will benefit.

**How does OHIP+ affect the Trillium Drug Program?**

The Trillium Drug Program is for people who spend approximately 3 to 4 per cent or more of their after-tax household income on prescription-drug costs. For Trillium Drug Program recipients, there would be no change to their annual deductible as a result of the introduction of OHIP+.

Trillium Drug Program households with members age 24 and under would still have their incomes factored into deductible calculations (income of all household members will count towards establishing the deductible). However, Trillium Drug Program households would have no out-of-pocket expenses for children age 24 and under to contribute toward meeting the deductible.

Individuals who are 24 years of age and are currently enrolled in the Trillium Drug Program will have OHIP+ coverage beginning January 1, 2018, until their 25th birthday. The Ontario government will contact individuals prior to their 25th birthday to ensure those who still need drug coverage enrol in the Trillium Drug Program.

**Can you opt out of OHIP+?**

All Ontario children and youth between the ages of 0 -24 will automatically be covered under OHIP+. An individual who does not wish to receive coverage can opt -out by contacting: ServiceOntario, INFOLine at 1 - 866 -532 -3161

**General OHIP+ questions or comments:** Email us at [OHIP-plus@ontario.ca](mailto:OHIP-plus@ontario.ca).

**Ontario Drug Benefit program:** Visit [www.ontario.ca/page/get-coverage-prescription-drugs](http://www.ontario.ca/page/get-coverage-prescription-drugs)

**Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary/Comparative Drug Index:** To learn more about the 4,400+ drug products covered through the Ontario Drug Benefit program, visit: [www.formulary.health.gov.on.ca/formulary/](http://www.formulary.health.gov.on.ca/formulary/)

**Ontario Health Card:** If you need information on how to get an Ontario Health Card please visit : [ontario.ca/page/health-cards](http://ontario.ca/page/health-cards) or contact ServiceOntario at 416 -327 -7567 (GTA), 1 - 800 -664 -8988 (toll -free in Ontario only) or 1-800 -387 -5559

# McKinnon Park Secondary School

## Mathematics Department

### Extra Help

If you are having difficulties understanding concepts in math class it is best to get extra help as soon as possible.

Ask your teacher. You might have to book a time in advance depending on the teacher's schedule.

or

Access the online Homework Help Program if you are in grades 9 or 10. This free on-line site focuses on confidential one-on-one help in mathematics for students. It is available Sunday – Thursday from 5:30pm to 9:30 pm. This site can be accessed at:

<https://homeworkhelp.ilc.org>

or

Attend Homework Help after school in Room 1036 on Tuesdays/Wednesday/Thursdays until 4 pm.

or

If you are in grade 9, ask your teacher if they have access to IXL, an interactive website.

### Success In Math

Attend Classes.

Take complete notes.

Do your homework daily!

- Attempt all questions.
- Refer to your notes to model solutions.
- Check your answers to make sure you are practicing the correct techniques & processes.

Ask questions in class.

Get extra help when needed.



### Math Contests

Contests provides students with a source of mathematics enrichment, to help develop problem solving skills and enables one to see how their mathematical skills compare to thousands of other students across Ontario and Canada. Rather than testing content, most of the contest problems test logical thinking and mathematical problem solving.

#### University of Waterloo

Registration with Fee payment is due on or before the date listed in the following table. Fees are not refundable.

Grade	Due Date	Fee (\$)
9	Feb 07	5
10	Feb 07	5
11	Feb 07	5
12	Mar 20	16

If you have any questions or are interested in participating in these contests please see Ms. Werezak in Room 2046 at lunch.