

Rickson Ridge P.S.—February 2016

Rickson Ridge Public School

177 Rickson Rd. Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y6
Tel. 519.766-0862

"Where Children Come First"



FEBRUARY 2016



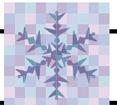
It is amazing how time flies and we are already into February. Report cards come home Feb 9th and the teachers have been busy assessing students so that they can give you an accurate account of how your child is doing in school.

Mrs. Patrick is motivating many students to read through our Forest of Reading. Many readers are in the library discussing the books they have read.

We are supporting Winter Walk to School day on February 3rd and in order to celebrate this we will be going on a walk in the community. Grades 4-8 will be walking in preservation park and the primary students will be walking around the block. Please dress your child appropriately and feel free to join us in the walk.



INCLEMENT WEATHER



During inclement weather, if you hear on the radio the announcement "All school taxis and buses in **South Wellington and the City of Guelph** will not be operating today " then Rickson's buses are cancelled but school is open if it is safe for you to get your child to school. During times of inclement weather, please listen to: 1460 CJOY, 106.1 Magic FM, 900 AM CHML, 107.9 FM, 105.3 Kool FM, News Talk 570 AM, 96.7 FM, 1150 AM CKOC, or CKOC-TV. You could also check the board website (www.ugdsb.on.ca) at the bottom of the page, click on tab for bus cancellations. For further information on bus delays, click on the clock. Information is posted by 6:30am every morning.



OUTDOOR RECESS



The weather has been fairly inconsistent this year and we never know when it will snow, be cold or wet. Please remember to assist your child in wearing the proper clothing to school. Running shoes are not warm enough when worn outside for 25 minutes. All students are expected to participate in outdoor recess, as this important, active break aids concentration and success in the classroom. To help ensure the safety of all students, please remind your child(ren) that snowball throwing and sliding on ice is not allowed at school.

RICKSON RIDGE P.S.—FEBRUARY 2016



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Registration for all new junior and senior kindergarten students starting school in September 2016 will take place the week of February 1st-5th. If you know of anyone with a child born in 2011 or 2012 please encourage them to register. We need to know our kindergarten numbers in February in order to effectively assign teachers to classrooms in September. The date for the Annual Kindergarten Ride Program is August 30th 2016. More information will be available in June.

ARE YOU MOVING?

As we look forward to next year and start to look at staffing it is helpful to have an idea of the number of students returning to school. If you know that you are moving before September 2016, please call the office so that we can input the correct number of students for each grade. This allows us to better predict class sizes for September.

FAMILY DAY

Monday, February 15, 2016.

The Upper Grand District School Board will be observing Family Day on February 15th. Rickson Public School will be closed. Enjoy the day with your family!



Friday February 12th the students of Rickson will be dancing to raise money for the School in the annual Dance –a-thon sponsored by the School Council . There will be water, freezies, popcorn and glow bracelets to purchase during the fabulous event taking place in the gym. A suggested minimum pledge of \$10.00 per child to attend the dance-a-thon is encouraged.

Parent volunteers are needed to help during the event. If you are able to give some of your time for this fun-filled day of dancing please contact Laura Scott at whoops@rogers.com

TIPS FOR PLAYING OUTDOORS IN WINTER

Being active in winter is easy when you keep in mind how to dress for it. It's important to layer up when sending your kids out to play. Also be sure to cover up their head, hands and neck.

Why all the layers?

- You'll stay warmer overall
- Wear mittens to keep your hands warm and dry
- It's a good idea to wear 2 different pairs of socks-one to draw sweat away and the other to keep you warm
- Put on a pair of 'long johns'. If your legs get too cold your muscles will tighten and even cause a strain or sprain
- Outdoor temperatures can go up and down-warmer in the sun and cooler in the shade. Make it easy to take a layer off and tie it around your waist-just put it back on when you get cold.

www.goodlifekids.com/resources/activities/tips-for-playing-outdoors-in-winter

Upcoming Events

February	Event
Feb 1	Vision Screening- JK/SK/Gr. 2
Feb 2	Police Visit-gr. 2/3, 4/5, JK/SK
Feb 3	Winter Walk Day
Feb 9	Reports home
Feb 12	Dance a Thon
Feb 15	Family Day-no school for students
Feb 16	School Council
Feb 19	Hydro Presentations

Upper Grand recognizes February as Black History month

SELF/PEER EXPLOITATION

Keeping Our Children and Youth Safe Online

Over the last few years, there has been a significant increase in the number of reported cases of young people involved in self/peer exploitation. This is generally defined as youth creating, sending or sharing sexual images and/or videos with peers via the Internet and/or electronic device. The Board recently purchased a resource for every elementary and secondary school called Self/Peer Exploitation, School and Family Approaches to Intervention and Prevention. The resource was created by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, which is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to promoting safety of all children. Principals and Vice Principals also received an in-service on the guide.

The following two links may assist youth and families who have been impacted by child sexual exploitation:

Cybertip.ca may be used to report child sexual exploitation

NeedHelpNow.ca is a website that offers find some practical information for youth on how to deal with this (for example, how to get pictures removed from the internet, how to deal with peers, how to talk with someone, etc.).

The Canadian Centre for Child Protection also produces several useful resources for parents that may be found using the following links:

<https://www.cybertip.ca/pdfs/>

[C3P_SafetySheet_SelfPeerExploitation_en.pdf](https://www.cybertip.ca/pdfs/C3P_SafetySheet_SelfPeerExploitation_en.pdf)

https://www.cybertip.ca/pdfs/C3P_SafetySheet_Cyberbullying_en.pdf



Public input sought for draft policies

The Upper Grand District School Board has adopted a new approach to the development of policies and procedures, important documents that guide the board, staff and activities of our school system. Our goal is to improve policies and procedures at the draft stage, with your help. By providing an opportunity for input from parents, the community and stakeholders we are aiming for greater openness and transparency in our governance.

The first policy, procedures and guidelines to be posted for public consultation are related to "Equity and Inclusive Education". You are invited to review the draft documents and submit online feedback at www.ugdsb.on.ca/policy. The deadline for public input is April 13, 2016. Persons without internet access may call 519-822-4420 ext. 723 to request a printed copy of the draft documents.

RICKSON RIDGE DANCE -A -THON K-6

When: Friday, February 12th, 2016

Times: Kindergarten 9:30 – 10:00 am

Grades 1-3 10:10 – 11:30 am

Grades 4-6 11:30 – 1:00 pm

This event is on a regular school day, students who do not attend will go to their regular classes.

Location: Rickson Ridge Gymnasium

Cost: We suggest a minimum \$10.00 pledge per child to attend the dance-a-thon, but any amount is great! Take your pledge form home and ask 5 of your friends or family members for a \$2.00 donation each.

**ALL PLEDGES AND FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL BY FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 5, 2016.**

Attention Parents: We need **volunteers** to help during the event.
Please contact: Laura Scott at whoops@rogers.com.

Items for sale at the dance

Bottled water: \$1.00 each

Freezie: \$1.00 each

Bag of popcorn: \$1.00 each

Glow bracelet: \$0.50 each

REMEMBER: The money raised will be used to enrich and improve our school programs and our kids have a chance to show their school spirit at the same time. This event is run by School Council.

INTERMEDIATE FEBRUARY DANCE

When: Friday, February 12th, 2016

Time: Grades 7-8 1:30 – 3:00 pm

This event is on a regular school day, students who do not attend will go to their regular classes.

Location: Rickson Ridge Gymnasium

Cost: \$10.00 Admission **Tickets will be purchased on the day of the dance.**

Attention Parents: We need **volunteers** to help during the event.
Please contact: Laura Scott at whoops@rogers.com.

Items for sale at the dance

Bottled water: \$1.00 each

Freezie: \$1.00 each

Bag of popcorn: \$1.00 each

Glow bracelet: \$0.50 each

REMEMBER: The money raised will be used to enrich and improve our school programs and our kids have a chance to enliven school spirit at the same time.
This event is run by School Council.