

## December 2016: Principal's Report

### Toy Drive

Congratulations Maurice Cody for your support of the Annual Toy Drive! In conjunction, with the Toronto Police Services' Toy Drive and spearheaded by one of our former Cody students Ella, the Cody student body, staff and community were in full force. The kickoff assembly on November 4th with Chief of Police Mark Saunders set the tone for an incredible Toy Drive. During a two week period, we surpassed our goal of 900 toys! As a result of our generous donation, we helped make the holiday season for those families and children less fortunate brighter and happier!

Thanks to everyone for your support in this initiative! Your action and commitment truly is heartwarming! A special thank you to Andrea Elliott, and Ella (former parent and student) for the coordination of our school toy drive!

### Coyote Co-Curricular Update

#### ***Sports:***

The Sports Teams at Cody have been moving at a fast and furious pace this school year. In November, our Junior Division Girls Basketball Teams and Boys Volleyball seasons are well underway. All teams have been competing in their regional tournaments and are eager to continue their season into December. Congratulations to all participants!

As the colder, wintery like weather is coming upon us, it marks the start of another Ice Hockey season. With an incredible depth of talent, for students from Grades 4 to 6, our coaches have been working feverishly to pick that right combination of student-athletes that will represent Cody during the upcoming season. The Coyotes are poised and are looking forward to take on all comers and continuing their tradition of excellence on the ice. Stay tuned for details and thanks to all who came out for the tryouts!

#### ***Intramurals:***

Our Dr. Dodgeball Intramural Season has begun. Students from Grades 1 and 2 have been playing during their scheduled game in the spirit of participation and fun! Thanks to our MCAA representatives and Ms. Appel for coordinating such a fun activity.

#### ***Music:***

Practices continue for our Primary & Junior Choir

Primary Choir (Grades 2, 3): Wednesday @ 8 am in the music room

Junior Choir: Thursday @ 8 am in the music room

### A Message From The Library : Scholastic Book Fair

We are looking forward to our Scholastic Book Fair! The Scholastic Book Fair will be during the week of Dec.5th-Dec.8th.

Book Browsing will be on Dec. 5th (no buying). On this day, each class (Gr. 1-6) will be given a 15-20 minute time slot to come to the book fair and browse. Students will be able take a look at the books and other items for sale and plan for their purchases.

On December 6th (morning and afternoon), 7th (morning and afternoon) and 8th (morning only) Grade 1-6 classes will be able to come to the book fair at their scheduled day and time to make purchases during the school day. Please check with your child's teacher to find out when they will be visiting. A schedule of class book fair visits will also be posted outside of the library on the library bulletin board. If your child is buying books on their scheduled day, please make sure that your child has their money in a sealed envelope or ziploc bag.

The book fair will also be open before school from 8:15-8:35 a.m. and after school from 3:30-4:00 p.m. on Tuesday Dec.6th and Wednesday Dec.7th. It will be open on Thursday Dec.8th **only** in the morning before school. It will **not** be open during lunch time on any of the days. It will also **not** be open at recess. The Book Fair closes on Thursday Dec.8 at 11:30 a.m..

Each student will receive a Scholastic flyer on Monday December 5th (browsing day) which may also help them plan for their purchases.

Thank you for your support!

Ms. Hatzis

Teacher-Librarian

### **"Responsibility Rules" @ Cody**

Over the last few months, our teachers from Grades 1 to 6 have been working on an Inquiry in Responsibility. The work that teachers have spent on what Responsibility looks, sounds, and feels like as well as the ongoing discussion on what students can do to increase their level of accountability and awareness has been demonstrated in words and action. The common language that students and staff are using to that end is a testament to the level of collaboration and partnership by everyone involved. We look forward to hearing and seeing more amazing things as the weeks and months unfold. If you have not yet done so, do take the time to connect with your child's homeroom and rotary teachers to find out all the great things they are and will be learning.

### **Aboriginal Art-Works at Cody**

Please read the message from Mr. Gale, reporting on the aboriginal art workshop experience for our primary students.

Maurice Cody PS welcomes Metis artist and educator Brenda Collins

By Sean Gale

On Monday December 12th, 262 primary students at Maurice Cody PS participated in an art workshop presented by Brenda Collins; a Metis artist and retired teacher. The workshop was organized by Sean Gale, a grade 2 teacher at Cody. Collins began the workshop by sharing with the students her and Gale's connection to the great orator and Ottawa chief Jean Baptiste Assiginack. She then explained the traditions and beliefs of the Anishnabek through the teaching of the Seven Grandfathers. The Seven

Grandfathers represent seven different teachings, similar to the monthly Character Education traits honoured within school across the Toronto District School Board. Each of the Seven Grandfathers are represented by a different animal, one such animal being the *sabe*, or Bigfoot. Collins provided participants with a small canvass with a silhouette of one of the animals for each student to paint. A portion of the canvass was left blank so that the student could draw their own picture of what that trait meant to them. Students were then directed to a large canvass of their specific Seven Grandfather symbol and asked to print their name. The canvasses will adorn the walls of Maurice Cody and used as opportunities of self-reflection. The students gained valuable insight into the Anishnabek culture while having fun creating wonderful pieces of artwork.

For more on Brenda's other projects with various school boards throughout Ontario, please visit these websites:

<http://annual.tvdsb.ca/ensuring-equity.html>

<http://yourschools.ca/board-meetings/board-meeting-march-22-2016/>

Upcoming Dates:

Grade 5 & 6 shared experiences:

- December 20: Raptors 905 Basketball Game @ ACC (Cost: Free)
- Week of December 20: Art Workshop (Cost \$15)

\* If any student(s) cannot participate in the workshop for financial reasons, the school will cover the cost.