

APRIL NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The arrival of spring brings a sense of renewal and positivity! With winter behind us, we can enjoy warmer days and look forward to the trees, grass, and flowers blooming once again.

However, this season can also present unique challenges for students. Longer daylight hours and the anticipation of summer can lead to disrupted routines and shorter attention spans. For our Grade 8 students, this time often brings mixed emotions—eager excitement for the freedoms of high school or nerves about the transition ahead. Parents can make a big difference by maintaining consistent routines (including bedtime routines), having ongoing conversations about staying focused through to the end of June, and offering reassurance to students feeling uncertain about the changes next year will bring.

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents and caregivers who joined us for Portfolio Evening in March. Your involvement sends a powerful message to students: their learning and efforts truly matter!

Our Chocolate Fundraiser has begun and it ends on April 23. Thank you to all who are participating. We have a planned meeting with a local company to talk about possible improvements to our playground so stay tuned!

Our Grade 6 students and teachers, led by Ms. Hutchinson, will be presenting the musical *The Little Mermaid* on April 23 and 24 at 7:00 pm. **Please note: the doors to the school will only be open for parents and the audience at 6:00 pm.** We know this event will be a lot of fun and be a great opportunity for our students to showcase their talent, courage and joy! More information will be sent home to families of Gr 6 students shortly.

Our Grade 7 band students are performing at the Beginning Band Festival in Winnipeg on April 24. They are putting the finishing touches on their pieces and we know that Mr. Janzen and the band students will represent CMS well.

Badminton season is in full swing! We have about 100 students in Gr 7 and 8 who are regularly practicing in both our competitive and recreational programs. CMS teachers are supervising and coaching to make this opportunity available for our students. The first divisional tournament is on April 22 and the divisional playoffs are on April 29.

Track & Field season is about to begin. Students will be spending time in PE classes learning the different disciplines. Many PE classes will be held outside. There may be time during lunch recess for students to be involved in additional practices. In the past, the division has hosted a divisional 5/6 Track Meet and divisional 7/8 Track Meet for students who meet certain benchmarks. Because of a variety of factors, there will be no divisional 5/6 Track Meet this year. There will, instead, be a full day Gr 7 Divisional Track Meet on June 3 and a full day Gr 8 Track Meet on June 5. The divisional meets will be held at SMS. We will have a full day Gr 6 Track Meet at CMS on May 27 and a full day Gr 5 Track Meet at CMS on May 28. More information will be sent out about all track meets closer to those dates.

On May 16, The Joy Smith Foundation will be at CMS giving Online Safety Presentations to our Grade 7 and 8 students. We will also see if we can fit a Grade 6 presentation in the schedule. More information will be sent home regarding these presentations in the next few weeks. The Joy Smith Foundation is the leading authority in Canada on human trafficking prevention, intervention and support for survivors. Part of their prevention approach has been the development of Online Safety Presentations for students which are adjusted depending on the grade level of students being addressed. More information will be sent out closer to the date.

This week, April 15-17, has been Bus Safety Week. We remind all community members to take extra care while driving during pick up times and drop off times around time. We have many students who ride the bus, but are picked up/dropped off at a location where they need to walk home. We also have many students who are walking and biking to and from school. Safety is always our primary concern. Please leave yourself ample time if you are driving around town (and especially near CMS) before and after school. There is often a lot of traffic during those times and it can be frustrating. Please be patient and gracious to others so that everyone can be safe.

Summer Camp Programs:

City of Steinbach -

<https://www.steinbach.ca/experience-steinbach/summer-day-camps/>

Steinbach Arts Council -

<https://steinbacharts.ca/sadc/>

Mennonite Heritage Village -

<https://mennoniteheritagevillage.com/event/summer-day-camps-2025/>

Oak Hammock Marsh -

<https://www.oakhammockmarsh.ca/plan/camp/>

Niverville Recreation and Wellness -

<https://nivervillerec.ca/programs/childrens-camps/summer-camps/>

Important Dates:

April 22 Badminton Tournament for some CMS students
April 23 and 24 Gr 6 Musical
April 24 Band Festival - Gr 7
April 28-May 16 Bottle Drive - raising money for Steinbach Family Resource
April 29 Badminton Finals for some CMS students
April 29 & 30 Gr 5 Poet Tea
May 2 Gr 8 Medieval Festival
May 8 Gr 8 Band Tour around the division
May 13 Immunizations (for those who have parental consent)
May 15 Incoming Gr 4 Parent Information Evening at 7:00 pm
May 16 Online Safety Presentations for Gr 7 & 8 (and possibly Gr 6)

School Information:

Biking and Walking Safety - We have a crossing guard at the Hespeler/Barkman/Ashford intersection at 8:30 a.m. Please ask your child(ren) to time their walk to school in order to arrive at that intersection after 8:30 a.m.

Lost and Found - We have a large collection of outerwear, waterbottles and shoes in our lost and found. Students and parents are invited to check out if any of those belong to them!

Communication - It is always a balance between communicating too much (and filling up your in boxes) and not enough. We try to find the right balance. You can also find school information on:

Our School Website - www.cms.hsd.ca

Our Instagram Feed - [clearspringhsd](#)