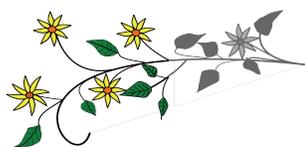


Westside School Council

Please join us for
School Council Meetings
on the last Tuesday of
every month at 7:15pm.



Principal's Message

We have had a very busy start to the semester and are very happy that spring has arrived! We survived several no bus days, the EQAO literacy test and immunizations. Everyone completed a climate survey and staff finally got to have their Christmas turkey lunch that had to be postponed due to the flood right before Christmas.

Last week some students wrote the Waterloo math contest and we had a very successful semiformal. This next week we participated in a letter writing party to create positive messages that help people struggling with mental health issues and we had a staff-student volleyball game. (Go teachers!)

During the upcoming Professional Development day April 25th our teaching staff will be working on our school goals around instruction, assessment and helping students develop a growth mindset. You may notice references on how you can assist your son/daughter in developing their growth mindset in their report card comments, as we are trying to give more feedback around learning skills.

We are super excited to share that Orangeville Police constable Scott Davis will now be spending an hour each day at Westside to help build positive relationships between police and youth. If you see him at Westside be sure to introduce yourself and say hi. You might also notice our new therapy dog Mocha. She joined us semester 1 as a new pup in training. She has gotten big fast and is hard at work taking her training courses. She should be working full time at Westside soon.

May and June are certainly our two busiest months for events at school. Our play this year, Dracula, kicks off the second week in May with an evening performance on Thursday May 12th at 7pm. Please call the office to inquire about tickets. Our senior trip to Washington goes out the first week of May, and the spring music concert is happening on May 19th. June starts with the co-curricular gala on June 3. June also brings Grade 9 math EQAO and the exams.

Our third season of co-curricular activities is underway as well with teams like badminton, field lacrosse, track and field, soccer and rugby. Ultimate Frisbee is still a Westside favourite and other clubs like the gardening club, the GSA, chess club and games club continue to have regular meetings with new students always welcomed to join.

There is always something happening every day at Westside so make sure you follow us on twitter @WestsideThunder or check us out on line at www.ugdsb.on.ca/Westside so you can see the daily announcements. Parents are also always welcomed at our school council meetings, the last Tuesday of every month, in the library, at 7:15pm.

Be sure to call the school with any questions. Enjoy your spring!

Deidre Wilson

This Issue

Principal's Message	P1
School Council	P1
SHSM/Europe Excursion	P2
School Cash Online	P2
Co-Curriculars/Commencement	P3
Food & Friends Program	P3
Stay Connected	P4
Yearbook Order Info	P4
Transportation News	P4
Music/Art Departments	P4
Online Attendance	P4

Important Dates

Apr. 15 - Spring Semi-Formal
Apr. 19 - Semester 2 Term 2 Begins
Apr. 22 - Midterm Reports Home
Apr. 25 - PA Day

May 3⇒7 - Senior Trip to Washington
May 9⇒12 - School Play "Dracula"
May 12 - "Dracula" Evening Show
May 19 - Spring Music Concert
May 23 - Victoria Day
May 27 - May Day ☼ Link Crew

June 3 - Co-Curricular Gala
June 10 - Gr 9 EQAO Math Test B1
June 14 - Gr 9 EQAO Math Test B2
June 13 - Arts Night
June 21⇒27 - Semester 2 Exams:
June 21 - Block A Exam
June 22 - Block B Exam
June 23 - Block C Exam
June 24 - Block D Exam
June 27 - Conflict Exam Day
June 28⇒30 - PA Day



Follow @WestsideThunder

Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM) at Westside

What is a Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)?

SHSM is a program open to ALL students that allows them to specialize in an area of interest in Gr 11 and 12

- SHSM provides students with additional opportunities to gain experience in their area of interest (workshops, field trips, training - most at no cost to you)
- Students gain free industry/career recognized certifications and Free CPR/First Aid training
- Students complete a co-op to gain 'real world' experience in their area of interest
- Students achieve a special designation (red seal) on their graduation Diploma
- SHSM is recognized by businesses, industry and post-secondary institutions

These credits are NOT additional credit requirements. The SHMS designation is achieved within the regular 30 credit Diploma (OSSD).

What Specialist High Skills Major programs does Westside offer?

- Arts and Culture
- Hospitality
- Environmental
- Transportation
- Health and Wellness

Questions? / Want to enroll? See Ms. Bell, or Guidance or email contact: suzan.bell@ugdsb.on.ca

Europe Excursion

Eighteen Westside students took the trip of a lifetime during the March Break. Along with Mr. Papernick, Mme Tschirhart and twenty students from Centre Wellington DHS, the students visited WWI and WWII battlefield sites, and many cultural icons in between, before ending up in Paris. During the 10 day trip, students practiced their French conversation skills while ordering delicious crêpes, escargots, croissants, pains au chocolat, cafés and many other regional dishes!

The battlefields portion of the trip included the Essex Farm Cemetery where John McCrae wrote his famous poem, In Flanders Fields, a tour of the trenches and tunnels and a visit to the Monument at Vimy (Ridge). In Ypres, the group participated in a Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate where a ceremony has taken place 365 days a year since 1929 (with the exception of the four years of German occupation during WWII) and enjoyed a traditional Tommy Tucker lunch (typical WWI soldier meal). Further west in Normandy, the group visited Canada House (the iconic house seen in the D day landing photos) and the Juno Beach Centre. Students also had an opportunity to storm the Dieppe beaches and reflect on the experiences of our soldiers during the Dieppe raids of 1942.



The cultural portion of the trip included a self-guided visit of the Bayeux Tapestry (a 70m cloth telling the tale of William the Conqueror created in the 1070s), a visit to Mont St-Michel (a fortified island monastery off the coast built in the 800s), and a tour of the Château de Versailles with the famous Hall of Mirrors. In Paris the group took an evening boat ride down the Seine River, saw the highlights of le musée du Louvre including the Mona Lisa, went on a foodie tour and travelled up the Eiffel Tower for breathtaking views of the Paris cityscape.



Paying school items just got way easier!

Sign up to get started today.

What Is School Cash Online?

School Cash Online is an easy to use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. Now, with a few clicks, you can pay for your child's yearbook, class trips and so much more from your own home. All you have to do is register an account,

attach your children and in no time you will be able to make payments online. We accept many different payment forms so come in and check us out!

Why Use School Cash Online?

Convenient - Make secure payments 24/7 from the comfort of your home

Easy To Use - Online shopping with various payment methods

Safe - Your child won't be carrying cash or cheques to and from school

Saves Time - Manage your school expenses and view payment history in one place

NOW ACCEPTING



**MAJOR
CREDIT
CARDS**



Co-Curricular News

Westside Thunder finished our second season very strongly. Our boys Junior and Senior Basketball teams, and our Girls Junior and Senior Volleyball all made it to CWOSSA. They performed well, and all of the coaches were really proud of the spirit and dedication the teams showed. Our Senior Boys Hockey battled bad weather and made it to the Semi Finals. They played incredibly well and made us all proud. We had several swimmers go to OFSAA, and Mr Pinkney was in awe of all of their performances.

Our 3rd Season is ramping up. We have had girls Rugby and Soccer start up and have games this week. Watch out for our home games in the next few weeks. Girls Lacrosse will also be up and running soon. Speaking of running, our Track and Field team had their first meet this week. The weather cooperated, and there was no snow this year!!

In order to raise some money for equipment for Co-curriculars, Student Union has been fundraising. We have been selling Vintage Thunderwear this past week and will continue to sell it for the next few weeks. Whatever we aren't able to sell, we will donate along with the other used clothing we collect from our drive in the next few weeks. We will also have our cookie fundraising campaign in May.

Our Co-curricular Gala is June 3rd. It is being held at Mono Community Centre. It is an evening where we celebrate all of our co-curricular participants. We give out our Fine Arts awards, Club and Team awards as well as our Leadership awards. It is a wonderful evening not to be missed. Watch for tickets sales starting mid May.

Westside Thunderwear is now available for you to purchase online any time. Check out the website : <http://www.schoolwear.ca/wss>

Westside SS Commencement 2016

Friday October 28th, 2016

Grad fees to reserve your spot at Commencement need to be submitted by June 10th.

Community Involvement hours need to be submitted to Student Services by May 24th.



**Children's
FOUNDATION**
OF GUELPH AND WELLINGTON

Food & Friends Program
DUFFERIN • WELLINGTON • GUELPH

Food and Friends student nutrition programs maximize students' potential to learn by providing healthy food in a safe, convenient environment.

Westside Breakfast Club

- ◆ Breakfast is served in the baking lab.
- ◆ Between 8:30am-8:50am
- ◆ Students can stay in the room to eat, or take their breakfast with them.
- ◆ We have served over 170 Westside students this year.

Westside Loonie Lunch

- ◆ Available daily in the baking lab in the morning or at lunch
- ◆ The cost is \$1.00 per bag
- ◆ The lunch includes: low fat turkey pepperettes, cheesestring, baby carrots, multi-grain crackers, yogurt tube and a juicebox.

Who is entitled to use this program?

All students at Westside are entitled to use the program.

- ◆ Students who left home without breakfast.
- ◆ Students arriving to school for early morning sports practices.
- ◆ Students who are supporting friends who may need food and are too shy to come on their own.
- ◆ Provide a nonjudgmental environment where they feel cared for and safe.

If you are interested in donating to the program please contact Niki Leclair or Renee Cox your Westside Program Co-ordinators at 519-938-9355.

A donation of \$10 could help provide one student with a Loonie Lunch for two weeks!

STAY CONNECTED

See our website for daily announcements
www.ugdsb.on.ca/westside

Receive regular school messages on your phone (ie. No bus days and schedule changes)
Text to 705-230-2295 the message @d6391

Follow us on Twitter for event news
@WestsideThunder

Order Your
Yearbook
2015-16



Yearbooks will be on sale at lunch
Wed April 27, Thurs April 28 and Fri April 29
\$40 cash or cheque or School Cash Online
Buy your yearbook before April 30th
or you may miss out.

TRANSPORTATION NEWS:

To check bus info—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.

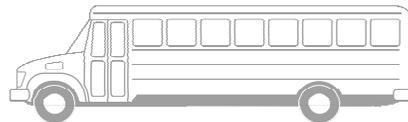
Wellington-Dufferin Student Transportation Services (STWDSTS) offers a subscription service that will notify the subscriber via email when your child's bus has been cancelled or is delayed.

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

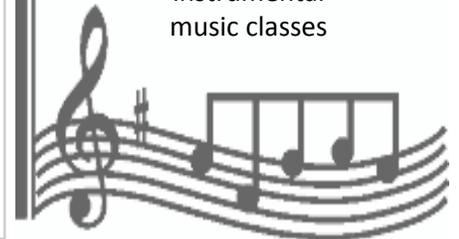
If your address changes, please call and advise STWDSTS at 519-824-4119 ASAP.

Follow STWDSTS on Twitter!

You will be able to follow us @stwdsts. Please make sure you connect with us to hear about inclement weather, cancellations and important information.



The Music Department is hosting it's annual Spring concert on Thursday May 19th at 7 pm in the theatre. All are welcome to come and hear the Junior, Senior and Jazz band perform, as well as the grade 9 and grade 11/12 instrumental music classes



WSS ARTS
sincerely thanks

Robert Young

for his generous donation of art supplies and equipment.

In memory of Robert's wife, Joanne Fitzgerald (1956-2011)

Children's book Illustrator,

Governor General's Literary Award Winner

Our staff and students truly appreciate your kindness and generosity.

ONLINE ATTENDANCE

Currently the Aizan System is calling home for student absences, but you can monitor your child's attendance each day online by following these instructions:

Website address: <https://students.ugdsb.on.ca/WSS/Students>
or follow the link on the Westside Website: www.ugdsb.on.ca/Westside

Username

- First 5 letters of the student's last name, followed by the first 3 letters of the students first name.

Password

- The student's 9 digit OEN. This number can be found on a report card or on a student card.

If unsure, please contact Student Services at extension 212



Westside Secondary School
Orangeville, Ontario, Canada

