

# École Guelph Lake Public School



David Marquis, Principal

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## JUNE 2017

### Principal's Message

Another year draws to a close and I find myself reflecting on the many positive experiences that we have all enjoyed together at École Guelph Lake over the past ten months. We are so fortunate to have teachers, support staff and a plethora of parents and volunteers who are willing to work together to make each day special for our students while learning in preparation for future challenges.

Our students and staff enjoyed another busy and productive month in May. There were many different special events and activities for our learners at Guelph Lake, many of which are reported on elsewhere in this newsletter. We celebrated our Official Opening as well as the opening to Education Week, our Grade 3 students worked very hard to achieve their potential on the provincial EQAO assessment, we had class photos, Jump Rope for Heart, a bike safety presentation & student crossing guard recruitment with the Guelph Police and our junior students prepared for track & field events to be held in June. We look forward to an awesome month of June!

It has been a privilege to have been involved with everyone at Guelph Lake this past year! Enjoy your summer, and I will look forward to seeing you in September! Bonnes vacances!

D. Marquis

## Facebook Auction

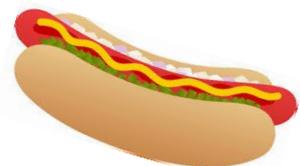
School Council is hosting a Spring Facebook Auction from June 5th-11th. Please access the link on our school web page to RSVP for the event and browse all the great items that are available for bidding!



## FUNSTIVAL

**Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> / 6:00PM-8:00PM**

Please join us in celebrating the end of the school year with an evening of fun activities for students and parents including games, builder boards, face painting, temporary tattoos, basket raffle, bicycle raffle, music, food and our **TOP SECRET** principal fundraiser. (Bring your loonies and toonies for this one!)



## Start date for September

Next year, our students will be back in class on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017 following the Labour Day weekend.

## Are You Moving?

Another reminder to please contact Mrs. Schaefer in the office at 519-822-9271 if you know that you will be moving and your children will not be attending our school in September. Also, please contact the school if you have made any changes to your home phone number, place of employment, etc. It is always important to keep our records up-to-date.



## Thank You

A huge thank-you to our School Council for supporting learning as well as assisting with the costs of many activities over the course of this past year. As well, a special thank-you to those parents who took on a lead capacity in various roles required to make special events take place. It's been a lot of work, but our wonderful parents have handled it all!

## Volunteer Tea

We also say thank you to the many parents who volunteered and assisted in the classrooms and on trips over the course of the year. Please join us on June 26<sup>th</sup> in the library from 11:00AM-12:00PM for our Volunteer Appreciation Tea. You make a difference and we want to express our gratitude.



## September Classes

An important part of planning for next September is student class placements. On June 9<sup>th</sup> staff will be working on the process of organizing classes for next September. Please be reminded that when recommending class placements, teachers draw upon their knowledge of the children regarding their strengths and needs as well as their social interactions. While we value your suggestions, we cannot guarantee particular placements. Final staff changes and the school organization for the 2017-2018 school year will be communicated once all the details have been finalized.



## Kindergarten Orientation

On the June 9<sup>th</sup> PD Day, a Kindergarten orientation will be held in the gym for the parents of our new 2017 Junior Kindergarten students. We look forward to welcoming children from a number of new families to our school community as well as several children who have brothers or sisters already attending École Guelph Lake. As for these new students, they are invited to a special “Pique-nique Ourson” (Teddy Bear Picnic) on August 31<sup>st</sup>. They will have a chance to meet with their teachers and participate in some exciting welcome-to-school activities. It’s all about getting ready for the BIG day! Welcome to everyone!



## Student Medication

If your son/daughter has medication in the office (EPI Pens, Puffers, etc.), it will be sent home with them on the last day of school. If you would prefer to pick up any medication at the office, please contact Mrs. Schaefer at 519-822-9271 and she will set it aside for you to collect.



## Summer Safety

Summer is a carefree time for children and with school out, we need to reinforce the need for safety. Construction is increased and there are more heavy vehicles on the roads which can pose a danger for our children. At school, we are reminding our students about keeping safety in mind when they’re playing outside during their break from school and classes. Parents can do their part by reinforcing the usual road safety rules so that our children are aware when they’re out and about, riding their bikes and having fun with their friends.



## Monthly Environmental Activities to help celebrate our planet



**June 5<sup>th</sup> is World Environment Day!**

*It is vital to teach our children to respect and take care of the environment.*

### Celebrate World Environment Day on June 5th!

**A Platform for Action-** *World Environment Day is the United Nations' most important day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the protection of our environment and is widely celebrated in over 100 countries.*



<http://worldenvironmentday.global/en>

**This year's theme** - *Reconnecting you to nature!*

*On 5 June, go outside and show us that you're #WithNature. Breathe in the beauty and remember that by keeping our planet healthy, we keep ourselves healthy too.*

**This year Canada is the host country!** *Every World Environment Day has a different global host country, where the official celebrations take place. This year's slogan is: "I'm with Nature". Canada is issuing passes giving everyone free entry to all its National Parks for the whole of 2017 as part of its 150th Anniversary celebrations. Be sure to visit a park this year!*

<http://worldenvironmentday.global/en/about/what-is-it>

### Ideas for your family to celebrate World Environment Day!

- **Create an event for family, friends and neighbours** - *There is no end of ideas that you could take forward for World Environment Day. Surprise yourself! Think about ideas that we can do to help the planet like fixing a problem in your community.*
- **Get out into nature** - *World Environment Day is all about appreciating the beautiful planet we inhabit. Why not spend a day in a park, hiking a trail or appreciating a forest on the weekend before World Environment Day.*
- **Inspire others** – *A great idea will naturally attract others who can take a small idea and make it extraordinary. So, with your powers of persuasion, bring on board the people you think can make your idea awesome. Or ask everyone to make their own personal pledge to change one wasteful or harmful habit for the better. Share what you're doing using the hashtag: #WorldEnvironmentDay*
- **Have fun:** *Make your event for World Environment Day fun, inspiring and interesting. For example, Google events happening locally that you can attend, or check out Pinterest for fun, recycled crafts ideas.*

<http://worldenvironmentday.global/en/toolkits#event-kits>

## Transition Plans for Students with Special Needs

Spring has sprung and it's a great time to be reviewing your child's transition plans. Students who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) must have a transition plan, whether or not they have been identified as an exceptional student. A transition plan includes goals for ensuring successful transitions, and the actions for meeting those goals. It is required if a student may need support making any transition, which may include entering, during, or leaving school. A plan to support the student must be developed as part of the student's IEP.

Some transition goals may help with changes throughout the day, such as moving from recess to the classroom, while other goals may assist with larger transitions, such as moving from one school to another or changing grades/teachers within the same school setting.

For many students, the supports provided to the whole class are all they need to have a successful transition, which means they may not need an individualized transition plan on their IEP at this time.

When planning for any transition, the student's strengths and needs are considered, as well as their physical, emotional, and learning needs.

Please communicate with your child's teacher if you feel additional transition supports are required on his/her IEP.

## Summer Reading - Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Summer is quickly approaching and while your school library might not be open during summer break, your student can access our digital collection 24/7! Help your child keep their reading skills strong this summer with eBooks and audiobooks from Overdrive accessible through UG2GO. Students can login to Overdrive using their Windows network login. Digital books can be enjoyed on a computer, tablet, smartphone or eReader device. Read right in the internet browser or download using the free OverDrive app. At the end of the lending period, titles automatically expire so there are never any late fees. Our digital collection can be accessed anywhere in the world, as long as there is an internet connection.

Visit our digital collection at <https://www.ugdsb.on.ca/ug2go> and make sure your student starts summer vacation off right! Look for the Overdrive button under the Read section of UG2GO.



## **Talking About Mental Health – Successfully Shifting from School to Summer**

It is an exciting time of the year. The weather is getting warmer, days are getting longer and summer is just around the corner. School is wrapping up and it is time to think about how to have a good transition from school routines to summer vacation.

The shift from school year to summer break is easy for some, but more challenging for others, particularly those children and youth who experience anxiety or have difficulty with transitions.

So a good transition to summer is important and can lead to a more positive, fun summer experience.

### **Here are some practical tips to make a smooth transition from school to summer:**

Post the summer schedule. Have your child or youth contribute to a family calendar. Be sure to note blocks of unscheduled time as well; that way, you can anticipate free time to use as you wish – even if it's just to enjoy a break in the action.

Be prepared to be spontaneous. Keep a running list of places and people to visit when time permits and the mood strikes. Summer is a good time to stop by the library, bike trail, or concert-in-the-park that you can't seem to get to during the school year.

Revamp – but don't eliminate – your child's daily routine. A daily routine gives most kids a sense of structure and security.

Prepare your child for their scheduled activities. If possible, visit the locations where they will be during day camp or day care in advance. Have your child talk to counselors, caregivers, as well as other kids who have enjoyed those same situations and settings.

Get outside and enjoy the summer. Try to limit the amount of time online, watching TV, or playing video games. Be active and get plenty of sleep and exercise. Being outside, such as going for a walk or playing in the park, elevates our mood and makes us feel less anxious.

Hope you have a wonderful, relaxing, fun summer. However, if you find mental health challenges to be increasing or causing more difficulties over the summer, seek out mental health or addiction supports for your child/youth, you and your family.

## Summer resources for Mental Health and Addiction supports:

Your family physician and family health teams in Guelph, Wellington, Dufferin are excellent resources.

### Canadian Mental Health Association WWD (CMHAWWD):

Tuesday Walk In - 1:30-7:00, 485 Silvercreek Parkway, Guelph.

To access services for Children, Youth and Adults in Guelph/Wellington: : 1 844 HERE 247  
(1 844 437 3247)

<http://here247.ca/>

### Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS):

Tuesday Talk In – 1:00-7:00 pm, 655 Riddell Road, Orangeville.

To access services for Children and Youth in Dufferin: 519 941 1530.

<http://dcafs.on.ca/>

### Family Counselling and Support Services:

Walk-in, Wednesday, 1-7, sliding scale, based on ability to pay, but will not turn anyone away.  
109 Surrey St E, 519 824-2431.

<http://familyserviceguelph.on.ca/>

**KidsHelpPhone** 1 800 668 6868. <http://www.kidshelpphone.ca/>

*Dr. Lynn Woodford is the Mental Health and Addiction Lead for Upper Grand District School Board*

*Follow me on twitter: @drlynnwoodford*

## Visiting École Guelph Lake?

A reminder that it is very important that visitors (including parents) always sign in at the office when coming to our school. If you will be walking through the halls or going out onto the playground, you will be asked to wear a school badge identifying that you have checked in at the office. This is a simple procedure that goes a long way in ensuring that your children are safe here at school. Thank you to all parents who already do this routinely.

## Lost and Found

Our lost and found box is again overflowing with clothing and other student items. Over the next few weeks, these items will be set out and viewed by classes. Please remind your child(ren) to check for lost items. At the end of the year, all remaining items will be taken to a charitable organization.



## Ramadan

The Islamic calendar has 12 months and one of them is the month of Ramadan. The Islamic Calendar is lunar which means it is based on the moon.

During this month Muslims all over the world fast from sunrise to sunset, which means that we can not eat or drink anything from dawn to sunset. We wake up early before dawn and eat and drink a big breakfast, because it will be a long day before we can eat again. Only those people who are healthy are allowed to fast. When the sun sets, we break our fast with dates and water. Then we say our prayers and eat a nice dinner with the whole family.

Muslims pray 5 times a day, but in Ramadan there is a special prayer called the "night prayer". It is fun to go to the mosque for these special prayers because lots of people come and I see my friends.

At our home we celebrate by sharing food and inviting family and friends over. It is also a month of prayers and the reading of the Holy Quran, as it was during Ramadan that the Quran was revealed.

When we fast in Ramadan, it teaches us patience, respect and to be thankful to God for what we have. It is also a time when Muslims give charity to the people in need. Ramadan is a good time to practice doing good deeds too. But we shouldn't just wait for Ramadan, we should do them all the time

The end of Ramadan is celebrated with a day of Eid. Eid is a time of joy, exchanging of gifts and being with family, much like Christmas. On Eid day we wish each other by saying EID MUBARAK!

By Fiza Ahmed (Westminister Woods Gr 3) and Ayyan Sayyed (Meezan School, Gr4)

## One Last Newsletter

Watch for the final edition of the newsletter to come home during the last week of school. There will be a number of information items pertaining to next year such as important dates and staff changes at École Guelph Lake.



**Bonnes vacances  
À tous!**

