

WILKINSON NEWSLETTER

September 2008

Published by the Wilkinson School Council

welcome back

The school council extends a warm welcome to all new and returning Wilkinson parents, as we head into another school year and all our various fall activities, both at home and at school.

To start the year off, we thought it might be helpful for returning parents as well as new Wilkinson families to provide an overview of the daily schedule. We've also included other important dates and reminders as a refresher...

WILKINSON'S SCHOOL DAY

8:30am – First bell.

Teachers begin supervising the schoolyard.

8:45am – Second bell.

Students in grades 1 to 6 line up to enter the school. Teachers let them into the school.

Note: JK/SK students are brought to directly to their classrooms by their caregivers.

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

8:53am – National anthem and announcements.

Everyone in the school is expected to stand still for the national anthem regardless of where they are in the school. Teachers have taken attendance by this time, so students arriving after the national anthem starts have to stop by the office for a late slip to let the school know they are present. Otherwise, the office staff may phone parents as a part of the Safe Arrival Program advising the student is absent.

10:10-10:20am – Morning recess.

(JK/SK students have recess separately, at times determined by the classroom teachers.)

11:20am – End of morning JK/SK classes.

Caregivers meet students at the classroom door.

11:30am – Lunch begins.

Students in grades 1 to 6 who eat lunch at school will go downstairs to the lunchrooms. The small lunchroom is for grades 1 to 3 and the large lunchroom is for grades 4 to 6. There are four lunchroom attendants. In the small lunchroom, all the children have until noon to finish their lunches before they can head outside with an attendant. In the large lunchroom, children can go outside on their own once

they've finished eating. At least one attendant will be outside with them. There are activities and games for children who choose to stay inside. On extremely cold or rainy days, all students have to stay inside, where there are activities for all and gym time for the older students. Watch for detailed information about milk sales and pizza lunches.

12:30pm – Bell rings.

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

12:45pm – Bell rings.

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

12:50pm – Start of the afternoon.

2:05-2:20pm – Afternoon recess.

(JK/SK will have recess separately, at times determined by the classroom teachers.)

3:15pm – End of afternoon JK/SK classes.

Caregivers meet students at the classroom door.

3:30pm – Official end of the school day.

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

Important: The parking area in front of the school is reserved for school buses, so please do not park there. Also, idling is not permitted in front of the school.

If you have any questions about the school day, feel free to contact the school office or speak to your child's teacher.

important dates

Mon., Sept. 8:	Council Meeting 7:00pm Staff rm on the 2nd floor
Sept. 15-19:	Collection for Pizza lunches
Fri., Sept. 26:	P.A. Day. No school
Wed., Oct. 1:	Eid al Fitr. Ramadan ends
Fri., Oct. 3:	Pizza lunch
Tues., Oct. 7:	Curriculum Night & School Council elections at 6:45 pm
Mon., Oct. 13:	Thanksgiving. No school.
Tues., Oct. 28:	Picture Day

upcoming events

CURRICULUM NIGHT & SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Curriculum Night will be held Tuesday October 7th from 6:45-8:00 pm. This is an invitation to meet your child's teacher, see the classroom, learn about the grade expectations and the class routines. Before the classroom activities start, Ms. Sterioff will introduce the teachers in the gym at 6:45pm and following that the school council elections take place. Parents are handed a ballot with the nominees on their way into the gym - the election only lasts a few minutes and then parents head off to the classrooms.

Note: Nomination Forms for the 2008-2009 council will be posted on our Web site shortly and will also be sent home with the newsletter at the end of September. Anyone wishing to be a voting member of this year's Council needs to complete this form and return it to the school by October 2nd.

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.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS

We hold 6 to 8 movie nights each year in the gym (Friday evenings), complete with popcorn, pizza and drinks, which have proven to be very popular. 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.

PIZZA LUNCHESES

A treat for the students and a break from making lunch once a month! Cheese pizza from Madina Halal is served. The dates for pizza lunches this fall are **October 3rd**, **November 7th** and **December 12th**. Money will be collected for all three dates at once from September 15th to 19th. The forms will be sent home shortly outlining the choices and asking for volunteers to help on these dates. Please note that this is the only time students can register for the fall pizza lunches. Forms and/or money received after September 19th cannot be accepted.

important information

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.

LATE SLIPS - WHEN AND WHY ARE THEY NEEDED?

Teachers take attendance twice a day - first thing in the morning and again, right after lunch. If students don't arrive before the national anthem in the morning or before 12:50pm after lunch, they must go to the office and get a late slip before going to their classroom.

Late slips do not mean that a student is in trouble. They simply 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 then there's 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 that's where they're thought to be!

If your child isn't going to be at school, call the Absence Line (416-393-9575; press "1"). State your child's name, classroom number, how long your child will be away and the reason why.

OUR WEB SITE: www.wilkinsonschoool.ca

Come and take a tour of our web site! Mark it as one of your online favourites and be sure to visit it regularly for upcoming dates, events and volunteering opportunities. It also contains general school and Council info, and other useful links. Click on Contact Us and drop us a line!

contact us

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

Thank you to this month's contributors:
Carol Bennett, Alison Motluk

Editor: Carol Bennett
Design/Layout: Kim Diamond

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COPY CAT
REPRODUCTIONS

680 Danforth Ave. Tel: (416) 405-8484

