

Welcome Message

Whether you're a new or returning Wilkinson parent we extend a warm welcome as you get set for your child to start at Wilkinson in the fall.

We would like to take this opportunity to share a few things with you about parent contributions at the school and how you can stay in touch with what's going on at Wilkinson.

If you have any questions for the Council feel free to contact us via email at <u>wilkinsonparents@yahoo.ca</u> and someone will be in touch with you. We also invite you to get to know our school and keep up with current news by bookmarking our website: <u>www.wilkinsonschool.ca</u>.

-Wilkinson School Community Council

Back To School!

The first day of the 2011/12 academic school year will be on **Tuesday, September 6th**. This is for only for those students in Senior Kindergarten (SK) to grade 6.

Junior Kindergarten (JK) classes have a "staggered" start in September. Avoid disappointment by taking note of the date written in your package from the school. In most cases it is not the same as the first day of school for all other students and will take place between **Wednesday, September 7th and Friday September 9th**.

Notes for JK Parents

 There will be an Open House in June. This is a chance for all our new JKs to come, visit and get to know their teacher and new classmates.

A letter will be sent to you informing you of the date of our Open House along with the name of your JK teacher and room number.

- Wilkinson does not have an all-day learning program in place.
- Kindergarten classes are split and include both JK/SK students.
- There is a snack program for JK/SK classes, so you don't need to run out and buy a lunch bag for the first day of school!
- JK/SK arrival and dismissal times will be announced in September.

We've also asked our kindergarten teachers for some tips for our new JK students. Here they are!

- If your child does not attend daycare, try to participate within some local drop-in programs! This is a fun way to introduce your child to interacting with larger groups of children.
- Encourage your child to dress themselves! Tip: Velcro or slipon shoes are easy to put on and help children feel independent!
- Help your child recognize their name written down. Use uppercase and start with the first letter of their name!
- Get familiar with the Ontario Ministry of Education Kindergarten Curriculum at <u>http://edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/</u> elementary/kindercurrb.pdf.

Important Dates

MON. SEPT. 5TH

Labour Day - NO SCHOOL

TUES. SEPT. 6TH

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL - SK and Grades 1 to 6 only

WED. SEPT. 7TH - FRI. SEPT. 9TH

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – JK (Check with day your child will start. If in doubt, call the Main Office.)

FRI. SEPT. 16TH

Parent Council Election Nominations due – drop off at Main Office

MON. SEPT. 19TH

2010/11 Parent Council Meeting – 7pm (child care provided)

THURS. SEPT. 29TH

Rosh Hashanah begins

TBD:

Curriculum Night Parent Council Election

Important Information

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.

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 2011/12 Council will be included in the Welcome Package sent out in September. Anyone wishing to be a voting member of the 2011/12 Council should complete and return this form to the Council mailbox in the main office.

CURRICULUM NIGHT & SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Curriculum Night is will be in early Fall. 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 6:45pm and then the Council elections take place. The election only lasts a few minutes and then parents head off to the classrooms.

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.

LIBRARY NEWS

As a way of sharing what is going on at Wilkinson's library, our librarian, Joel Krentz, and grade 5 students have created a Library Blog at <u>//web.me.com/joelkrentz/wilkinson</u>. The blog will include regular library updates and happenings, student book reviews, useful links, a gallery of student work and Wilkinson podcasts.

KINDERGARTEN & GRADE ONE SNACK PROGRAM

Wilkinson is fortunate to have a daily nutritious snack program for all kindergarten and grade one students. This is not designed to replace breakfast or lunch and has an annual fee charged at the start of the academic year. Note: We are always looking for parent volunteers to help with this snack program. Volunteers are needed for 30 minutes in the morning or afternoon. If you are able to assist us, please contact the Main Office at 416-393-9575.

Upcoming Events

FUN FAIR 2011

The most eagerly anticipated fundraising event at Wilkinson is coming! Our annual Fun Fair will take place on Saturday, May 28th, from 11:00am to 3:00pm – rain or shine.

We invite you to access the upcoming newsletters on our school website as they will feature a Fun Fair section so that you can prepare for this event.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS

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! Please note that children must remain accompanied by an adult 18 years or over at these events.

Feel free to join us at our next Movie Night on Friday, February 25th featuring Tangled. Doors open at 6.30pm, pizza arrives at 6.45pm and the movie will start at 7.00pm.

Fundraising

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 Supper-Works here <u>www.supperworks.com</u>.

MABEL'S LABELS

Most of us with kids are already familiar with Mabel's Labels. These labels are designed to deliver maximum durability and will withstand the dishwasher, microwave and UV rays for years to come. Best of all 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.

Other fundraising events include our Annual Fun Fair, Movie Nights, Chocolate Sales, etc. Funds raised are used to support additional educational activities and resources as well as a healthy learning environment, such as:

- · Scientists in the Schools
- Visiting Authors
- Musical and dramatic performances
- Enhancements to the school yard
- · Choir vests and sports uniforms.