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Clara Anderson

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May 2015 - Newsletter

Character Attribute is "Perseverance"

Message From the Principal

Welcome to May! Where has the time gone? May is a very busy month at Walter Gretzky. Be sure to check out the Dates to Remember in the newsletter to keep up with all of the events. Math continues to be our focus for staff training and student work. Students are working hard on solving real-life problems in math using a variety of strategies. As we move into May, Grades 3 and 6 classes are working hard to be prepared for our EQAO assessments. EQAO will take place during the last week of May. Be sure to have your child attend on time during these days.

A huge THANK YOU to all of the staff and volunteers for running such engaging and exciting extra-curricular activities for our school. Students have enjoyed participating in sports such as badminton and running club. Upcoming events such as the Amazing Race and the Fun Fair offer times for us to get together as a school community to get to know each other better. Thanks for all you are doing to support the WGES community!

Stay in touch with WGES by following us on Twitter @wggriffins and on Facebook on the WGES School Council page. Now you can also get news updates on the WGES blog at www.gretzkygriffins.wordpress.com.

For September, we hope to reduce our use of paper by offering all newsletters electronically.

Have a Marvelous May!



Happy May Day

Growing Excellence... Inspiring Success

EQAO

EQAO assessment will take place during the last week of May. Grade 3 testing runs from May 25th to June 1st during first block. Grade 6 testing runs from May 26-28th, during second block. Please be sure to have your child here on time during this time. Do not book appointments during the EQAO testing time.

Volunteers Needed for EQAO!

We are in need of several volunteers to assist individual gr. 3 and 6 students during the week of EQAO. Volunteers are needed every day from May 25-June 1 from 9-10:20. If you are able to commit to any of these days, please contact Laura Dawson. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated!
Thank you!

Dates to Remember –

Dental Screening – May 5 and 6
Amazing Race – May 7, 6-7:30 p.m.
Mother's Day – May 10
Music Monday – May 11
Track and Field – May 12
Swim to Survive-G7 – May 13, 20, 27
Kindergarten Orientation – May 14, 9:30 -11
Victoria Day – May 18
EQAO G3 – May 25 - June 1
EQAO G6 – May 26 - 28
M.A.D. Assembly – May 29
PA Day – June 5
Fun Fair – June 11



Caught'ya Winners

-Sydney
-Avery
-Rida
-Tristan
-Danika

Flip Flops are fun to wear however dangerous when running on the tarvia. Please DO NOT send your child to school wearing flip flops. Tripping occurs quickly and little toes may become badly skinned causing severe pain.



Thank you for your co-operation with the safety of our children.



Music Monday – May 11

Music Monday is an annual celebration of music education that takes place across Canada on the first Monday in May. We have celebrated it at Walter Gretzky since our beginning. Due to scheduling conflicts we are celebrating it a week late, but at least we are on a Monday this year!

On **Monday May 11**, we will be celebrating Music Monday with performances by various classes, including vocal, recorder, harmonica, ukulele, and guitar, as well as singing by the entire school. Please join us if you can at 1:30 to celebrate music and music education here at Walter Gretzky.



Amazing Race

- Thursday, May 7th
- 6:00 -7:30 p.m.

Come join us for our Cultural Expo Amazing Race

Adventure. We will be showcasing various cultural communities that exist in our world and in the Walter Gretzky Elementary School community. Come with your child and learn about various communities while having an amazing time. Prizes will be awarded throughout the night. Some expos that you can experience are the North American Expo, the Aboriginal Expo, the European Expo, the Asian Expo, the Scandinavian Expo, the African Expo, the Caribbean Expo.

*Music *Games *Fun Facts and Traditions *Prizes

Special Food Days in May - PTA

We are trying out a variety of food days during the month of May.

You will notice a variety of options on the May food order including Papa John's, East Side Mario's, Pita Pit and Boston Pizza.

After trying each one during the month of May, the food committee will decide if we would like to continue with some of these options for next year. Students will be given a chance to give us feedback on their preferences. We hope you enjoy the selections!

- May 8 – Papa John's
- May 15 – Pita Pit
- May 22 – East
- May 29 – Boston Pizza

Kindergarten Orientation – May 14

We are happy to invite all students beginning kindergarten in September to join us for a brief presentation in the gymnasium and then a social time in the classroom. If you have not registered your child, please call the school office and complete the required paperwork before joining us on May 14th.
Look forward to seeing our new students.

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CHOCOLATE BARS FOR SALE



The grade 8 students have been selling chocolate bars for their year end trip and have finished their campaign, however we still have some available for

purchase at the office. The chocolate bars are nut free and **cost \$3** for the mega size. Money now raised will be going to the grade 8 graduation. Please support our grade 8 class. Thank you.

Dental Screening – May 5 & 6

The dental nurse will be performing student dental screenings on May 5th and 6th for children in JK, SK, Grade 2 and Grade 8. Other students may be checked if a concern is noted.

Fun Fair is June 11th!

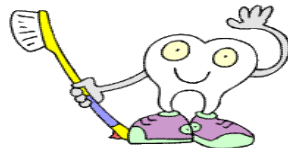
We are looking forward to a fantastic first annual Fun Fair on June 11th. Come out for the evening with your whole family to enjoy some of the following: Games, karaoke, cake walk, food, cotton candy, and much, much more!

We are asking each class to make a theme basket for our penny raffle. Some themes are “A night at the movies”, “A day at the spa”, “A trip to candyland”.

We are asking that each family donate an item for the class theme baskets.

See the flyer coming home with the newsletter. Don't forget to contact Katya Lederman at wgschoolcouncil@gmail.com if you would like to help with the organizing or helping out at the Fun Fair! We would like to say Thanks! to all of you who have already reached out.

JUST A NOTE



FROM

BRANT COUNTY HEALTH UNIT

DENTAL SERVICES



BOOK FAIR RESULTS!!

Congratulations to Athena Katsoulis in Mrs. Harrison's class who won the grand prize of \$25.00 in books for herself as well as \$25.00 in books for Mrs. Harrison's classroom library. Our book fair was such a successful fundraiser for the school and a great opportunity to promote the love of reading. \$5992.40 in materials were sold at the book fair this year. The profit from this sale of \$3901.05 in Scholastic product will go toward the purchase of new materials for the library. These new materials will not only benefit Walter Gretzky School as a whole, but also each student here.

A special thank you for the parent volunteers who dedicated their time to help run the book fair

Thank you again for supporting your school library!

PARENTS AND VOLUNTEERS

We are requesting your support and cooperation in regards to the safety of our students. Please remember to always sign in at the office and wear a volunteer tag when entering the school. If you are just coming to drop off your child or pick up, please do not proceed past the front office. We thank you for your assistance in helping to protect all of our students.

NUT FREE SNACKS



Please be aware, *no snacks or treats are allowed in the school unless they are stamped as being **nut free***. We have students and staff that have severe allergies to various kinds of nuts and we wish to ensure their safety by avoiding potentially dangerous food items in the school. Thank you for your continued cooperation.



Our **MISSION** Engage, support and inspire all learners to achieve and succeed.

Our **BELIEF** We believe that our students should be considered first as the basis for decision-making.

Our **VISION** Growing Excellence...Inspiring Success We Value:

Respect: Treat yourself, others and the environment with care and dignity

Responsibility: Be accountable to yourself, family and friends

Cooperation: Recognize and appreciate how you and others contribute to the overall effort and success of your organization or group.

Compassion: Demonstrate kindness, care and thoughtfulness

Humility: Be humble and recognize your limitations

Inclusiveness: Create an environment where we honor differences and diversity

Integrity: Be honest, sincere, trustworthy and reliable

Perseverance: Act with courage and determination with a commitment to hard work

A Note From Your School's Public Health Nurse...

Bicycle Safety



Bicycle riding can be a lot of fun; but it's important to be safe and wear a helmet! By law, every person in Ontario under the age of 18 who rides a bicycle must wear a helmet. A helmet that fits properly can prevent up to 85% of bike-related head injuries and can save your child's life!

Follow these tips to make sure your child's helmet is safe:

- * Before buying a helmet for your child, make sure it meets the correct safety standards and has a safety sticker from one of the following organizations: CPSC, CSA, Snell or ASTM

- * Make sure that your child's helmet fits properly!

- o Helmets should sit level on the head and should cover the top of the forehead, with two fingers width

- between the helmet and the eyebrows

- o The side straps should make a V shape and should fit snugly around the ears

- o Only one finger should fit between the chin and the helmet strap

- o When your child shakes his/her head from side to side, the helmet should not move



- * Helmets should be replaced every five years

- * If the helmet has been in a crash or is cracked or damaged in any way, it has

to be replaced immediately

- * Remember – different helmets may be needed for different activities! If you're unsure whether or not the helmet is safe for the activity, check with the company that made the helmet!

For more information about bicycle helmets, safety tips and answers to frequently asked questions, visit Parachute Canada at www.parachutecanada.org



