



Island Lake Public School

May 2015 Newsletter



**Education Week
May 4th to May 8th, 2015**



Education week is celebrated across Ontario schools during the first full week of May. This year it is also Mental Health Week. At Island Lake PS we have several activities planned not only during Education Week but throughout the month of May.

Child and Youth MH Week 2015

Mental Health is how people think, act and cope with life and the stressors and challenges that are part of living. Someone's state of mental health can influence the ways in which they look at themselves, their life and others around them. It also strongly influences an individual's ability to learn and achieve their goals. Learning how to take care of and increase our mental health is an important tool in obtaining and maintaining a feeling of well being.

Retiring in June

After almost 30 years in education I have decided to retire at the end of the year. While the decision was not an easy one, it is the right one for me. I will miss all of the students, staff and parents tremendously. I couldn't imagine a more satisfying career and the past 5 years at Island Lake Public School have been wonderful.

I look forward to spending more time with my husband on the golf course and exploring parts of the world we have not yet explored. At this time we do not know who the new principal will be but we should know by the end of May.

Colleen Egan

Have a SUPER Week!

- S**ocial Connection
- U**plifting Emotions
- P**ersonal Health
- E**motional Calming
- R**esilient Thinking

Child and Youth Mental Health

Student Placements

Who is teaching Grade ____? This is a popular question directed to staff and administration at this time of year. The planning process that will result in a school organization for the 2015-2016 school year will commence in May.

The student placement task is complex, time consuming and because it is consensus seeking, can be the subject of many revisions. We hope that by sharing this information concerning school organization, you will understand the care and thought required to develop a plan.

Our primary goal at Island Lake is to develop balanced classes. A balanced class allows the variety of interests and talents of our learners to emerge and be appreciated. Like your family, the class unit provides a balance of opportunities for a range of learners to succeed through appropriate challenges. The learner develops the feeling of belonging and the feeling that in a variety of ways, he/she makes a noticed contribution. Listed in order of consideration and importance are the criteria we use to build classes.

Balance of Ability, Interests and Talents

Balanced According to Gender

Learning Styles

How does the learner go about the process of learning? What kind of environment best allows that style to be utilized effectively?

Teacher's Style

How does a teacher go about the teaching/learning process? What kind of learners might flourish best with this teacher?

Social Blending

What is the best cluster of individuals to effectively and efficiently learn? This should not always be viewed as a grouping of friends.

Parent Requests

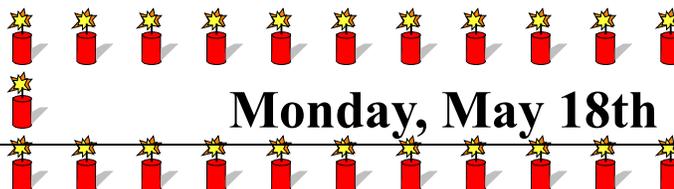
Requests are to be received, via a letter with reasons, no later than Friday, May 15th at the office. Please be kind and tell us what you would like as opposed to what you don't want.

Remember that your preference for a particular teacher or setting must be weighted against all other considerations. We will consider your feelings and wishes but can make no guarantees. The teaching staff is a dedicated group of professionals. Years of meeting the learning needs of children give them the unique qualifications to make these decisions. It takes hours of discussions, reflection, revision and consideration of alternatives to arrive at the best organization for our school. The best may not be perfect, but represents what we believe are the best chances for success.

Tentative Teaching Assignments for 2015-2016

Kindergarten	Mrs. Brown Mrs. Palmer (4 days per week) Mrs. Vickery
Gr. 1	Ms. Chaubal
Gr. 1	Mrs. Lindsey
Gr. 1	Ms. Birken
Gr. 2	Open
Gr. 2/3	Ms. Sanders
Gr. 2/3	Mrs. Gear
Gr. 3/4	Ms. Andrews
Gr. 4	Mrs. May
Gr. 4/5	Open
Gr. 5	Mr. Broderick
Gr. 6	Mrs. Martin
Gr. 6	Mrs. Pesic
Gr. 7	Ms. Bailey
Gr. 7	Mr. Beazley
Gr. 8	Mr. Peeters
Gr. 8	Mrs. A. Clark
DD	Mrs. Teo

*Please note that these assignments are very tentative as board staffing has not yet been finalized.



Monday, May 18th



Victoria Day Holiday

EQAO

Assessment of Reading, writing and Mathematics

Our Grade 3 and 6 students will be writing the EQAO assessment from May 25th—June 4th. Parents can use the information that EQAO assessment results provide to look at strengths and needs and to celebrate progress.

As a school community, along with other information, we use it to guide our school improvement initiatives for reading, writing and mathematics. This benefits all the students in our school. The results are also used by our school board and the Ministry of Education to direct attention and resources where they are needed.



CANADIAN TIRE MONEY COLLECTION

For the months of May, the *Me to We Club* at our school will continue to collect Canadian tire paper money to donate to their Jumpstart program.

Since Canadian Tire is getting rid of their paper money, this is your chance to get rid of that pile of bills!

We are looking to meet a school donation goal of \$500 in Canadian Tire money!



Island Lake Public School Garden Clean-up Day!



- When:** Saturday, May 9th
Time: 11 AM to 2 PM (Come and help for a 1/2 hour or more)
Where: Front school gardens, community gardens, schoolyard
Why: To spread new mulch around trees and on the garden; trim off last year's growth from perennials; pick up plant debris and litter etc.
Who: Parents, students, staff, high school students (community hours)

What to bring:

- This is a BYO event—bring your own garden tools, wheelbarrows & gloves
- Bring your water bottle. Refreshments and treats will also be available
- High school students in need of volunteer hours and willing to commit to 2 hours of work
- The whole family!!

Community Garden Plot

If you are interested in having a plot in the School's Community Garden, it's FREE!! You just need to supply your own plants and tools. If interested, please contact Charles McCabe at cmccabe.bcomm@gmail.com. Let's get growing!!



**We are having a
Bag2School
fundraising collection!**



**To raise funds for our school,
we are asking everyone to**

DONATE UNWANTED USED CLOTHING

The more we collect, the more funds we raise

**· Please give clean clothes, soft toys,
bedding, drapes, belts, purses and
shoes (tied together)**

· Bring items in any type of bag

When: May 11, 12, 13

Return Bags to : Front Foyer

School Organizer: Ms. Bailey



Jump Rope For Heart

It's time to practice your skipping! On Friday, May 22nd our JK to Grade 3 students will be involved in Jump Rope for Heart. Come support our Jumpers!



Litter Less Lunches

By Jack Gillies

A litter less lunch is a home made and packed lunch that involves no waste or garbage.

I feel litter less lunches are important because they make less garbage, they are healthier and over time they save money.

Litter less lunches keep our earth clean. Litter less lunches make our earth clean by using less packaging that is producing too much waste. If people purchased less plastic packaged food, it would reduce the amount of waste and the amount of plastic manufacturing. Less manufacturing means less packaged food. That means less waste. Less waste means that pollution would slow down.

Litter less lunches can also make you healthier. Litter less lunches are homemade and that means they are made with real food. Real, whole, food usually contains less sugar, salt and bad chemicals. That is known to be healthier. Real food contains more nutrients, like vitamins and minerals. These nutrients help the body to grow stronger, build a better immune system, help with concentration in school and make you feel better.

You can also save money with litter less lunches. You save money by not having to buy as much food in small packages because litter less lunches mean you can buy in bulk. It is less expensive to buy food in bulk. Also there are reusable containers you can buy. Over time you save money by sending food from home (like leftovers).

The impact litter less lunches has had on me is that it has allowed me to choose to be healthy and made me feel like I am part of the keeping the earth clean. This matters to me. These types of lunches help me avoid too much sugar, salt and bad chemicals. They give my body the nutrients that I need. I like putting less waste in the garbage. Less garbage means less pollution. I like helping be a solution to the pollution.

Island Lake Public School Annual Bicycle Roadeo

Date: Tuesday, May 12th

Time: 9:00 am—12:00 pm



Students interested in participating in the bicycle roadeo will need to bring their bicycle to school on May 12th. Please remember to bring a lock so that you can lock up your bike during the day. The Orangeville Police will help ensure all bicycles are safe. The event is being organized by Madame Jamieson and Mr. Beazley's Grade 7 students.

Litterless and Rebound Lunches

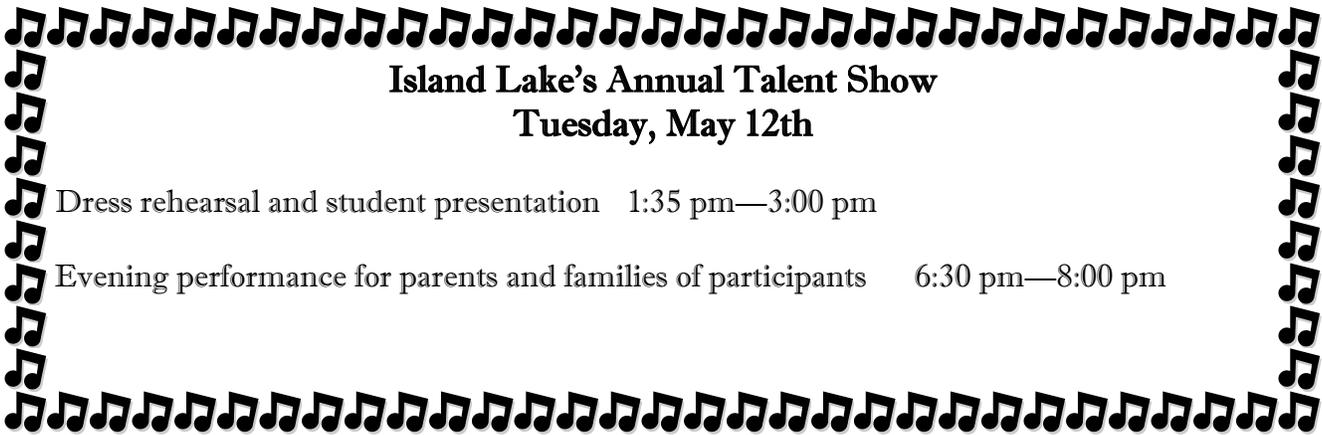
Written by Zaryna Leo (Grade 5 Student)

In my opinion, I think that litterless and rebound lunches are perfect ideas and affect me in a good way. Litterless lunches are when you have no garbage in your lunch and you just pack things like containers. They affect me in a great way because if your lunch has garbage that you throw out, it goes to the dump like all garbage. Eventually the dump will fill up and the garbage will have to go somewhere else. They dig landfills and put all of that excess garbage in the hole and bury it up. If you do that, it will affect the environment. Even if the garbage is in the dump, it makes the air unfresh and dirty, and that hurts the environment. If me and everybody else live in an environment that's being destroyed, then maybe we won't be clean or healthy. Potentially plants that we need to eat won't grow, all of the trees would get cut down to form landfills and we won't have clean, fresh air or water. That's what could happen if you don't use a litterless lunch. When I do a litterless lunch, it makes me think of how much better I can make the world.

I also think rebound lunches are good ideas. Rebound lunches are when you have garbage in your lunch and you take it back home. They affect me because when we take our lunch home it still goes in the garbage. We rebound it instead of putting it in the garbage at school because when I take out my lunch and look at my garbage, I see how much garbage I've produced and when I see that, I think of the bad things garbage can do to our environment. If other people do this and actually think about their garbage, then they won't keep making landfills. Rebound lunches also affect me because when I look at how much garbage I have, I also look at how much garbage it takes that can't be recycled so I don't buy those products anymore. If I told my whole family what those garbage products can do, they won't buy them as much and that means not as much garbage in the dump needed to be put in a landfill.

If we don't buy those products then the company won't sell as much. If the company doesn't make as much money the factory won't keep making holes in the ground and tearing down animals' habitats. If at least 50 percent of the population does rebound or litterless lunches, then the world would be 50 percent better, cleaner and healthier. If we live in a clean environment, we will be clean, healthy and have all of the great things the environment provides us with.

My opinion is litterless and rebound lunches are terrific ideas and affect me and other people in a great way. I think that more people should do this.



Island Lake's Annual Talent Show

Tuesday, May 12th

Dress rehearsal and student presentation 1:35 pm—3:00 pm

Evening performance for parents and families of participants 6:30 pm—8:00 pm

Understanding the Equal Sign

Most children see = and they know it is an equal sign, but do they really understand what it means? Many children believe the equal sign means “the answer is” or “the total”. They do not understand that the equal sign is a symbol of balance or sameness. Think about $3 + 4 = 7$. 3 plus 4 is the same as 7. When children understand that the equal sign shows a relationship between numbers, they develop stronger number sense and are able to work with numbers more flexibly. For example, children who know that the equal sign shows balance understand that $3 + 4$ is the same as $5 + 2$. Children who think of the equal sign as showing the answer often struggle with mental math and, later on, with algebra.

Parents can help support understanding of the equal sign in many ways. First, using the word “equal” in everyday conversation to highlight equal relationships helps to promote an understanding of sameness. Use the words “equal” and “the same” together. When sharing snacks among people, talk about amounts. Are they equal? How do we know?

Also, many children enjoy missing number problems, especially when presented as a puzzle or challenge. Challenge children to find the number to balance equations, like these:

$$5 + \underline{\quad} = 1 + 8 \quad \text{or} \quad 14 - 6 = \underline{\quad} + 3 \quad \text{or} \quad 5 \times \underline{\quad} = 4 \times \underline{\quad}$$

When playing with Lego, talk about how the different sized pieces are related. How many little pieces are equal to a big piece? Build different creations with equal number of pieces. Build creations with equal sizes but different number of pieces.

The more exposure children have to the idea that the equal sign means “the same”, the better set they will be to develop solid number sense and number flexibility.

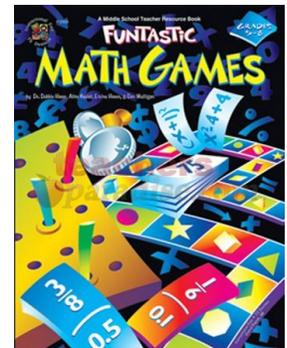
Megan Haessler - Teacher-Researcher with the UGDSB

Math Games Night & New Math Games

Our Math Games Night held on April 23rd was a great success. Over 30 families came out to hear the choir sing and to play some of our new Math Games. These games are now ready for borrowing.

If you would like to borrow a game, you need to come into the school and sign one out. If you are not able to come in, please send in a note with your son or daughter and we will lend it to them. All games come in a bright green bag, velcroed at the top. The instructions have been photocopied and are in the bag along with all of the pieces. Please try to return all of the pieces. Games can be borrowed for a week at a time.

School Council has spent almost \$800.00 on these games that they received in a PRO (Parents Reaching Out) Grant. Please enjoy them. A picture of each game box is included in this newsletter.



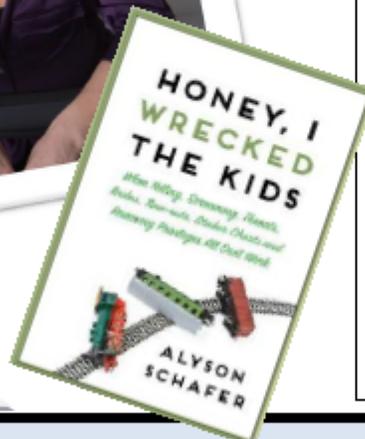
DUFFERIN PARENT SUPPORT NETWORK

presents

psychotherapist, author, TV host and internationally acclaimed parenting expert

Alyson Schafer

HONEY, I WRECKED THE KIDS



admission by
donation!

Misbehaving children make us question if we are parenting properly. We feel like we are messing up our kids. Learn:

- the four misbehaviour dances we do with our kids and how to get out of them
- why punishments and rewards no longer work
- new, effective discipline techniques to feel more confident and positive about parenting.

Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 7:00 PM

Orangeville District Secondary School
22 Faulkner Street, Orangeville

To register, call DPSN at 519-940-8678 or email info@dpsn.ca

Brought to you with thanks to
the generous support of:



655 Riddell Road, Orangeville, ON L9W 4Z5

Tel 519-940-8678

E-mail: info@dpsn.ca

WWW.DPSN.CA

May Environmental & Character Education Theme

Live local – be HELPFUL in your neighbourhood



Think local and save the environment. It is time to celebrate our local talent and to appreciate the wealth of natural goodness grown locally. Every decision we make to purchase local products, reduces carbon emissions. Our province produces an abundance of fruits, vegetables, meat, nuts, and grains. However, the richness of local products doesn't end with food products. We have many local talented artists, sculptors, and fashion designers. Every time we choose local products we are making a choice to support our local economy and individual micro-economies.

What is an ecological footprint? "An **ecological footprint** is used to depict the amount of land and water area you would need to provide the resources required to support yourself." By caring about your environment and making careful choices you can have a positive impact on the planet and leave a smaller ecological footprint so that your own and future generations - not to mention the other creatures - can enjoy this beautiful planet. Help the planet by starting in your own backyard. Look around your neighbourhood to see what places—parks, gathering spots, natural places, quiet nooks, play areas, walking routes, commercial centers—could be protected or regenerated. Think about what changes could be made to reduce pollution and environmental degradation. So don't pollute, conserve water and other resources, ride your bike or walk as much as possible and eat and shop locally, and you will help keep your "footprint" small!

If you live your life locally, you protect globally! - Let's go green, everyone!

Join the 2015 Pause to Play challenge May 10th – 16th 2015.

The Pause to Play challenge encourages students and their families to put their television, video games and computers on pause for one full week. Participants are more likely to feel good about themselves. Exercise that gets your heart pumping has many benefits to your health!

Being active for at least 60 minutes daily can help children:

- Improve their health
- Do better in school
- Improve their fitness, grow stronger and maintain a healthy body weight
- Have fun playing with friends and feel happier
- Learn new skills and improve their self-confidence

Take the challenge for a week or more and learn how much fun it can be to *pause to PLAY!*

Go to www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca for more information and for a list of free or low cost activities your local library and recreation centres are offering.



TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

Fall Startup September 2015



Follow STWDSTS on Twitter!

STWDSTS will be using Twitter beginning August 2015. You will be able to follow us [@stwdsts](https://twitter.com/stwdsts). Please make sure you connect with us to hear about inclement weather, cancellations and important information.



New geographic areas have been assigned to STWDSTS technicians. You can find your technician by area at:

<http://stwdsts.ca/home/schools/>

JUNIOR, SENIOR KINDERGARTEN & NEW STUDENTS

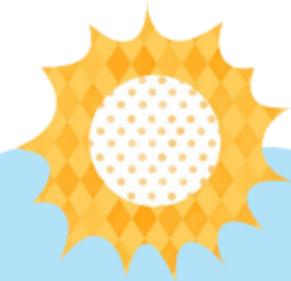
If your child is new to the Ontario school system and has been registered at a school prior to the end of June, transportation information will be mailed to your mailing address on August 24, 2015.

NEW TO THE AREA (i.e. not registered at a school yet)

If you are new to the area please contact your school to register your child. STWDSTS will not be accepting new student information over the phone for security reasons. Any new students throughout the summer will not receive transportation arrangements until they are registered at their home school. Once this occurs, you can contact your school directly to obtain your new busing information. *Please note that during start-up, busing could take up to 2 weeks to be arranged.*

BUSING INFORMATION FOR EXISTING STUDENTS

If your child is an existing student, go to www.findmyschool.ca and login to this secure site with your child's OEN number (located on report card), school name, birth date and house number. This will be available after August 24th.



IMPORTANT

Subscription Service Delays & Cancellations

Each year in August, due to possible route changes or e-mail alterations, we are asking parents to re-subscribe so you have the most current, up to date information.

To subscribe go to: <https://www.findmyschool.ca/subscriptions/login.aspx> and follow the instructions.



BUS TAGS! What are they?

Students in JK, SK and Gr 1 who ride a school bus will receive a tag from their school showing the student's afternoon bus route number and bus stop location.

The identifying tag should be worn (preferably on his or her backpack), by your child **every day** throughout the year.

This tag will assist drivers in identifying students who are required to be met by a parent or guardian when they are getting off the bus.

Tags will be distributed at the beginning of the school year by your child's school.



FAQ's

How do I change my student's bus information AFTER September?

Service de transport de Wellington-Dufferin Student Transportation Services (STWDSTS) will no longer be accepting any changes to student information over the phone for security reasons. Parents are asked to contact their school administration directly about any changes to their address. All information will come from the school to STWDSTS and will be consistent across the board.

Will my child be assigned to a school bus?

Transportation is assigned according to School Board policy. Your child must live within your school's attendance boundary and live further from school than the Maximum Walking Distance assigned to your child's grade level. Refer to STWDSTS [Policy 002 Transportation Eligibility](#) or go to www.stwdsts.ca and click on "Are you eligible".

Can my child receive transportation from an alternate address?

Both your home address and the alternate/caregiver address must be within your school's attendance boundary and meet the distance criteria for transportation. Be sure to advise your school about alternate arrangements. The alternate address **must be used consistently 5 days per week** and there must be room on the alternate bus. Refer to STWDSTS [Policy 034 - Transportation for Child Care](#).

May a student temporarily ride another bus while parent(s) or guardian(s) are away?

All temporary transportation requests shall be refused, except under extraordinary circumstances where the personal well-being of a student is at stake. Refer to STWDSTS [Policy 029 - Temporary Transportation Requests](#).

How do I apply for courtesy transportation?

Courtesy transportation is assigned based on the youngest of age (grade), then travel distance to school, using available seats and existing stops. Courtesy assignments **are not done prior to October 31st of each year**. To apply, refer to STWDSTS [Policy 017 - Courtesy Transportation](#) and [Form TF006](#).

Can my child's bus stop be changed?

Requests for changes to bus stops should be submitted in writing for consideration ([Form TF033](#)). Requests for changes to accommodate parent/caregiver convenience or health issues will not be considered. **No changes to bus stops are considered during the first four weeks of school.** All students are required to walk to/from their bus stops. Refer to STWDSTS [Policy 009 - Walking Distances to Bus Stop](#).

Who is responsible for my child's safety prior to boarding the bus and after disembarking from the bus?

The parent or guardian is responsible for their child's safety prior to boarding the bus and after they disembark from the bus. Refer to STWDSTS [Policy 005 - Responsibilities of Parents and Guardians](#).

Where do I find STWDSTS Policies?

Our policies can be found online at <http://stwdsts.ca/home/policies/>.



MATH GAMES AVAILABLE TO BORROW

Mathemagic: Book full of fun magic tricks using math

Math Dice Jr.: Use addition and subtraction to reach the target number

Snap it Up: Exciting card game using addition and subtraction skills



Mancala: Classic board game with lots of strategy and planning

Backgammon: A game of skill, strategy and luck

Matchstick Puzzles: Move matchsticks to solve the puzzles

Fraction Formula: Learn how to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions

Quixo: A brilliant game of strategy that really gets you thinking



Eternas: 3-dimensional strategy game of four in a row



Camouflage: A great puzzle game in problem solving



Gobblet: Based on the concept of Tic-Tac-Toe but takes strategy to the next level



Kulami: A fun, tactile game of strategy



Quarto: An outstanding game of deductive reasoning

Tri-FACTa: Make math fun using multiplication and division skills

Taiga: Fun challenging game that will strengthen memory and counting skills

Cover your Assets: Fun card game, where your goal is to become the first millionaire



Q Twist: Great logic game, fit all the twisted pieces to solve the puzzle



Say Cheese: A fun brain teaser puzzle

Solitaire Chess: You don't have to know chess to be a master of this logic game

Money Bags: Teaches valuable money skills as you collect, count and exchange money

SET: Fun and challenging card game that test your skills of memory and observation



SET Junior: Same principle as SET only geared toward younger minds

Q bitz: This puzzle game will challenge your visual agility

Q bitz Solo: Can use as a solitaire challenge or to add another player onto Q bitz

Hoppers: A fun peg-solitaire jumping game





Mine Shift: A maze game of shifting strategy

Rush Hour: Battle gridlock as you slide your car to the exit, a great strategy puzzle

Katamino: Puzzle game that uses the basic concept of geometry

Qwirkle: A fun matching game that also requires strategy



Supermind: Teaches children spatial awareness and problem solving using puzzles