



NEWSLETTER

NOV. 2011

Principal's Message

I'm happy to report that my absence was shorter than anticipated and that I'm back at work and in good health. Thank you for all your support and well wishes!

We are currently working on a comprehensive bullying prevention and intervention program for Wilkinson. Input is being gathered from all stakeholders and our Safe Schools Committee will be focusing on this as part of our safe and caring schools meetings. Parents will have an opportunity to preview the plan in our next Parent Council meeting on Monday, November 14th. Representatives on the Safe School Committee will be available to bring your thoughts/suggestions/concerns forward to the committee. Our plan includes the definition of bullying, prevention and intervention strategies, training and communication and outreach strategies and processes for monitoring and review. Our goal is to create the safest and most caring environment possible for the students of Wilkinson.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the staff of Wilkinson for coaching, organizing and running clubs, sports and other extra-curricular activities. Over the coming months there will be lots of opportunities for your child to become involved outside the classroom. Thanks to those who organize these activities. Please encourage your child to become involved. I look forward to seeing you during Parent-Teacher conference time if not before.

Sincerely,
Allan Kelly, Principal

Important Information

ELEMENTARY PROGRESS REPORTS

Last year teachers provided a progress report card in the fall and a provincial report card in the winter and spring terms. The progress report card is different from the report card in that it places a strong emphasis on the development of students' learning skills and work habits. Wilkinson students will be receiving their progress report card on Monday November 14th.

Remember these tips for the parent interviews with your child's teacher:

1. Time is short! Prepare questions beforehand
2. If possible, leave younger children at home; they find these interviews hard to sit through
3. Ask about subject areas not included in this first report
4. If an interpreter is required, let the teacher know well in advance.

You may want to ask the teacher, does my child:

- participate in classroom activities
- join in discussions
- show self control in school situations
- relate well to the teacher and other adults
- express his/her thoughts and ideas clearly
- seem happy at school?

You may want to tell the teacher about:

- school activities your child talks about at home
- responsibilities your child handles at home
- significant changes/disruptions that may have occurred at home
- strengths and needs of your child.

CARIBOU MATH COMPETITION

Two of our students participated in the Caribou Math Competition, a free online contest run by Brock University. We are extremely proud of Michael Bradley (grade 4) who placed 2nd in the TDSB and 21st in all of Canada plus Connor Kranbetter (grade 3) who placed 13th in the TDSB. Congratulations Michael and Connor!

ISLAND NATURAL SCIENCE SCHOOL TRIP IN JANUARY 2012

Our grade 5 and 6 students will be going to the Island Natural Science School for a three day overnight trip. One group will be going from Jan. 16th - 18th and the other group will be going from Jan. 18th - Jan. 20th. More information will be coming home soon but if you can't wait check out <http://toes.tdsb.on.ca/residential/island>.

Important Information(cont'd)

ECO TEAM NEWS!

It has been another busy few weeks for the Eco Team. October 17th – 21st was litter-less lunch week at Wilkinson. All week long, Eco Reps monitored students' lunches and handed out "Caught Being Green" cards to students for bringing in litter-less lunches – that means NO juice boxes, juice pouches or packaged snacks. Every Friday a card will be drawn and the winner will get to choose an eco-friendly prize. So far we have been very impressed by the number of litter-less lunches. A vast majority of students bring their lunches in reusable containers and their drinks in reusable bottles. Keep up the great work, Wilkinson!

On September 28th, the Eco Team got a personalized tour of the Learning Garden by former parent John Hykel. John talked about how the Learning Garden got started and showed us some of the native plants in the garden. We did a little bit of weeding at the end. Thanks to John for a very interesting tour. We are hoping to do more work in the garden this year. If you would like to help one day at lunch or before school, please get in touch with Mme. Barbier or M. Carkner.

We have also been busy brainstorming ways to reduce electricity and waste in the school. Stay tuned for more campaigns and events brought to you by the Eco Team!

ATTENTION: The Eco Team is looking for donations of eco-friendly prizes for our "Caught Being Green" program. We are planning to give out one small (\$1-4) prize per week for the rest of the year. All donations will be greatly appreciated and larger donations will be saved for Earth Week. Drop off at the Main Office. Thanks in advance!

Mme. Barbier & M. Carkner

LIBRARY NEWS

Wilkinson's Library has been extremely busy this past month. In fact, so busy that I am putting a **call out for volunteers!** I am looking for parents who are interested and able to help out once a week in the school library. Help is needed with the processing of books, with re-shelving library materials and with general management of books and resources. If you are interested and have the time, I would love to hear from you! Please leave your name and contact information with the Main Office or email me @ joel.krentz@tdsb.on.ca.

I am also looking for a group of parents to help run the upcoming **Scholastic Book Fair**. The Book Fair will take place November 14th - 18th in Room 3. The Book Fair is incredibly popular and contributes significantly to the book resources in the school. If interested, leave your name and contact information as outlined above.

To learn more about what is happening at the Wilkinson Library, check out our new landing page @ <http://about.me/wilkinsonlibrary>. Here you will find links to the Library Blog, the School Library Website and Wilkinson's Twitter. Happy Reading!

Mr. Krentz

WILKINSON LITERACY NIGHT

On Thursday, Nov. 24th we will be having a Literacy Night at Wilkinson. Parents and guardians, you are invited to join us to find out how you can support your child with reading and writing at home. A flyer with more details will follow.

SPORTS & HEALTHY EATING PROGRAM

We are well in to the Fall season and the Junior Boys' Volleyball team and Junior Girls' Basketball teams are practicing hard for their tournaments next month. Keep up the hard work! Wilkinson's cross country team fared well in the South Conference finals. Allie Brown in grade 3, made it to the City finals where she placed 43rd. Wilkinson congratulates her: Well done! A special thank you to the parents and parent volunteers for making our cross country run at Ashbridges Bay an enjoyable one!

Wilkinson's H.E.A.L.T.H.Y. Eating Program is doing very well as more and more students are eating the healthy snack of the week. Please check the H.E.A.L.T.H.Y. Eating Programs bulletin board in the main hall for each week's healthy snack, nutritional information and websites for delicious recipes. Great healthy eating, Wilkinson!

November's healthy snacks are:

- Oct. 31st – Nov. 4th: Pears
- Nov. 7th – 11th: Salad (any kind!)
- Nov. 14th – 18th: Grapes
- Nov. 21st – 25th: Broccoli

Enjoy and stay active!

Mr. Kasaval

WINTER CONCERT

The winter concert will be coming in December, so mark your calendar. The winter concert is Thursday, December 15th from 6-7pm. The following groups will be performing at the concert:

- Primary Choir (Grades 2 & 3)
- Junior Choir
- Orff Ensembles (all Orff groups)
- String Class
- Ukulele Groups (still to be confirmed)

Ms. Levy

JUNIOR CHOIR – HELP WANTED

Ms. Levy needs volunteers who can put chairs away at the end of Junior Choir rehearsal on Wednesday. If you are able to help, please contact April Moon at april.moon@rth-mh.com.

When: Wednesdays at 12:30 – 12.40pm

Where: Room 3

eNEWSLETTER

An eMail distribution group was created late October for the purpose of communicating with Wilkinson families (i.e. Wilkinson Newsletter). To date a number of families still need to provide their eMail details to the Main Office. As a result the November newsletter will be circulated both in hard and soft copy. Please contact Jill Spellman at jill_spellman@yahoo.ca if you submitted your informa-

tion but did not receive the email prompt letting you know that it had been published online at our website.

DENTAL SCREENING

Dental screening is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 14th until Thursday Nov. 17th.

23RD ANNUAL HAUNTED HOUSE

A special thank you to the Simpson family who annually create our Haunted House in Room 3! It was a very spoooooooky event!

Fundraising

PUMPKINFEST

The 3rd Annual Pumpkinfest was held on Sunday. Pumpkins were sold out in record time! Thank you to everyone who participated in the day, especially Pumpkinfest organizers, Ruby Lederman and Brady Sheppard.

TERRY FOX

The final amount raised was \$8000.00. A fantastic effort by Wilkinson staff and families! You may have noticed that Mr. Krentz, Mr. Cross, Mr. Kelly and Ms. Wareham were all sporting shorter 'dos as a result of surpassing our target amount!

Community Information

UKULELE PERFORMANCE

On October 1st and 2nd the Children's Ukulele Program – an ensemble of kids (some from Wilkinson) led by Melanie Doane and Batya Levy –performed at a concert at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre featuring The Makaha Sons. The kids from the program had a wonderful opportunity to perform on stage, increase the awareness of the program and raise funds.

5th Annual Parents Make a Difference Conference: Team Up with your Children

The TDSB Parent and Community Involvement Office (PCIO) and the TDSB Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) would like to invite you to the 5th Annual Parents Make a Difference Conference: "Team Up" with your Children. The conference will be held at Earl Haig Secondary School, 100 Princess Avenue North York, ON, on Saturday November 12, 2011, from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Come and share in this interactive day that brings together parents from throughout our TDSB communities. Learn about the TDSB and how you can become more effectively involved in your child's education. Our goal for this conference is to equip you with as much information about our school system as possible all in one place. For more information, visit: www.tdsb.on.ca.

Important Dates

TUES. NOV. 1ST

Picture Day

SUN. NOV. 6TH

Daylight Savings Time Ends
(Clocks back an hour!)

MON. NOV. 7TH

Eid al Adha

FRI. NOV. 11TH

Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10.30am

SAT. NOV 12TH

TDSB 5TH Annual Parents Make a Difference Conference

MON. NOV. 14TH

Community Council Meeting – 7pm
Childcare provided

MON. NOV. 14TH – FRI. NOV. 18TH

Elementary Progress Reports go home
Scholastic Book Fair @ Wilkinson

THURS. NOV. 17TH

Parent Interviews (evening only)

FRI. NOV. 18TH

Professional Activity Day – NO SCHOOL
Parent Interviews (morning only)

TUES. NOV. 22ND

Picture Re-Take Day

THURS. NOV. 24TH

Literacy Night

FRI. NOV. 25TH

Pizza Lunch

FRI. DEC. 2nd

Movie Night – Smurfs

VETERANS' WEEK

NOVEMBER 5 - 11



HOW WILL YOU REMEMBER?

Pumkinfest 2011



~MOVIE NIGHT~



FRIDAY DEC 2ND
DOORS OPEN AT 6:45PM

Contact Us

Go to our Web site at www.wilkinsonschool.ca
or leave a message at (416) 393-9575.

Thank you to this month's contributors:

Jill Spellman

Editors: Jill Spellman

Design/Layout: Gerald Flach - gerald@zebragator.com

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