

WILKINSON NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2012

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome everyone back to, what I'm sure will be, another fantastic year at Wilkinson. I trust that everyone had a relaxing and restful summer and is ready to go as classes begin and Fall sports, clubs and activities will all start up very shortly. I am very excited to be back at Wilkinson and look forward to working with students, parents and staff as we move forward through the year.

I would invite parents to encourage their children to take full advantage of everything that Wilkinson school has to offer. Parents and guardians are also encouraged to stay actively involved in your students' education. Through School Council, newsletters and phone calls, we can keep the lines of communication open.

All the best for a very exciting and rewarding 2012 – 2013 school year! Please see the article from City Parent magazine with tips for a successful school year. Ms. Adams and I continue to have an open door policy and welcome you in to share ideas and concerns at any time.

Sincerely,
Allan Kelly, Principal

WELCOME BACK

The Wilkinson School Community Council extends a warm welcome to all new and returning Wilkinson parents as we head into the 2012 - 2013 school year.

To start the year off we thought that it would be helpful to provide an overview of our school's daily schedule. We've also included other important dates and reminders. If you have any questions, please contact us via email at wilkinsonparents@yahoo.ca or note in the Council

mailbox in the Main Office. Someone will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

Paula Weekes Kahn, Chair
Wilkinson School Community Council

WILKINSON SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Wilkinson is fortunate to have an active Council with many parent members from our school community. The mandate and responsibilities of the Council and its members are covered in our constitution. This document and past approved meeting minutes are available on our school website <http://www.wilkinsonschooll.ca/>.

The Council meets monthly during the school year and **all** Wilkinson parents and guardians are welcome to attend even if they aren't an elected/voting member. Some parents stay on the Council for a few years but each year members move on and we want to ensure our Council remains vibrant and representative of our school population so new parent members are always welcome and encouraged to join. Childcare is provided during the meetings.

Nomination Forms for the 2012-2013 Council are included in the Welcome Package. Anyone wishing to be a voting member of this year's Council should complete and return this form to the Council mailbox in the main office by Friday September 21st.

CURRICULUM NIGHT & COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Curriculum Night will be held Thursday September 27th from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. This is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, see the classroom, and learn about grade expectations and the class routines. Before the classroom activities start, Mr. Kelly will introduce the teachers in the gym at 7pm and then the School Community Council elections take place. The election only lasts a few minutes and

then parents head off to the classrooms for the remainder of the evening.

Curriculum Night is an informative evening for you to learn more about your child's education and what they do each day at school. If you require specific information about your child's progress please make arrangements with the teacher for a mutually convenient time to meet privately. Curriculum Night is not intended for parents to discuss their child's progress.

WILKINSON SCHOOL DAY

MORNING

8:30am – First bell.

Teachers begin supervising in the schoolyard.

8:45am – Second bell.

Students in grades 1 to 6 line up in the schoolyard to enter the school. Kindergarten students should be dropped off with teachers in the Kindergarten play area in the north side. Teachers let the students into the school.

8:50am – Official start of the school day.

8:55am – National anthem and announcements.

Teachers have taken attendance by this time so any students arriving after the national anthem starts must stop by the Main Office for late slip. Otherwise office staff may phone parents as part of the *Safe Arrival Program* confirming the student's absence.

10:10-10:20am – Morning recess.

Kindergarten has recess separately, at times determined by the classroom teachers.

**11:20am – End of morning:
Kindergarten classes.**

Caregivers meet students at the classroom door.

11:30am – Lunch begins.

Students are encouraged to eat lunch at home. If this option is not available, the small lunchroom is for grades 1 to 3 and the big lunchroom is for grades

4 to 6. There are four lunchroom attendants. Microwaves are not available.

Children have until 12pm to finish their lunches before going outside with an attendant. One attendant stays inside to supervise students who take a little longer. On extremely cold or rainy days, students are kept indoors. Watch for more information about milk sales and pizza lunches.

12:20pm – Bell rings.

Teachers take over from the lunchroom attendants to supervise the schoolyard.

AFTERNOON

12:30pm – Bell rings.

Students line up and have 5 minutes to enter the school.

12:35pm – Start of the afternoon.

1:55-2:10pm – Afternoon recess.

Kindergarten has recess separately, at times determined by the classroom teachers.

3:05pm – End of afternoon: Kindergarten classes.

Caregivers meet students at the classroom door.

3:20pm – Official end of the school day.

Depending on the location of the classroom, students will exit from the north or south doors.

Reminder! Label everything you send to school with your child(ren). It makes it so much easier when looking through the Wilkie Lost & Found. Check out our Mabel's Labels fundraiser (page 4) for some products that help.

LATENESS REMINDER

In order to provide the best possible program for students, it is necessary for them to attend school regularly and on time. When students are late they miss important information and it is disruptive to the teacher's lesson.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

LATE SLIPS

Teachers take attendance twice a day – first thing in the morning and right after lunch. For those students who don't arrive before the national anthem in the morning or before 12:35pm after lunch, they must go to the office and get a late slip before going to their classroom in order to let the office know that a child is safe at school, even if a teacher has already marked them absent. Problems arise when a child doesn't get a late slip because there is no record that he/she is at school. We want to avoid unnecessary concern and panic of parents being called and told their child is not at school when they are! If your child isn't going to be at school, call the *Absence Line* (416-393-9575; press "1").

SPORTS & H.E.A.L.T.H.Y EATING PROGRAM

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a fun, healthy, active and safe summer. Did you watch the summer Olympics? It was an impressive display of hard work, determination and athleticism from many athletes all over the world. Great job Canada! First on the agenda for school sports this year is the Cross Country team! The Cross Country team will consist of runners from grades 2-6. Practice will be everyday at 8:00am. If it rains we will go inside the gym to practice. The Cross Country meet is on Wednesday, October 3rd at Ashbridges Bay. If you are interested in signing up please see me, Mr. Kasaval, in the morning at 8 am or in the gym to pick up a permission form. Remember, the permission form must be signed before you can join the team. Commitment is a must so let's see you out there every day, if possible, at practice. Good luck runners! Other sports will be starting shortly so it's important to listen to morning announcements.

Wilkinson will be continuing the H.E.A.L.T.H.Y. Eating Program this year. We have been recognized two years in a row as a healthy eating school by the provincial government. Congratulations Wilkinson!

We will be starting the program on Monday the 10th of September. Here are the healthy snacks for the month of September:

- Week 1 / Sept. 10-14: Apples
- Week 2 / Sept. 17-21: Carrots
- Week 3 / Sept. 24-28: Bananas

Happy healthy eating Wilkinson!
Craig Kasaval, Physical Education

NUT ALERT

There are a number of students with allergies to nuts and nut products. These allergies are potentially life threatening; even the smell of nut products can trigger a reaction. As a result, students are asked not to bring any foods containing nuts or nut products to the school as part of their lunches and snacks. Please read labels carefully before sending something with your child to the school.

FUNDRAISING

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS

A Wilkie tradition! We hold 6 to 8 movie nights each year in the gym (Friday evenings), complete with popcorn, pizza and drinks. They're an inexpensive way to take the family out for a movie so bring your blanket and pillow and enjoy the show! Keep your eye out for details of our first feature this year. Please note that children must remain accompanied by an adult 18 years or over at these events.

Top Tip for New Families: Volunteers are always needed for Movie Night set up and take down. It is a great way to get involved and meet others in our Wilkie Community!

PIZZA LUNCHES

A treat for the students and a break from making lunch once a month! The forms will be sent home shortly outlining the Pizza Lunch dates, choices and asking for volunteers.

DONATE NATURALLY

Looking to make your life a little easier and to help the Wilkinson school community at the same time? Here's one idea: shop online at Donate Naturally (www.donatenaturally.com). This online store sells organic and natural products and will deliver them right to your home. The other good news is that Wilkinson will receive 15% of the total you spend. All you have to do is select Wilkinson from the scroll down menu when you register. First time users will also get a 30% discount by using the code: **tryit30**.

SUPPERWORKS

Eat well and raise money for Wilkinson! SupperWorks is a fun and convenient way to get nutritious, tasty food on your table – without the time, hassle and mess! Even better, it is a fundraising activity for Wilkinson. When registering for a session at The Beach location, enter the charity code WPS and 4% of the gross proceeds will be donated to the school. Check out this month's menu at SupperWorks here www.supperworks.com.

CONTACT US

If you'd like to contact the Wilkinson School Community Council send an email to wilkinsonparents@yahoo.ca.

If you'd like to contact the Communications team, visit our school web site at www.wilkinsonschoool.ca or send an email to wilkinson.communications@gmail.com.

Thank you to this month's contributors:
Jill Spellman

Editors: Jill Spellman & Deanna Rosolen

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MABEL'S LABELS

These labels are designed to deliver maximum durability and will withstand the dishwasher, microwave and UV rays for years to come. They are perfect for labelling students clothing, school and lunch bags. Very helpful when these end up in Lost & Found! Please support the fundraiser and visit the Wilkinson Mabel's Labels site: www.wilkinson.mabel.ca.

IMPORTANT DATES - SEPTEMBER

MON. SEPT. 3RD

Labour Day – NO SCHOOL

TUES. SEPT. 4TH

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL –
Junior Kindergarten and Grades 1 to 6 **only**.

WED. SEPT. 7TH – FRI. SEPT. 9TH

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL –
Senior Kindergarten

Note: Senior Kindergarten classes have a "staggered" start in September.

MON. SEPT. 17TH

2011/12 Parent Council Meeting – 7pm
(Child care provided)

FRI. SEPT. 21ST

Parent Council Election Nominations due –
drop off at Main Office.

THURS. SEPT. 27TH

Curriculum Night & Parent Council Election – 7pm

OCTOBER

MON. OCT. 8TH

Thanksgiving Holiday – NO SCHOOL