

Le Nid d'Aigle The Eagle's Nest



Katherine Wainman, Principal

Jylian Buitendyk, Office Co-Ordinator
397 Stevenson St. N, Guelph ON, N1E 5C1
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SEPTEMBER 2015

Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2015 – 2016 School Year!

It is with great excitement that I prepare for the upcoming school year. I look forward to working with staff, students, parents, and community members. Having met with staff and a few members from school council, I can certainly see that École Edward Johnson is a welcoming community and a great place to learn.

I hope that everyone had a chance to have some family time over the summer and to enjoy our beautiful outdoors. At this time, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the families who are returning to our school with a “bienvenue” and another “bienvenue” to those who are joining us for the first time this year.

Our newest staff members are:

Mme Caswell	Gr. 5/6
Mme Nixon	Primary/Junior Planning Teacher
Mme Forbes	JK/SK Teacher
Mme Buitendyk	Office Coordinator

Sadly, École Edward Johnson must bid “adieu” to Mme Caudarella who is currently enjoying her well-deserved retirement. We wish her all the best. She will be missed.

Over the summer many teachers have been involved in professional learning. They have been busy taking courses, attending workshops and of course, planning for the upcoming school year. A huge “merci” goes out to all the staff for their professionalism and dedication to the school and students. Also, a huge “merci” to M. Sweeney and his crew for making our school clean and shiny.

Over the next few weeks, several important pieces of paper will be coming home. Please return any forms by indicated return dates.

I wish for all a very successful and enjoyable year ahead! Here's to a WONDERFUL 2015-2016 school year!

School Organization

Kindergarten	T. Tan/ J. Lamer
Kindergarten	C. Robbins / N. Szabo
Kindergarten	K. Forbes / M. Finlay
Kindergarten	L. MacDonald / E. Andrews
Grade 1	Y. Tendick
Grade 1	S. White
Grade 1/2	K. Prilesnik
Grade 2	N. Potwin
Grade 2/3	A. Kehrer
Grade 3	T. Owen
Grade 3/4	J. Eddington
Grade 4	N. Anselmini-Lofton
Grade 4/5	S. Roberts
Grade 5/6	S. Lachmansingh
Grade 5/6	J. Caswell
Planning	H. Patrick, A. Mizutani, H. Nixon, J. Macleod, J. Davis
Library	A. Mizutani
Resource	V. Motto
Educational Assistants	J. Albert
Child and Youth Counsellor	A. Fonte
Office Co-Ordinator	J. Buitendyk
Head Custodian	D. Sweeney
Principal	K. Wainman

Year at a Glance

September 8	First day of School	March 14 – 18	March Break
October 12	Thanksgiving	March 25	Good Friday
October 30	PD Day	March 28	Easter Monday
November 27	PD Day	May 23	Victoria Day
Dec. 21 – Jan. 3	Christmas Break	June 3	PD Day
January 22	PD Day	June 29	Last Day of School
February 15	Family Day	June 30	PD Day

Twitter at Edward Johnson

We will continue to use the Edward Johnson Public School twitter feed in an effort to stay connected with our families. Follow us at @EJ_PS for news about our school, as well as helpful links about learning, school events, and community resources. In addition, we'll make sure we continue to update the website and communicate through school newsletters.

Open House

You are invited to join us on Thursday, September 24th, 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Be sure to come out and meet your child's teacher and see what everyone has been up to for the first few weeks. Hope you can join us for this worthwhile event.

School Council

Being a member of School Council is a great way of having input into our school's activities and being involved in your child's school life. School Council members take lead roles in numerous projects to enhance the learning environment at school. A "Meet and Greet" is planned for Monday, September 14 from 6:30pm – 7:30pm in the school library. This would be a great opportunity to learn about what the school council does and how you can participate. The first official meeting will take place on Monday, September 21, at 6:30pm in the school library.

School Security

Visitors are welcomed at our school but we ask that you enter through the front doors and sign in at the office. For the protection of all students please obtain a visitor/volunteer badge.

Student Drop Off and Pick Up

Please note that the driveway at École Edward Johnson is closed to automobile traffic from 8:20 - 8:45 a.m. and 2:45 - 3:30 p.m. Only staff vehicles will be allowed to enter and leave the parking lot during these times. If you drive your child to school or pick up your child at the end of the day, you will have to park on a nearby side street.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US KEEP OUR STUDENTS SAFE!



Life-Threatening Illnesses

Parents, please inform the school if your child has a life-threatening illness. We will ask you for more details and with your assistance, we will develop a classroom and playground plan. École Edward Johnson has a large number of children with very serious allergies. They include: dairy products, eggs, peanuts and tree nuts. In

particular, we are asking that students not bring food items to school that contain nuts or peanuts. Please note, depending on individual circumstances, there may be classes where we ask to extend the list of foods to avoid to ensure student safety for all.



Student Information Sheets and Student Insurance Acknowledgement Forms

It is important to let the school know if there is any change in your personal information (i.e. home/work numbers, emergency contact, etc.) so that in the event of an emergency, we can contact you immediately. The student information sheets coming home in the near future are critical in keeping accurate student records. Please sign this sheet and return it, along with the Student Insurance Acknowledgement form to school ASAP.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

The Freedom of Information Act directs schools to be careful about the information they collect about students and it limits how schools can use this information. Please read the Freedom of Information letter carefully and respond if desired. It is understood that we have FOI consent unless we receive a written objection from you.



Bus Cancellations

Bussing information can be accessed at <http://www.stwdsts.ca/>. Information on all bussing status is posted here daily. The inclement weather card can also be found here. For Edward Johnson, the card color is yellow. There is also an option to sign up for notifications regarding bus delays and cancellations.



School Photo Day

Photo Day at l'École Edward Johnson will be Friday, September 25th. Please try to avoid any appointments for your child on this day so that all our students can have their individual photos taken and most of all, be part of the traditional class photo. We'll expect everyone to be wearing their smiles to school on the 25th!



School Supplies

Many parents enquire about school supplies for September. While we provide for most of the essential supplies such as notebooks and writing utensils, here are some suggestions for items that you may purchase to assist your child at school.

Primary – pencils, pencil crayons, pencil case, school bag or back pack, markers, glue, stick, gym shoes.

Junior – pencils, pencil crayons, pencil case, pens, markers, small scissors, metric ruler, gym shoes.

Agendas

Agendas are a great tool for organizing school work and communicating with home. We have made them available for the Grade 1-6 students at the cost of \$8.00. Please be sure to check your child's agenda for deadlines, assignments, and upcoming events.

School Handbooks

Our Parent School Handbook has been uploaded to our school web site for your perusal. The handbook includes school routines and guidelines as well as our Code of Conduct. We ask that you please read and review this document with your child. Being informed about our school will help everyone know what is expected and what needs to be done.



Aizan Messaging System

École Edward Johnson will be using the Aizan messaging system for school-wide notifications. This system will be used when information needs to be communicated with our school population in a timely manner (bus cancellations, school closures, emergencies, etc.). When used, this system will place one call per household to communicate information. The system is currently registered to call the home number (if you do not have one, it is set up to call the provided cell number). If you do not answer, it will leave a voice message with the caller ID being the school number (519-763-7374). Please call Mrs. Buitendyk or Mrs. Wainman should you have any questions. (Note: In the event of power failure, we will not be able to access the system.)



Volunteers

The importance of parent involvement in student achievement and success in school is well documented and recognized as an essential ingredient. At École Edward Johnson, we welcome parent volunteers to help by preparing learning materials for teachers, assisting in classes and on trips, supervising on special event days or in the library. If you are interested in becoming a regular volunteer at the school, please ask to see Mrs. Wainman. Volunteers are asked to complete a form which is kept on file at the office.



Student Lunchroom Behaviour Expectations and Responsibilities

The following lunchroom expectations have been discussed at school. Students understand that while eating lunch in the classroom, they are expected to respect the rights of others by:

- sitting in assigned seats
- speaking in soft, indoor voices
- not sharing or asking for others' food
- following the direction of the lunchroom supervisor and the student helpers
- leaving to go to the bathroom only with permission from the lunchroom supervisor
- waiting to be dismissed before going outside
- placing items in the garbage or recycling bins when dismissed to go outside
- ensuring that their area is clean before leaving



Our Board has a wonderful resource for all of our students that can be accessed 24/7 from school or from home. It's called UG2GO and includes Learn360 (educational video streaming), Student Link (a site children use at school that gives them access to web sites that are kid-friendly and relate directly to their current units of study), Tumblebooks (a site that has hundreds of books children can click on and have read to them), Noodletools (gives children help making bibliographies), Knowledge Ontario (a variety of approved encyclopedias, magazine articles suitable for elementary students), and much more. When students are at home, they can go to the main address: **<https://www.ugdsb.on.ca/ug2go>** which will prompt them to enter the same Windows username and password that they use at school to get onto the school network. Once they enter their Windows username/password, they will enter the site and they can then click on any of the resources and be taken directly to the individual resource without the need to login.

Please take a few minutes to explore the site with your child. It is an important tool that will aid them in their education, and may make your life easier when it comes to homework and projects. We are excited that students will be able to access information from anywhere and at anytime in this information age!

Safe Arrival Program

We appreciate your calls when your child(ren) are going to be absent or late. Please call the school at 519-763-7374 ext.100 and leave a message. You do not need to speak to the school secretary to report an absence or late arrival. The school's answering machine is available to the community 24 hours a day. Calling in advance also alleviates early morning telephone congestion. Thank you for your support.

School Yard Updates

Thanks to the hard work and determination of the School Council, the final phase of the greening project should be completed by the time the students arrive at school. The outdoor classroom along with new trees and a stone-crushed pathway (no more mud!) will be a welcome addition. Many thanks to all those parents who believed in this project and worked tirelessly to make sure it happened.

Health and Physical Education Curriculum

In September the new Health and Physical Education curriculum will be fully implemented in Ontario schools. For elementary schools, the new curriculum has existed for several years, but will now include an updated portion of its 'Healthy Living' component to include Human Development and Sexual Health. The document as a whole aims to educate children to understand themselves and others, think critically to make healthy choices, develop and maintain healthy relationships, be safe physically and emotionally, and to be physically active for life. The curriculum is available on the Ministry of Education's website.

The Human Development and Sexual Health component of the curriculum had not been updated since 1998. Since then much has changed and kids need to know more to keep themselves healthy and safe. This education starts with children learning about themselves, their feelings, their bodies and about showing respect for themselves and others in a reliable and accurate way. This learning is most effective when parents and schools work together. Parents help their children form values about relationships and their behaviours. Teachers will endeavour to communicate upcoming topics from the Human Development and Sexual Health units to families. Open and honest conversations at home about body parts, their functions, physical changes, healthy relationships and effective living habits help children connect learning and lets them know they have someone to talk to about questions they might have. Questions about topics can always be directed to the teacher or school principal.

As mentioned above, Human Development and Sexual Health is one sub-component of the curriculum. The document also focuses on skills related to Active Living, which involves physical fitness, safety and active participation; Movement, which teaches specific movement and physical activity skills and tactics; and Healthy Living, which focuses on understanding health concepts, making healthy choices and making connections to healthy living.

There are plenty of ways you can support your children's learning from the Health and Physical Education curriculum. Consider what you and your child can do together that is fun and healthy. Enjoying physical activity or making meals together is a great start. Ask your child and their teacher about what is being taught and have discussions where you provide factual, straightforward answers to your child's questions. Finally, learn how to be safe online and use that information to guide your child's use of any device that connects to the internet. There are plenty of resources available for parents to support the learning from the HPE curriculum. The best place to start is the Ministry of Education's website: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/health.html> or at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/sex-education-ontario>.

Do you believe that all children can excel in mathematics?

Do you believe that children are born with the math gene?

Do you believe that children can suffer from math anxiety?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then please take a moment and continue reading.

This year our work in math will continue to focus on helping your children understand that math is about learning, not performing. Research indicates that every time any one of us makes a mistake in math our brains grow and connections are made¹. We need to help our children understand that making mistakes is not a 'bad' thing. Making mistakes is how we understand and get better at math.

At school, we want to help your children understand that math is about problem solving, reasoning and proving, making connections, communicating their thinking and persisting when tasks are challenging. We want to help them adopt an "I Can do Math" attitude.

In order for this to happen, we need to teach math differently than the way many of us were taught. No longer is the teacher robotically demonstrating mathematical methods that your children don't understand or care about.

Sebastian Thru, CEO of Udacity, says that we do not and cannot know what mathematics students will need in the future. The best preparation we can give them is to teach them to be quantitatively literate, think flexibility and creatively and pre-solve and use intuition as they develop mathematical ideas². Math is about so much more than plugging numbers into a formula. Math is about children actively engaging with the problems, so that they understand how math is used in their own life. We need to teach our children to use mathematics in the world they will live in now and tomorrow. We're not sure what that world will look like, although we do know that it will be different from the world we grew up in. We also know that we want our students to love math and say with confidence "I can do math". As parents we think you want that too!

For ideas to support your children in math go to www.YouCubed.org

UGDSB Curriculum Department



1. International Journal of Environmental & Science Education 7, no.1 , January 2012
2. What's Math Got to Do With It, Jo Boaler, 2015

A Message from the Elementary Superintendents of Education

Re: School Organizations

Schools have built class lists based on their tentative organizations. Changes may be necessary at your child(ren)'s school in order that our Board remain compliant with Ministry parameters (see below). Any changes would be implemented by Monday, September 21st. Principals do not have the option of changing the school organization that is set by the District Staffing Committee of the Board. If changes affect your child(ren), you will be informed by the school.

Ministry of Education Parameters

- Full Day Kindergarten Class Size Average for the Board is 26 students
- 90% of the Board's primary classes with 20 or fewer students
- 10% of the Board's primary classes up to a maximum of 23 students
- Grade 3/4 classes have a cap of 23 students
- Junior/Intermediate Class Size Average for the Board is 25.2 students to 1 teacher

September 2015



International Walk to School month (IWALK) is an annual global event taking place each October. It celebrates active transportation and its benefits such as: increasing physical activity, decreasing traffic congestion, improving safety, developing a sense of community, promoting social interaction, and preserving the environment.

International Walk to School Day October 7th

**IWALK week is October 5-9 or
Walk/wheel to school all month!**

It is important to keep your child's immunization records up-to-date with Public Health. Students who do not have up-to-date immunization records, may be suspended from school. Please report your child's immunizations to Public Health by calling 1-800-265-7293 ext.4396.



Nutrition Notes

To contact us:

519.846.2715
1.800.265.7293
info@wdghu.org
www.wdghu.org

Fergus
Fax 519.846.0323

Guelph
Fax 519.836.7215

North Wellington
Fax 519.343.2487

Orangeville
Fax 519.941.1600

Avoiding Peanuts and Nuts in Schools

Why Parents May Be Asked Not to Send Peanuts and Nut Products to School

Likely there are children in the school who have a peanut and/or nut allergy. Peanuts and nuts are common food allergies and reactions can be fatal: Without medical treatment, a person can die within minutes of eating even tiny amounts. Peanuts and nuts leave residue that's hard to remove on utensils, containers, and table-tops. In order for schools to have an environment that's safe from peanuts and nuts, we need your cooperation and commitment.

Why Both Peanuts and Nuts?

Peanuts are not the same as other nuts because they are legumes: Other nuts, such as walnuts, cashews, and almonds, are tree nuts. However, one third of children with peanut allergies are also allergic to tree nuts. Peanuts are often processed in facilities that pack tree nuts, so there's a risk that they may carry peanut-protein residue on them. Some children are so sensitive to peanuts, that even this small amount will present a problem.

Read the Food Product Labels

When buying pre-packaged prepared foods, read the labels carefully. Check the ingredient listing of foods that may contain peanuts or peanut oil, nuts or nut oils (see tables below). Each time you buy a product, check the ingredients again to make sure there are no changes. If the food is homemade, check the ingredient list of each product used. If you're in doubt about the ingredients, contact the manufacturer.

Be Aware

Avoid products that don't carry a complete list of ingredients (e.g. bulk foods, bakery goods, and imported products). Watch for non-food sources of peanut such as craft materials, mouse traps, bean bags, and bird and pet food.

Ingredients Containing or Made from Peanuts*

- peanuts and peanut oil
- mixed and ground nuts
- peanut meal and flour
- Nutella spread
- arachis oil
- goober nuts and peas
- nut meats
- peanut butter
- beer nuts
- valencias
- peanut sauce
- ground nuts
- artificial nuts
- mandalona nuts, Nu-Nuts**

**peanuts that have been de-coloured and de-flavoured, then artificially flavoured with a nut flavouring and molded or cut to resemble a nut.

Foods That May Contain Peanuts or Peanut Oil*

- potato chips, popcorn, trail mix
- baked goods (e.g. cake, donuts, cookies, macaroons) and cake icings
- ice cream/frozen desserts
- Chinese food, curries, satays, and other ethnic foods
- chocolate and granola/energy bars
- hydrolyzed plant protein/vegetable protein
- vegetarian meat substitutes
- cereals
- fried foods/gravy
- packed olives
- canned fish in oil
- dried fruits
- soup mix
- chili con carne
- salad dressings