

Willow Road Public School

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May 2017 News

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you had some wonderful family time over the Easter Break. Spring is in full bloom and the weather looks to be making the turn for the better. As the weather changes, please ensure that we are preparing the students for the outdoors. As we do in the winter, we will monitor temperatures and make sure it is safe for students to be outdoors for 25 minutes. In addition, please ensure students are following the dress code. We have spoken to students in Gr. 7 and 8 to review this with them and we would ask that you help us ensuring students are dressing appropriately for school. We are at the time of the year when we start to plan for September. Staff will engage in a number of different interventions over the next two months to support a successful 2017/18. If you feel that you have valuable input to this process, please feel free to call me personally to discuss your thoughts. Have a wonderful month of May!

Mr. S. Viveiros

EQAO

EQAO testing for our students in Grade 3 and Grade 6 will be taking place Tues. May 23rd – Mon. June 5th. To give all of our students the ability to complete the testing, please ensure that your child(ren) arrive on time and please do not book any appointments during school hours for that time period. If you have any questions regarding the testing please do not hesitate to give us a call.

SKILLS COMPETITION

Congratulations to our students who attended the UGDSB Skills competition on April 7th. They were given challenges to tackle in robotics, design and technology, lego mechanics, animation, health and safety, and video technology. They made us proud with their perseverance in the midst of tough competition as they modified and rethought their plans to reach successful solutions. They included their team members and showed ingenuity. Special mention to the following teams receiving medals that day:

- * 2nd place - Junior design and technology - James, Efie, Kody, Ashtin
- * 2nd place - Junior robotics - Judah, Tanya, Marko, Abdullah
- * 1st place - Intermediate animation - Nola, Logan F, Jake D, Aiden P
- * 1st place - Intermediate green energy technology - Zoe, Donal, Carson, Hosanna

GRADE 8 GRADUATION

The date of the graduation is Tuesday June 27th at 7:00 pm. The formal evening will be followed by a dance for the students that will end at 10:00 pm. More details about graduation will be provided as the day draws closer. Girls planning to wear heels? Are you practicing? The sooner you start practicing the easier it will be and your feet will be much happier!

SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS & BIKES

Please remember that there are no facilities within the school to store items of transportation. If you don't have a lock for your bike please leave it at home. For the safety of all students, the use of hover boards, skateboards, roller blades, scooters, bikes and wheelie shoes are not permitted on school property.

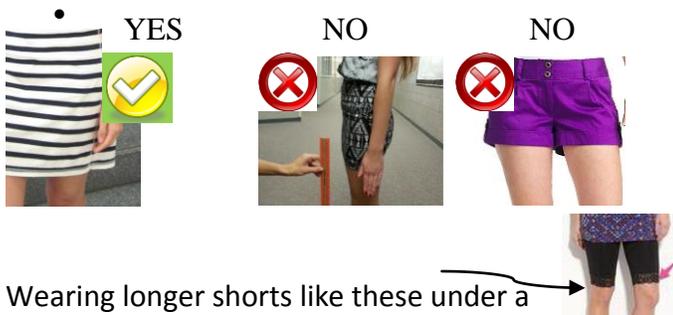
WARM WEATHER ATTIRE

Although we know it can be difficult to find, students must be appropriately covered during the warm weather. Please note the following dress code regulations. Offending students will either be loaned appropriate attire or sent home to change.

Proper attire is free from symbols of hate, violence, cigarettes, drugs, alcohol, racism or discrimination, obscene words or gestures, inappropriate messages such as double entendres, or anything detracting from a positive learning environment.

Muscle shirts, spaghetti straps, low-scooped necklines, bare midriffs or backs, lace or cutouts are inappropriate. Shirts must be clearly 'tuckable'.

Shorts and skirts must be of reasonable length and miniskirts and short shorts are NOT permitted. Shorts and skirts must be below your child's finger tips when their arms are relaxed and straight at their sides.



Wearing longer shorts like these under a shorter dress/skirt/shorts is ok.

Undergarments should never be visible.

Socks and running shoes are required for phys-ed and outdoor sports like activities.

If in doubt, it is likely against dress code. It would be best to change before coming to school. Good rule to follow is no more than 2" above the knee. If you have any questions feel free to contact the office at anytime.

The customs of our multicultural community will be accommodated with special regard to safety. Fashion trends change over time. Any decision regarding clothing will be at the discretion of administration.

LOST & FOUND

Are you missing items? Be sure to check our Lost & Found bin located outside the gymnasium doors. Give us a call, if you can describe it, it's yours! Any leftover items by 4pm on June 29th will be donated to charity. Parents/Guardians, please sign in at the office before proceeding further into the school.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

600 students from the Upper Grand District School Board and Wellington Catholic District School Board will be joining together to celebrate sport at the Special Olympics, May 17, 2017. The event will be held at St. James sports fields, and includes track and field events as well as adaptive events. Athletes flock to the sports fields for the opening ceremonies at 10:00, and compete in 3 events each throughout the day. Family and friends are welcome to join in the fun and cheer on the athletes. Parking is available at the Grange plaza.

CHILD AND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING WEEK!

Participate! Have Fun! Increase Awareness! Increase Well-being!



The UGDSB is participating in Mental Health and Well-being Week and so are our community partners.

Here are some of the events in the community for you and your family to participate in:

CMHAWW is presenting the following:

(see <http://mailchi.mp/2d253253c223/mental-health-week-events-2017?platform=hootsuite> for details)

May 1st Canadian Comedian and Mental Health Advocate Mike MacDonald - \$20 - CIGI - Waterloo - 7:00 p.m.

May 1st Free film viewing of 'Resilience' - Recital Hall at the Guelph Youth Music Centre - 7:30 p.m.

May 2nd - Free SafeTALK training in Guelph - provided by our Education and Promotion - 6:00 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.

Monthly Environmental Activities to help celebrate our planet



May 22nd is International Biodiversity Day!

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

Celebrate International Day For Biological Diversity on May 22nd!

The United Nations has proclaimed May 22 The International Day for Biological Diversity to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.



22 MAY 2017
INTERNATIONAL DAY
FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism

Biodiversity, a simple word with some very broad reaching implications quite simply means: 'A wide range of life' We need to learn more about it in order to protect it.

"Biodiversity, at the level of species and ecosystems, provides an important foundation for many aspects of sustainability." António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

<https://www.cbd.int/idb/2017/>

Ideas for your family to celebrate Biodiversity Day!

- *Visit farmers markets in your local area to try new types of produce. Whether you incorporate heirloom tomatoes into your cooking, or try one of the rainbow of colors of carrots out there that aren't orange, biodiversity can bring a great new experience to your table.*
- *View photos of endangered species on the Internet and discuss the reasons why these animals are threatened and why they should be protected.*
- *Join a community group and help to remove invasive plants from your local environment. These teams of volunteers will gather to remove plants that are impacting the local fauna's biodiversity by taking over natural grow areas.*
- *Get out into the world and enjoy all the different types of life your local area offers. Even a local park can have an amazing variety of life you've never noticed, from the insects crawling through the grass, to the flowers we so clumsily lump together as 'wildflowers'.*

Adapted from: <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/international-day-for-biological-diversity/>

Celebrate the diversity of our natural world every day!

