



Hello Reader,

The Spring Flowers are Blooming!

Finally, I have committed to completing the latest newsletter. The past two months have been busy completing my blogging project while making a short trip to Victoria and offering support to our sons.

Our short trip to Victoria at the beginning of March was a refreshing change. I was able to get acupuncture and osteopathy treatments from a magical healing couple, Jeff and Amanda Conway-Jones. It was great seeing Andrew, Kristina and a number of our friends. There is never enough time. Now with the longer days, it is much more manageable to make a day trip to the Victoria area.

We had a lovely treat in mid-March when Andrew came to visit for Mark's birthday and Matt's departure from the area. Yes, our time during the end of February and into March has been spent offering support to Matt after he secured a new position in Fairmont Hot Springs. This required him to sell his place, buy a new place in Radium, and pack and move into our place for two weeks. He is now in his new location working and waiting for his new place in Radium.

As mentioned at the end of January I was losing steam to continue blogging. Pivoting, I decided to change the deadline to March 11, the start of March break for many BC school boards and for Ontario schools.

Love and hugs,

MC Dazzle

February 2022

The theme for February: **Family and Friends** since it is the month that celebrates Valentine's Day followed by Family Day.

Week 1 - Communication Checkups

- 1). [Is blood thicker than water? Yes! When You Stop, Look, Listen plus Ask and Forgive](#)
- 2). [Who do we need to look at after stopping mid-conflict? Ourselves!](#)
- 3). [What is the Best Way to Refrain From Judging While in Conflict? Listen!](#)
- 4). [Do You Listen Passively? Do You Interrogate or Ask Non-threatening Questions?](#)
- 5). [Conflict Teaches Lessons! Are We Able to Forgive, Maybe Forget and Move Forward?](#)

Week two celebrates the **Importance of Friendship**. The isolation that many of us have experienced during the pandemic has caused many of us to re-evaluate the importance of friendships in our lives. We have gained a new perspective on the definition of good friendship.



Week 3 - Community & Cooperation

- 1). [When Does Our Canadian Right to Speak Out Rob the Rights of Our Canadian Friends?](#)
- 2). [How Are Winning Kid's Athletic Teams Created? Play All the Players Equally or Only the Best?](#)
- 3). [One Way to Support, Develop, and Teach Cooperative Communities? At Recess on the Playground](#)
- 4). [Are Kindergarteners Leaders? Wee Ones Are Wiser and More Mature than Many Realize!](#)

Week one focuses on **Communication Checkups**. Family and friend relationships are all grounded in communication. All too often our egos take over which unfortunately gets in the way of relationship building. We can get obsessed with making our own points, judging others, riddling them with intrusive questioning or not embracing another's willingness to make amends and move forward.



Week 2 - Obstacles to Achievement

- 1). [Valentine's Day? Embrace Love Found in Our Families, Friends, Partners, and Communities](#)
- 2). [Is Social and Physical Distancing Affecting Friendships and Social Skills? Yes, for Both Children and Adults](#)
- 3). [Female Friendships are Intense, Complicated, and Usually Pivot Around Lots of Communication](#)
- 4). [Are Male Friendships Less Emotional, Action-Driven, Less Intense, and Simple Than Those of Females?](#)
- 5). [The Best of Friends Are Often Found in Strong Cross-Generational Family Relationships](#)

Week three's theme of **Community and Cooperation** was triggered by watching the freedom convoy and questioning what it means to be a part of a larger family, namely a school, team, community or country. How do we ensure that everyone feels heard and respected? How do we blend people from many 'tribes'? Do we assume that might and age are right or are we willing to acknowledge the wisdom generated from our younger members?



March 2022

March's theme was **For the Love of Story**. I am committed to following the philosophy expounded by 20 books to 50K community. Since I have over 40 children's stories in my writing stable, and given that I began my self-publishing journey, I am passionately committed to sharing (marketing) my stories. This month was about self-love and sharing nine stories (some older and some very new) that are dear to my heart. Many of these video readings are new while others were redone in hopes of refreshing the readings.

Week 1 - Growth Mindset

- 1). [Honesty: the Greatest Virtue that Anchors All Other Virtues? Or Is It?](#)
- 2). [Do You Wish You Could Wave a Magic Wand and Make Things Go Your Way?](#)
- 3). [You Don't Have to Sit Still to Mindfully Meditate? Try Mindful Walking](#)
- 4). [Can Animals Teach Us to Be Better Humans?](#)
- 5). [Grandparents Are Our Family Gems! Their Support and Stories Strengthen our Families](#)

During the second and final week, I share four **new stories** that were written in the past two years. Three were inspired by three special friends and the fourth was written about my 'Irish twin', my brother.



Week one's story theme was **Growth Mindset**. Most of my stories are written to provoke discussions on social skill development. This first week begins with a social skill story I wrote back in 2007. The second two were inspired by two dear friends Tara and Sallie. The last two stories were inspired by my parents and their life at the cottage north of Montreal.



Week 2 - New Stories

- 1). [A Child's Attachment to Comfort Objects is Common and Healthy](#)
- 2). [International Women's Day is a Time to Embrace Gender Neutrality](#)
- 3). [Red and Blue Yarn and the Nest at the Barn, a Story Inspired by Love, Service, and Ravens](#)
- 4). [As We Age, Do Siblings Often Become Best Friends?](#)

My last blog post was my attempt to put closure on this latest blogging project. My hope was to offer not just reflections on the process but tips for others who might be considering taking on frequent blogging. Possibly others might be inspired to routinely blog?

Now that Matt and Torsha (our grand-pup), have moved to the mainland, I have spent several days reorganizing, cleaning and resting. It's time for me to illustrate a new story I just drafted last week. In the next month, with the help of Leslie Bell, my editing and publishing captain, I hope to self-publish 2-3 more stories, which will put me over halfway to 20 books to 50 K. As Buzz Lightyear proclaims, "To infinity and beyond!"

Dear Dazzle

Again, I invite people to comment or ask questions or offer topics that you would like me to research and blog about. Just send me an email at mcfairy@telus.net. I promise you I will not share your email address. Also, let me know if you prefer that your name not be mentioned in the blog. I will only respond to your email. I will not assume that because you emailed me that you would want to get the newsletter sent, as such I ask that you separately sign up for the newsletter if you are interested. There are benefits to signing up as your name will be entered into a monthly draw for one of my books which I will send out along with an additional wee fairy surprise.

This month **Toronto Mike's family** is the recipient of [Happy Cat and Merry Cat](#), plus a few other stories! [Thanks Mike for the endorsement!](#)

Song of the Month

I am the third generation Canadian of Ukrainian and Polish grandparents. I couldn't be prouder of my ancestral roots. In the face of the illegal invasion of Ukraine, and President Zelinsky's formidable leadership I share this new song that has brought me to tears. I hope it is widely shared.

<https://americansongwriter.com/in-a-tribute-to-ukraine-president-zelenskyy-john-ondrasik-asks-can-one-man-save-the-world-shares-story-behind-the-lyrics/>

Word of the Month

In the face of yet more conflict and a war that has potential to escalate further, the word that comes to mind is peace. This got me thinking of how the word peace has become cliché. Does the meaning of the word really resonate with us? As a result, I thought maybe thinking and using some synonyms could allow the energy and power of this critical word to permeate our being and the state of our world. Let's think and use some of these words: harmony, calm, serenity, tranquility, and hearts-ease.

"Can One Man Save the World?"



Peace -

noun

1. freedom from disturbance; tranquility.

"you can while away an hour or two in peace and seclusion"

2. a state or period in which there is no war or a war has ended.

"the Straits were to be open to warships in time of peace"