

Well the big day has come and gone, and what a success it was! The rain held off, the food was delicious, and we raised over \$13,000 to support educational activities and resources for Wilkinson students. What more could you ask for from our annual Fun Fair?

Highlights this year included our Dream Baskets, the Dunk Tank and Climbing Wall and the Tai Kwon Do and Karate demonstrations. Special guests DJ Uncle Jeff kept the Fun Fair rockin' and Colin Knowles jammed on the keyboard with the kids. As always, the International Food and Bake Sale were delicious, and the Silent Auction had a record number wonderful items to bid on (thanks to Sarah Gillespie for securing so many donations). Loonieland and the games in the gym are always perennial favourites!

It takes an astounding amount of work to plan and organize the Fun Fair. A huge round of applause goes to April Moon, who took on the job of coordinating the event again this year! April would like to thank the dedicated group of parents who spent that past few months pulling this great day together: Jacquie Baby, Carol Bennett, Laura Bullard-Brezovsky, Kim Diamond, Sarah Gillespie, Laura Haggart, Susan Haney, John Hykel, Karen Lawrie, Ruby Lederman, Daphne McCormack, Sunny Mills, Brady Sheppard, Jill Spellman, Joelle Therriault, Erin Vaillancourt, Paula Weekes Kahn, Cathy Willar and Karen Wiseman.

This newsletter was subsidized and printed by:







contact us

Have an article to contribute to the newsletter? Interested in helping out? Compliments? Go to our Web site at www.wilkinsonschool.ca or leave a message at (416) 393-9575. Thank you to this month's contributors: Carol Bennett, Brady Sheppard.

Editor: Carol Bennett

Design/Layout: Kim Diamond



June 2009

Published by the Wilkinson School Council

principal's message

I know the year has really flown by when I start to write my last newsletter of the year and have experienced yet another successful Fun Fair! June is a particularly busy month as we near the end of the school year so please note all the events in the Important Dates section. Here are a few I would like to highlight...

We will be having our annual Volunteer Breakfast for parents the morning of Monday June 8th so please drop by and join the staff if you have volunteered your time at Wilkinson this year.

There will be two Club and Sports Assemblies in June for all of the students who have participated in extracurricular events. One will take place on **Thursday June 11th** at 9:00am and the second will take place on **Friday June 12th** at 1:00pm.

Our grade 6 grads will be going on their Farewell Boat Cruise on **Tuesday June 16th** from 10:00am-2:00pm. They will be treated to unlimited pizza, salad and soft drinks while on board and touring the Toronto Islands.

Our annual Play Day will be on **Friday June 19th** (weather permitting). Students should come to school dressed to spend the day outdoors and wearing ample sunscreen.

Report cards will go home on Monday June 22nd, graduation will take place on Wednesday June 24th at 4:00pm and the last day for students will be on Thursday June 25th.

Following the tentative listing of classroom assignments for next year, I received a number of requests from parents. If you have a specific request for your child(ren), please submit it to me along with the reasons for the request by **Tuesday June 9th**. Unfortunately, we are not able to honour all requests due to the complexities of student placement, however we always appreciate parent input.

On behalf of all the staff at Wilkinson I wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer!

Tanya Sterioff principal

important dates

Mon. June 8: Volunteer Appreciation

Breakfast - 8:30-10am. Rm.3

Thurs. June 11: Club/Sports Assembly

9:00am in the gym

Fri. June 12: Club/Sports Assembly 1:00pm

Movie Night 6:00pm

Mon. June 15: Council Meeting – 6:30pm;

AGM at 7:30pm, Staff Room*

Tues. June 16: Gr. 6 Boat Cruise

10:00am-2:00pm

Fri. June 19: Play Day (weather permitting)

Pizza Lunch

Mon. June 22: Report Cards go home

Wed. June 24: Gr. 6 Graduation

4:00pm in the gym

Thurs. June 25: Last Day of School

Tues. Sept 8: 1st day of school

* child care provided

53 Donlands Avenue, Toronto, ON M4J 3N7 Tel: (416) 393-9575 Email: wilkinsonparents@yahoo.ca Web Site: www.wilkinsonschool.ca

council update

Message from the Chair...

Wow - can you believe the end of another school year is upon us? It has been yet another busy but fun-filled year for the Wilkinson School Community Council. Every year I've been involved with the council I feel honoured to be part of such a dedicated and engaged group of parents and this year has been no exception. I'd like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the members of this year's Council and other parent volunteers who contribute their time and energy to enhance the Wilkinson experience for the students and the community. I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight some of what we've been able to accomplish this year through their efforts and commitment:

- 1. Parent outreach and community building through events like our Wil-Kitchen cooking evenings, garden clean-up party, as well as our movie nights and new Supperworks initiative which also double as fundraisers.
- **2.** Support of Wilkinson's focus on literacy and the arts by providing funding for the schoolwide Telling Bee, visiting authors, performanc-

WANTED

PIZZA LUNCH COORDINATOR!

As part of the school council's annual fundraising efforts we have pizza lunches once a month for gr. 1-6 students.

We would like to continue these next year but need someone to take the lead on coordinating them.

If you would like more information or are interested please email:

WilkinsonVolunteers@gmail.com or leave a message at the school at 416-393-9575.

es for all grades and the new mural in the library.

- **3.** Keeping Wilkinson green and promoting environmental awareness through our ongoing Learning Garden Revitalization and Shade Tree Planting Program
- **4.** Keeping parents informed through regular newsletters, our Web site and welcoming new parents at kindergarten registration.
- **5.** Promoting school spirit by selling Wilkinson water bottles and sweatshirts. The monthly pizza lunches and our ever-popular Sweetheart Sale are big hits with the students!

Council Participation

The council meets monthly to provide input to the principal and staff on issues that affect our children. Some parents stay on the Council for a few years but each year members move on and we would like to ensure that the Council remains vibrant and representative of our school population.

So when the Council nomination forms come home in September, we encourage you to consider putting your name forward to become a Council member!

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is coming up on **June 15th** at 7:30pm and all parents are invited to attend and child care will be provided. Our final financial position for the year will be presented at this meeting and then will be available on our Web site later this month. Please come out to see what it's all about!

On behalf of the council, have a fantastic summer!

Carol Bennett
Chair, Wilkinson School Community Council

CONGRATULATIONS

...and all the best to Wilkinson's graduating class of 2009!

arts & music

Poetry

We are happy to announce that Jade Germain (from rm.13) had her poem selected for publication in Urban Voices, a TDSB annual publication. Congratulations!

Drama

Ms. Bartkiw's grade 3 class is rehearsing a mini-musical for the primary division on Friday June 5th. An original play, entitled "Whose Tree Is it Anyway?" features a story about urban and rural kids who work together to save a tree scheduled to be chopped down. This musical is giving the Room 13 students many opportunities to learn about different aspects of performing including voice projection, expression as well as the importance of performing while facing the audience. The class will also be designing the sets, posters and programs for this very special production.

Storytelling @ Wilkinson

The Wilkinson Telling Bee took place on May 7th as part of Education Week with about 60 students participating and they all did an amazing job of telling their stories! It was great to have so many family members come out to cheer them on. The storyteller, Dan Yashinsky, also joined us for the Bee and had nothing but praise for the storytellers he heard.

Watch out for the June edition of Snap - Danforth/Beach. Our storytelling students will be featured in it!

The Telling Bee book is nearing completion and every family at Wilkinson will receive one copy to keep. Thank you to the School Parent Council for sharing in the cost of printing this fabulous collection. Keep an eye out for your copy coming home in June!

health & safety

The Government of Ontario is committed to helping make schools safer. One of the ways they do this is by preventing bullying. They have recently updated their guide, "Bullying: We

Can All Help Stop It." which helps parents understand different types of bullying and highlights what to watch for and where to get help. The new version includes a definition of bullying, information about the new rules around bullying and the consequences for students. The guide is available in 22 languages. To get a copy call Service Ontario Publications at 1-800-668-9938 or visit www.ontario.ca/safeschools and click on Preventing Bullying in the left menu if you would like to download a pdf of the guide.

fundraising

Wilkinson T-Shirts

Get them while they last!

We have a supply of Wilkinson t-shirts left from the Fun Fair in all youth and adult sizes! These are black with the new lion logo and cost \$15 each. To order, please send a note with your child to the school office indicating your child's name and your preferred size(s) along with your payment (cheque to Wilkinson School Council or cash) and your order will be delivered to your child's classroom.

Chocolates are coming back!

As you know each year the Wilkinson council raises money through various fundraisers for student activities and additional resources which are not covered by the school budget. In the past, fundraising has allowed us to pay for such things as choir vests, playground equipment, school performances and special events for students in all grades throughout the school, from JK to Grade 6. After taking a year off, we will be bringing our World's Finest Chocolate Fundraising Campaign back in the fall, selling their Chocolate Collection Nut Free Variety Packs. Permission forms will go home at the beginning of September with the students. Each student who participates will be given a case that contains 25 items to sell at a cost of \$2.00 each.

Please note that the products we will be selling are made in a nut-free facility.