



# CLEARMEADOW SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

November 2008



## Clearmeadow School Council

### Principal

Lynda Hill-Oren (905) 868-8081  
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### Vice-Principal

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### Chair

Heather Moffatt (905) 836-2760  
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### Past Chairs

Sophia Mullin (905) 830-9384  
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### Secretary

Marnie Clark (905) 895-9460  
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### Treasurer

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### Fundraising Coordinators

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### Food Program Coordinators

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Susan Shaw  
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### Volunteer Coordinator

Terri Leach (905) 853-8948  
[trsterri@rogers.com](mailto:trsterri@rogers.com)

### Community Representatives

Trish Gunderson (905) 953-8495  
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### Committees...

Committees provide a great opportunity for parents to get involved, and you don't have to be a member of the School Council to join. Please consider sharing your talents with us.

## MISSION STATEMENT

*We unite in our purpose to encourage active participation by enriching students' experiences & achievements in order that they pursue their education with enthusiasm.*

## SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

*"Individual commitment to a group effort — that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."*

*-Vince Lombardi*

Individual commitment to a group effort is also what motivates your School Council. The team that has come together this year is a group of highly motivated, dedicated parents, who strive to serve our parent community, our school, and most of all, our students. Every decision we make is a collaborative effort between the school administration, the school council representatives and our families. Your input is critical to helping us make decisions that affect our children.

A prime example of this is the lunch programs that are now available at Clearmeadow. Our families returned a total of 212 Lunch Questionnaires, and the following were the results.

<i>Option</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number who chose This Option</i>
1	No lunch programs	2 (2%)
2	Pizza lunch only (fundraiser)	46 (21%)
3	Lunches as a service only	41 (18%)
4	Lunches as a service AND Pizza Friday Fundraiser	120 (54%)

Your input determined that we needed to provide the Lunch Lady and School Lunches as lunch services to our parents, and for the School Council to take on the role of providing the Friday Pizza Lunches as a fundraiser for the school. We have received an overwhelming response from parents wishing to volunteer to assist with the Pizza program and we would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere thanks to all. We literally would not have been able to do it without you.

Since no lunch programs are currently running on Thursdays, those days may be used to run special fundraising lunch programs like Sub Lunches, to help raise funds for specific projects like the Grade 8 Graduation trip. Stay tuned for updates! Thursdays will also be used to run Pizza days when Friday is a PA day.

If you require additional lunch program forms, the School Council will be making lunch forms available for printing from the Clearmeadow Public School website.

Please feel free to contact any one of your School Council members if you have questions or suggestions. We look forward to hearing from you.

*The Clearmeadow School Council*





## **A MESSAGE FROM YOUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR**

Welcome back to Clearmeadow! The school year is well under way and we are looking to “update” our contact database for our Parent Volunteer Program. Please take a minute to complete and return the CLEARMEADOW SCHOOL COUNCIL REPLY FORM so that our information is up-to-date. Whether you are a returning volunteer or new to volunteering at Clearmeadow, we need to have up to date and complete contact information, so that we can best coordinate schedules and events.

There are many opportunities to participate in your children’s school experience this year at Clearmeadow and volunteering is one of the most rewarding. Whether you are able to donate only one hour of your time, or you have committed to once a week in a classroom, all of your efforts make a BIG difference.

I look forward to meeting and working with all of you this year. Feel free to contact me with any questions or to sign up for any of our opportunities!

Terri Leach, Volunteer Coordinator: [trsterri@rogers.com](mailto:trsterri@rogers.com) (905) 853-8948

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS**

The following is the schedule for the remaining School Council Meetings for the 2008-2009 school year:

Monday December 1, 2008	Thursday January 8, 2009	Monday February 2, 2009
Tuesday March 3, 2009	Wednesday April 1, 2009	Tuesday May 5, 2009
Tuesday June 9, 2009		



If there is anything of a school-wide nature that you would like to see discussed at any one of these meetings, please forward your suggestions to Heather Moffatt at [heatherbmoffatt@yahoo.com](mailto:heatherbmoffatt@yahoo.com), no later than one week prior to the meeting date. All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held in the school library. Reminders will be posted both on the School Council Bulletin Board, and the sign in front of the school.

Minutes from the meetings are available for viewing (please do not remove them) in the library, and are located in the resource room at the back of the library, in the School Council binder. For your convenience, and for those who are unable to attend our meetings in person, meeting minutes will also be available on the Clearmeadow Public School website in the near future.

As always, babysitting is available and is free to all who wish to attend our meetings. If there is anything else we can do to make it easier for you to attend in person, please do not hesitate to let us know. We’d love to see you at one of our meetings!

## **DO YOU KNOW A GREAT TEACHER?**

The Premier’s Awards for Teaching Excellence honour the extraordinary work of teachers, support staff, principals, vice-principals and school board staff. This is your opportunity to give these remarkable professionals the recognition they deserve. For more information, and to review the award categories and criteria visit [www.ontario.ca/teachingawards](http://www.ontario.ca/teachingawards) or call 1-800-387-5514. Nomination forms are available online.

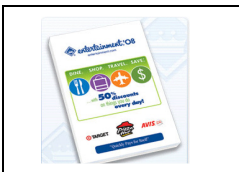
**Nomination deadline: January 31, 2009.**





### Volunteers Are Always Needed...

If you have a couple of hours and would like to help with any of our events, please contact Terri Leach at (905) 853-8948 or at [trsterri@rogers.com](mailto:trsterri@rogers.com)



## **FUNDRAISING NEWS!**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your ongoing support of our fundraising events. Last year we successfully raised over \$37,500 and could not have done it without you. These funds helped us continue with our annual commitments to improve literacy, provide funds for classroom and departmental needs, enhance school clubs, improve technology, and improve student leadership programs. We also assisted with the costs of the school skating trips along with funding the new Guided Reading program and other great initiatives!

We recognize that the amount of fundraising can sometimes feel overwhelming. Please note that the funds raised through the following School Council programs will directly benefit approved school initiatives. We would also like to stress that ***all programs are OPTIONAL***. Should you find one that interests you, or one that may interest friends and family members, please pass the information along. The more participation we have, the greater the funds earned for the school! If a specific program does not interest you, please do not feel obligated to participate.

Your Fundraising Coordinators,

Michelle Rich

[michelle.j.rich@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.j.rich@gmail.com)

Sharen Pismarov

[nspismarov@rogers.com](mailto:nspismarov@rogers.com)

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### **Mabel's Labels – Annual Program**

Need labels to help locate your child's items? Our school benefits from ALL label orders placed online through <http://www.school.mabel.ca> or via mail-in order forms available upon request. Clothing labels, Stickies, Bag Tags, Allergy Alert labels & more are available! Personalize your labels with names, nicknames, initials - whatever you choose. Cool icons help even little ones identify their own belongings. Dishwasher, microwave, laundry & kid tested! This program will continue throughout the school year so you can take advantage for camps as well as school. Clearmeadow will receive a percentage of the proceeds from EVERY order that will go directly to help fund school council initiatives.

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### **Boston Pizza – Annual Program**

We are also continuing our partnership with Boston Pizza. Simply save your Boston Pizza receipts and 5% of the subtotal will be credited back to Clearmeadow by doing one of the following:

1. At the restaurant you will find a box located at the front doors with the name of our school on it. Simply drop off your receipt in the box; or
2. Send in your receipts in your child's agenda and a representative of the school council will deliver them to the restaurant for you.

Please help spread the word! Receipts from friends, family and neighbours that don't attend Clearmeadow can also support our initiatives by submitting their receipts. (Note: This program only applies to the Newmarket location). If you would like to receive a \$5 coupon, please return the bottom portion of the CLEARMEADOW SCHOOL COUNCIL REPLY FORM included in this newsletter.

### **Entertainment Book 2009 – November 2008**

Do you like to save money? If you said YES, this program is for you. An order form was sent home earlier this month offering you the chance to purchase a copy of the new 2009 Entertainment Book for only \$25! It's filled with 100's of discount coupons that offer 2 for 1 and 50% off deals at your favourite restaurants and attractions. You also have access to 100's of online printable discounts including fine dining, hotel and car rental savings! You SAVE money and the school EARNs money to put towards the things we need most! Books will also be available for viewing and/or purchase November 27 – 28 outside the library during the Student Led Conferences! This offer is for a limited time only – start saving today! (All coupons are valid until November 1, 2009.)

## Chapters

### Chapters – December 3, 2008 – 6:00pm – 10:00pm

Mark your calendars and come out to Chapters Newmarket on the evening of December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Join us for an evening full of culture and literacy! 10% of all purchases of regularly priced, in-store product from the evening will benefit our school. Get started on your holiday shopping and have a chance to win a door prize! Our featured author for the evening is our own, Mr. Dinsdale! Come out and peruse our “Teachers Picks” and buy a book or other gift item for someone you love! Chapters online also offers a “wish list” option should you wish to share your list with others shopping at this event!

*Please note that in order to ensure maximum funds raised during our event, iRewards and other discount programs will not be available during this time. Gift card purchases will NOT be eligible to earn funds.*



### Miko Toy Warehouse - December 3 – 7 and December 10 – 14 – TWO WEEKS ONLY!

Coming soon! The Clearmeadow Miko Toy Warehouse Fundraising Drive! Visit Miko for your holiday shopping needs during December 3 – 7 and 10 – 14 (they are closed Mondays & Tuesdays). If you shop during this period, **please be sure you have your receipt stamped at the cash in support of Clearmeadow Public School** to be eligible to earn funds for our school. Miko will donate 10% of the pre-tax total for all receipts submitted to the school with the required stamp on the back. A reminder notice will be included in December’s newsletter!



### Dance-a-Thon - February 2009

An absolute favourite with our students, the Dance-a-Thon will once again be returning to Clearmeadow! Currently slated for February 2009, the event is sure to be a crowd pleaser! Students learn special dance steps and then show off their moves in this fun-filled display of pure energy! We are always looking for volunteers to help us make this event as much fun for the kids as we can. Watch for updates on the theme and date. We will also be looking for donations for prizes, so keep us in mind over the holidays if you or your family receives any gifts you don’t quite know what to do with. We can always find them a good home!

## MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER UPDATE



Once again, you’ve shown tremendous support for literacy at home, through the QSP Magazine fundraiser. Your incredible support of this program has earned Clearmeadow over \$10,000 to date! Those funds will enable us to support literacy initiatives within the school as well. Things like helping to bridge the gender gap in our EQAO writing results, which is a definite focus in the School Plan for Continuous Improvement at Clearmeadow.

Remember, you can continue to place your magazine subscription orders online at [www.QSP.ca](http://www.QSP.ca) all year long! Just remember to quote our group number which is **10085**, and Clearmeadow will continue to benefit from your generous support. Thanks again, for making this year’s QSP Magazine Fundraiser a huge success!



We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Barbira James and the many volunteers who helped pull this program together to help our school. Without you, this would not have been possible. Barbira will be organizing one more magazine drive for Clearmeadow next year, but we are currently looking for a volunteer who will apprentice with Barbira on next year’s drive, with the goal of taking on the organizational role the following year. Anyone interested in helping should speak to our Volunteer Coordinator, Terri Leach.

