



**L' École Edward Johnson School**  
*Learning for Life Apprendre pour la vie*  
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Katherine Wainman: Principal  
Jylian Buitendyk: Office Coordinator



## February 2019

Well, we can safely say the winter has truly arrived! Don't forget to make sure your children are dressed for the weather! At school we use Environment Canada's *Wind Chill Factors and What To Do?* as a guide to decisions regarding when to stay inside and how long to stay outside along with some common sense, of course. I will post this to our website.



Last month all our students participated in a Growth Mindset Activity which involved solving some challenging math questions in order to crack the combination for the lock in which was hidden the "secret treasure". It was great to see such collaboration amongst students. We were particularly proud of our junior students who demonstrated such great leadership with the younger students. We have three more whole school events planned. Stay tuned for more details!

### Important Dates:

- Black History Month all of February (Afro-Tribal Dance Event along with P.A. announcements)
- Friday, February 1st P.D. Day (No school for students)
- Monday, February 4th Second Term begins
- Tuesday, February 5th School Council Meeting (6:30 to 7:30pm) in the library
- Wednesday, February 6th, Winter Walk Day (more details to come)
- Thursday, February 7th, National Sweater Day
- Monday, February 11th, 100th Day of School (special classroom activities)
- Tuesday, February 12th AfroTribal Dance Event (for all students) more info. below
- Monday, February 18th, Family Day (No school.)
- Wednesday, February 20 Report Cards go home
- Friday, February 22 Spirit Day -- Be the Future You!
- Tuesday, February 26 -- 2nd Growth Mindset Activity
- Wednesday, February 27 National Pink Shirt Day
- Wed., February 27 School Council Community Event Evening (See below.)
- Wed., February 27 Scientists in the School (Roberts and Cockburn classes)
- Thursday, February 28 Dental Screening JK/SK and Grade 2 (see website)

# EQUITY & INCLUSION

Let's celebrate and/or acknowledge customs, traditions and days of significance from all around the world!

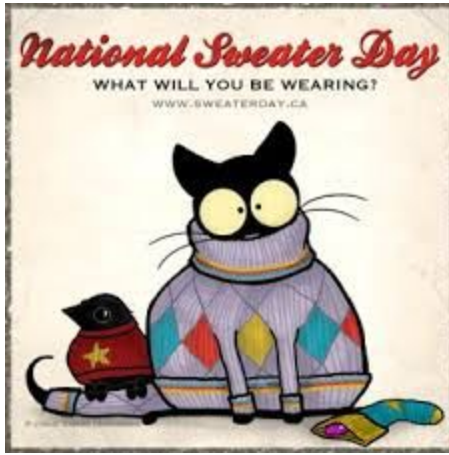
If you have a suggestion or idea, please contact your child's teacher, or Mme Wainman. If you are willing to come in and share ideas with us, we would love to hear from you.

## Days of Significance February 2019

Feb 4	World Cancer Day	
Feb 5	Chinese New Year	Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist
Feb 8	Nirvan Day	Buddhism
Feb 10	Vasan Panchami	Hindu
Feb 10 - 17	Random Act of Kindness Week	
Feb 14	St. Valentine Day	Christianity
Feb 15	Nation Flag of Canada Day	
Feb 15	Meeting of the Lord	Christianity Russian Orthodox
Feb 18	Family Day	Ontario Government
Feb 20	World Day of Social Justice	United Nations
Feb 21	International Mother Language Day	United Nations
Feb 25 - Mar 1	Intercalary Days	Baha'i
Feb 27	Wear Pink for Anti-Bullying	

## **School Halls & End of Day Pick-up**

Please be advised that unless you have made alternate arrangements with the office to pick up your child early, we would encourage you that you wait at the designated dismissal spot (outside the school) to pick-up your child at the end of the day. The hallways are a very busy time at the end of the day, especially during the winter months when students have snow gear to put on as well. We appreciate your cooperation regarding this matter.



Edward Johnson is **Celebrating National Sweater Day** on Thursday, February 7th, Make the Earth better by wearing a sweater!

National Sweater Day is about valuing energy. It's a chance to think differently about how we use energy, and where our energy comes from role in fighting climate change by using energy wisely, not wastefully. It is designed to help raise awareness about renewable energy and change behaviours around energy consumption in Canada.

The school thermostat will be lowered by 2 degrees Celsius on Thursday, Feb. 7th, so your child should be prepared by wearing their warmest, coziest sweater!

The EcoSchools team

## **Celebrate National Sweater Day on February 7th!**

National Sweater Day is a way to learn about the importance of saving energy and to inspire you to use less energy all winter. Heating accounts for 80% of residential energy use in Canada. If all Canadians lowered their thermostats by just 2 degrees Celsius this winter, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 4 megatons – that's equivalent to taking nearly 700,000 cars off the road! [http://www.wwf.ca/events/sweater\\_day/](http://www.wwf.ca/events/sweater_day/)

National Sweater Day is about thinking differently about how we use energy, where our energy comes from and how we can play an important role in fighting climate change by using energy wisely. It is designed to help raise awareness about renewable energy and change behaviours around energy consumption in Canada.

[assets.wwf.ca/downloads/nsd\\_2017\\_en\\_school\\_toolkit.pdf](assets.wwf.ca/downloads/nsd_2017_en_school_toolkit.pdf)

Turn down your thermostat and wear a sweater on Feb 7<sup>th</sup> - and every day this winter! Ask your children to brainstorm with you about ways to save energy at home. Make a pledge to implement as many as you can. For extra ideas go to: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-use-less-electricity-home>

Read a children's book on conservation such as: *Why Should I Save Energy?* by Jen Green. Encourage lots of questions and find the answers together

Learn about Green Energy sources. What types of renewable energy are available in Ontario - Wind? Solar? Geothermal?



# Ideas for your family to celebrate Sweater Day

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Valentine's Day is just around the corner - use recycled materials to create your cards this year! To learn more about how recycling saves energy go to Alliant Energy Kids:

[www.alliantenergykids.com/UsingEnergyWisely/SavingEnergyAtHome](http://www.alliantenergykids.com/UsingEnergyWisely/SavingEnergyAtHome) and how we can play an important

## Important Immunization Information



WDG Public Health is pleased to provide elementary schools with up-to-date information on health topics for their monthly newsletters and announcements to parents. Please find below an insert you can include in your school newsletter and/or announcements if you wish. If you have any questions please contact us at 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4111 or email [schoolhealth@wdgpublichealth.ca](mailto:schoolhealth@wdgpublichealth.ca)

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### Information from Public Health

In Ontario, the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* requires that all students attending school be fully immunized or have a valid exemption on file. Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) has recently mailed immunization notices to elementary students with incomplete vaccine records. **To avoid suspension, please update your child's immunization record by March 15, 2019.**

If the student has already received the immunization(s), report them using one of these methods:

- Online: View and report immunizations at [www.immunizewdg.ca](http://www.immunizewdg.ca). Sign-in using your Ontario Health Card Number or the Ontario Immunization ID (provided on your Immunization Notice if received by mail from WDGPH).
- Email: Send a copy of the record to [vaccine.records@wdgpublichealth.ca](mailto:vaccine.records@wdgpublichealth.ca)
- Call: 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4396

If the student needs the immunization(s) do one of the following:

- Make an appointment with student's health care provider, bring the notice from WDGPH with you, and follow up by reporting the immunization(s) to WDGPH.
- Call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4134 to make an immunization appointment at WDGPH.

If the student is not being immunized for medical or conscience/religious reasons:

- Access the appropriate exemption form at [www.wdgpublichealth.ca/your-kids/vaccination](http://www.wdgpublichealth.ca/your-kids/vaccination)
- For the Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief Exemptions a parent/guardian must also complete an immunization education session at WDGPH. For an appointment call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4134.

### **Helping Your Child with Report Cards**

On Wednesday, February 20th report cards will be going home with students. You are encouraged to read this report thoroughly and talk about it with your child(ren). There is a section for students and parents to fill in. Please take the time to do this as it is helpful for students to reflect on their learning and to communicate this to teachers. Should you wish to discuss the report card with your child(ren)'s teacher, please do not hesitate to do so.



### **Dance-a-Thon**

Please note the Dance-a-thon has been moved to Friday, March 22! More information will be shared with you by School Council in the near future. This a great fundraising event enjoyed by all.

## **Winter Walk Day 2019**

Get active this winter and encourage walking and wheeling to school!



**Winter Walk Day is Wednesday February 6 2019.** Students across the province will celebrate on this day and throughout the entire month of February by going outside on their journey to and from school.

Join the crowd by planning a Winter Walk Day celebration in your school community. We have the resources to help. [Get ideas for activities and announcements, and download posters and order stickers on our website.](#)





## **Engaging Your Child in Science at Home!**

As parents we have the wonderful opportunity and responsibility for nurturing our children's growth. Parents play a key role in the physical, emotional, and intellectual development of their child. As parents we can usually find time to read a story to our children, thereby instilling a love of literature, but we are often at a loss as to how to instill a love and appreciation for Science. Science encourages problem solving skills, curiosity and questioning, creative and critical thinking, observational skills and reinforces both

literacy and math skills....and it's FUN! Here are some ideas for fostering Scientific skills in your children.

### **6 Tips to foster Scientific Thinking at Home**

**1-See science everywhere.** Parents can take opportunities to ask "What would happen if ...?" questions or present brainteasers to encourage children to be curious and seek out answers. Children need to know that science isn't just a subject, but it is a way of understanding the world around us.

**2-Lead family discussions on science-related topics.** Dinnertime might be an ideal time for your family to have discussions about news stories that are science based, like space shuttle missions, severe weather conditions, or new medical breakthroughs. Over time, children will develop a better understanding of science and how it affects many facets of our lives. Movies and TV shows with science-related storylines are also great topics for discussion.

**3-Encourage girls and boys equally.** Many girls are left out of challenging activities simply because of their gender. Be aware that both girls and boys need to be encouraged and exposed to a variety of subjects at a very early age.

**4-Do science together.** Children, especially elementary-age children, learn better by investigating and experimenting. Simple investigations done together in the home can bolster what your child is learning in the classroom. Check with your child's teacher on what your child is currently learning in class and what activities you can explore at home.

**5-Connect science with a family vacation.** Family vacations are a great way to explore science. It could be a hiking trip where you explore nature or a discussion on tides during a beach vacation.

**6-Show excitement for Science!**

Reference: "NSTA Science Matters: Tips for Busy Parents - National Science ...."  
<http://www.nsta.org/sciencematters/tips.aspx>.

## **School Council News**

Don't forget to come out to our School Council Meeting this Tuesday, February 5 starting at 6:30pm in the library

Also, there is a School Council Community Event on Wednesday, February 27. This will be a sports event for primary students (6:00 to 7:00 pm) and junior students from (7:00 to 8:00 pm). Come out and get moving!!



## **AFRO-TRIBAL DANCE**

Thanks to School Council, Afro-Tribal Dance will be coming to EJPS! There will an opportunity for all students to appreciate and participate in with this dance troupe.

Afro-Tribal Dance is a not-for-profit organization. Its purpose is to help families in Africa. Through humanitarian assistance and African dance classes, they hope to help these families by collecting non perishable food items, clothes, school supplies, hygiene products, and baby supplies. We are asking our Edward Johnson Families to donate some of these aforementioned supplies so that we can fill the three barrels purchased by School Council. Thanks so much for your help with this worthy initiative,

Afro-Tribal Dance is based on different dance styles within the African continent, predominantly the West African region. The dance curricula include activities such as performances, workshops, weekly classes as well as kid's classes. We offer authentic and modern African dance, arts, and music and promise to take you on an exceptional journey through the traditional rhythms and dances of our beloved and beautiful continent.