

## clubs & sports

### Clubs @ Wilkinson

**The Wilkinson Storytelling Club** (grades 2, 3 and 4) began in November and will continue until the first week in March. There are over 30 members who meet in the library every Tuesday from 12:00-12:30pm with Ms. Found, Ms. Cerqueira and Ms. Mangos. The club focuses on developing oral communication skills that children need to understand and interpret ideas and to interact with others. They also develop the confidence to express and present their ideas fluently.

**The Dance Club /Folkfest** began on Friday January 9th with Ms. Di Iorio and Mr. Kechnie. This is really popular with students from grades 4, 5 and 6 who meet in the gym over the lunch hour for some dancing fun.

On Friday November 28th the **Comic Club** went to the comic and graphic novel store Comics 'N More (Danforth and Greenwood). The students were able to choose books and comics to add to the school's collection. The manager of the store, Rob, is a big help when guiding the children towards age appropriate materials. This was a fun trip and we came back with great resources!

### Wilkinson's Choirs

The Primary and Junior Choirs started up again on Thursday January 15th and the Orff Ensembles began during the week of January 19th. Both choirs will be participating in music festivals this term and next. The Junior Choir will participate in the Chester Invitational Choral Festival on Tuesday March 3rd from 1:00-3:00pm. They will also be participating in the TDSB Music Festival on Monday April 6th from 10:00-11:30am. The Primary Choir will be participating in the TDSB Music Festival on Tuesday April 7th from 10:00-11:30am.

### Sports Teams

The girls' volleyball team has started and will compete in a one-day tournament at G.A. Brown School on Friday February 6th. Ms. Allen and Ms. DiModugno are coaching with the help

of Wilkinson parent Kim Diamond. The boys' basketball season is also underway at Wilkinson with Mr. DePasqua and Mr. Kasaval coaching the team.

### Intramural Sports

The house league sport for this term is Floor Hockey. Students generally play on Tuesdays and Wednesdays over the lunch hour.

## health & safety

Does the water at schools get tested for lead? Has Wilkinson's water been tested?

Yes! Wilkinson's water has been tested and the results met all standards. If you are interested in having your water tested, especially if your home was built prior to 1955, call 416-392-2894 or email [waterqualityline@toronto.ca](mailto:waterqualityline@toronto.ca).

## contact us

Have an article to contribute to the newsletter? Interested in helping out? Compliments? Go to our Web site at [www.wilkinsonschoool.ca](http://www.wilkinsonschoool.ca) or leave a message at (416) 393-9575.

Thank you to this month's contributors: Carol Bennett, Julie Found, Sarah-Jane Gillespie

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# WILKINSON NEWSLETTER

February 2009

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## principal's message

Welcome to the second term at Wilkinson. This month's newsletter gives parents an update as to what has been happening at Wilkinson during January and talks about our upcoming events in February. There has been a lot going on and a lot still to come so I encourage you to read on!

On Friday February 6th, to celebrate the 100th day of the school year students will be participating in activities involving the number 100 throughout the day. I'd also like to remind parents that Friday February 13th is a P.A. Day and Monday February 16th is Family Day. There will be no school on those days.

Our trustee, Cathy Dandy, and the Ward 15 council are offering a free forum on Wednesday February 11th at 7:00pm at Frankland School called "Is Your Child Struggling in School". This is for parents and guardians who want to learn more about how to help their child in school, get questions answered and develop a plan. To register call 416-397-3083, leave your name and number and if you require child care and/or an interpreter.

Our kindergarten registration for September 2009 will take place the mornings of February 17th, 18th and 19th for children born in 2005. Parents of children entering JK next school year are asked to make an appointment with our office staff by calling 416-393-9575. The following information is required in order to register a child for school:

- 1) Two (2) Proofs of Address such as a bill or driver's license that has your name and address on it,
- 2) Parents' identification: either Canadian Citizenship or Immigration Papers,
- 3) Child's Birth Certificate or Immigration Papers,
- 4) Child's Immunization Record,
- 5) Two (2) emergency telephone numbers for people who know your child and know how to reach you in an emergency, and
- 6) OHIP card (Ontario Health Card).

Our Spring Book Fair will take place during the week of February 23rd. Room 3 will be accessible all week for children to purchase books. Also that week, on Friday, February 27th our Annual Talent Show will take place in the gym at 1:00 p.m. and we invite available parents to join us for this showcase.

Finally, we are very excited about our Telling Bee and have had information sessions and assemblies for the students and interested parents. Please see the article in this newsletter for more about this great initiative!

Please contact Ms. Watt or myself at the school if you ever have any questions or concerns.

*Tanya Sterioff*  
*principal*

## important dates

- Fri. Feb. 6:** Movie Night - 6:00pm (gym)  
**Mon. Feb. 9:** Council Meeting - 7:00pm (staff room)  
**Tues. Feb. 10:** Fun Fair Information Meeting 7:00pm (Rm 3)  
**Wed. Feb. 11:** Sweetheart Bake Sale lunch hour (Rm 3)  
**Fri. Feb. 13:** P.A. Day (No School)  
**Sat. Feb. 14:** Valentine's Day  
**Mon. Feb. 16:** Family Day (No School)  
**Tues. Feb. 17:** School-wide lice check  
**Feb. 17-19:** Kindergarten registration (mornings)  
**Feb. 23-27:** Scholastic Book Fair (Rm 3)  
**Fri. Feb. 27:** Pizza Lunch followed by Talent Show at 1:00pm

## fundraising

### Fun Fair Meeting

**Tuesday, February 10th**

Not only is our annual Fun Fair our biggest fundraiser in support of art, music and science programs for our students, it is an important community event as well.

To kick off this year's event, a Fun Fair information meeting will be held on Tuesday February 10th at 7:00pm in Room 3. All parents are invited to come and learn about our big event, what's involved in pulling it together and all the different ways families can contribute. Super-

## Sweetheart Sale

Wednesday, February 11th

Lunch hour in the Fireside room.  
Tasty treats for your sweetheart!

vised child care will not be provided at the meeting, however there is space for kids to do homework or play quietly if you need to bring your child(ren) along.

### Movie Night

**Friday February 6th (in the gym)**

A great way to help beat the "winter blahs" is by coming to our next family movie night on Friday February 6th. We will be showing **Kiki's Delivery Service** which is described as one of the best animated films ever made. It is a coming-of-age story about a young witch named Kiki who, on her 13th birthday, is in a hurry to leave her family and establish her independence. With her talking pet cat, she ventures to a beautiful port city, but finds that making friends is not easy. Using her skill at riding a broom to start an express delivery service, Kiki quickly discovers that she cannot take her special abilities for granted. The film is praised for not presenting Kiki's abilities as symbols for ultimate power, but for the talents that lie within the reach of every child.

- 4-6pm: Set up activities  
6:00pm: Doors open ('pay what you can')  
6:10pm: Pizza arrives; refreshments available  
6:30pm: Movie starts (runtime is 105 mins.)  
8:30-9pm: Clean up

These nights come together and run smoothly because of parent volunteers so if you are able to help with any of the following, please speak to Susan Haney, leave a message at the office or send us a note at: wilkinsonparents@yahoo.ca:

- setting up, which begins at 4:00pm and includes popping popcorn, gathering tables, picking up ice from 7-11 and setting out the chairs,
- working the concession stand and the front "box office",
- picking up our donated coffee from Star bucks for us to sell and delivering it to the gym for 6:00pm, and
- cleaning up (cleaning popcorn machine, putting chairs back and sweeping the floor).

We look forward to seeing you. Bring your pillow and pj's!

### Sweetheart Sale

This annual bake sale is really popular with the students! They can buy something special for their sweetheart, their best friends or themselves for Valentine's Day!

**Wednesday Feb. 11th**

**Lunch hour: 11:30am to 12:45pm**  
**Fireside Room (Room 3)**

#### Your help needed!

If parents could contribute nut-free baked goods for the sale it would be greatly appreciated! We also need volunteers to help with the sale. If you would like to volunteer, please speak to Karen Wiseman, leave a message at the office or send us a note at wilkinsonparents@yahoo.ca.

#### Reminders

The Toronto-Beach location of **Supperworks** is supporting the council's fundraising efforts. A fundraising code for Wilkinson - WPS - has been set up on their registration system through [www.supperworks.com](http://www.supperworks.com). Contact Supperworks or see our December 2008 newsletter for more information.

**Wilkinson water bottles** are still available for \$15 each. To order, download an order form from our Web site at [www.wilkinsonschoo.ca](http://www.wilkinsonschoo.ca) and send it to the school with your payment. Please make cheques payable to "Wilkinson School Council".

All money raised by the council goes to fund additional educational activities and resources to supplement the curriculum, purchase equipment and enhance the school environment.

## Dandy Lion Daycare

There are some spaces available in Dandy Lion's After School program which runs from Monday to Friday, 3:30-6:00pm for a fee of \$265 per month but does not cover PA Days, Winter Break, March Break or summer holidays. Please call Karen or Patrina at 416-469-0091 if you are interested and/or would like more information about the program.

## important info

### Wilkinson's Telling Bee

Over the last 2 weeks storyteller Dan Yashinsky visited with all of our students and staff, as well as meeting with some parents. Dan introduced us to the tradition of the talking stick. Many cultures use items such as a stick or a feather as part of their storytelling traditions. Many of our classes will be making their own talking sticks and using them during their own storytelling. Dan also told stories from his own family history and well as folk tales and riddles.

#### Sharing Stories

Some of our staff and students also shared stories about their own families. Here are some thoughts shared by staff and students following Dan's visit:

Mr. Carrigan told a beautiful story about his Grandmother, *"I thought it was a wonderful experience from my point of view...I felt very emotional because that story was something that effected me throughout all my life."*

Pia from grade 1 told a story and said afterwards, *"it was kind of fun, I liked telling the story"*.

Jackie in Senior Kindergarten was asked what she liked about storytelling, *"We have the ability to share and write it down."*

We are now well on the way with our Telling Bee and we are all looking forward to sharing many family stories over the next few weeks! You can help your child at home by telling them your stories as well as listening to stories they would like to tell. The idea behind it all is to spend time listening and sharing stories with your child. They will be encouraged to share these stories at school and perhaps come home and share their friend's stories with you. Eventually your child will choose one of their favourite stories to write about but at the moment we ask that you just talk, listen and share - don't write anything down yet. If you have any questions about what you can do to help your child at home, please contact Mrs. Found through the school office.