



Westwood Public School Newsletter – June 2017

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank our Reading Buddies for another successful year! The students have benefited greatly from the continued relationships they have with their buddies and the many hours they have spent reading. Students who have read twice a week this year with their buddy, have read an additional 127 hours outside of the classroom. That's a lot of reading!! This would not have been possible without our Reading Buddy Program. Thank you for your hard work, dedication and commitment to the program.

After many years coordinating our Reading Buddies Program, Mrs. Caswell (whose children have already graduated from Westwood) is moving on. The impact she has had on the students of Westwood is far reaching. There aren't enough times we can "Thank" Mrs. Caswell for sharing her love of learning and literacy with the students of Westwood. Her commitment to the program and recruitment of volunteers has been remarkable. Mrs. Shrikes and Mrs. Spencer (our Resource team) hope to continue what Mrs. Caswell has brought to life at Westwood! To all parents and community members, if you have 1 hour each week that you could volunteer and read with our primary students it would be greatly appreciated. Our volunteers have made an enormous difference with the students they work with. If you are interested in joining the Program and read with Primary students in September, please contact Carrie Shrikes, Lynda Spencer or the school office.

Our Grade 8s are getting very excited about this month's Graduation Ceremony. A detailed note was sent home with Grade 8 students last week. We want to make it a special and memorable evening for the students and plans are well underway. If you are interested in assisting with the evening, please contact me at the school.

If you know of any families new to our area, or those who have school aged children that have not yet registered for school in September, please encourage them to contact the office. We are able to register children anytime during the week between 8:15am-4pm.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at the school.

Have a wonderful June!

Tara Topping
Principal
519 823-5450 ex 223

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS:

We're in the home stretch of the school year and the nice weather is finally here!

Parent Council has been busy this past month planning for upcoming events, as well as discussing our next Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grant application for next year. This grant allowed us to put on our Math Night this year and we're hopeful we will be successful again for next year.

Not only have we been thinking about how we can support Grade 8 Graduation again this year, but Parent Council has also been busy with plans for the **End of Year Yard Party**. Celebrate with your kids, other families, and school staff on **Thursday, June 22nd from 5:30 – 7:30 pm** in the yard of the school. Bring your blanket and chairs and take part in fun activities, music, and food. More information will be sent home soon, so keep an eye out in your child's agenda!

Want an easy way to get involved? Get in touch (sc.westwood@ugdsb.on.ca) and let us know if you can help out for a bit that evening.

Your Westwood Parent Council

LIBRARY NEWS:

Overdue book lists will be showing up to remind students and their families that all books are due back to the library by FRIDAY JUNE 16! If your child has lost a book, there is a \$10.00 replacement fee. Help us keep a library with lots of great reading!



VOLUNTEER TEA:

Thank you to all of our parent volunteers! Without your help, many of our trips and events would not be possible. Please, if you are able, join us so we can appreciate you on June 27th from 2:30-4:00pm.

2017 Westwood PS Volunteer Tea
Tuesday, June 27 from 2:30 to 4:00pm
Westwood PS, Library
Refreshments & Entertainment will be provided.

SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSURE:

Please be aware that the school office will be **CLOSED** as of **June 30th**, and will re-open **Tuesday, August 29, 2017**. If you need assistance over the summer, please contact the UGDSB office at 519-822-4420. Registration for new students will be on Wednesday, August 30, 2017 at the school.

RECORDING SCHOOL EVENTS AND PRIVACY:

It is a wonderful community activity to present school plays, assemblies and other events. However, there is a risk that recording such events will invade the privacy rights of students, parents and staff.



This is a reminder to parents, students and community members that personally recording

school events and then subsequent public posting those recordings on social networks like Facebook or You Tube is not respectful of the privacy rights of all those parents, staff and particularly students whose images they share without their knowledge or permission. Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 2	EQAO is done!
June 5	Tribal Vision Workshop Intermediate Students
June 6	Junior Track and Field
June 6	Achieving By Believing Awards 6pm Fergus
June 7	Intermediate Track & Field
June 8	Green Legacy Grade 5/6 classes
June 9	PD Day No School for Students
June 12	Green Legacy Grade 4&6 classes
June 13	VIP Presentations Grade 6
June 15	Junior Track at U of G
June 19	Scientists in the School Grade 4
June 19-23	Grade 8 trip to Camp
June 22	Rockwood Trip Grade 7
June 22	Westwood Yard Party 5:30-7pm
June 26	Intermediate Ultimate Frisbee
June 27	Report Cards Go Home
June 27	Talent Show 9:30am
June 27	Volunteer Tea 2:30-4:00pm
June 28	Grade 8 Graduation 7pm
June 29	Last Day of School
June 30	PD Day
Sept 6	First Day of School

QSP FUNDRAISER- SAVE OUR SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Support Westwood by thinking of our school when those magazine renewal notices start to arrive in the mail by saving your magazine orders and renewals for our QSP Magazine Fundraising Program. This program allows us the opportunity to focus on literacy and support **READING** and helps raise funds at the same time. These funds go towards extra-curricular programs, activities, supplies and equipment that benefit our children and are essential to a meaningful, well-rounded education. On average our school earns \$10.00 per subscription.

WE ALL BENEFIT!

- **We** get great magazines at great prices. Save up to 80% off of news stand prices!
- **Our School** earns a profit to go towards the many costs and extras that help to enrich our children's school experience.
- **Our Children** – Any reading material encourages children to read and/or model your reading behaviour and help literacy skills.

Save your renewals for our magazine subscription fundraiser this Fall. There is still time to order now at www.qsp.ca. You will be helping to raise money for programs and activities to benefit all our students.

COMING THIS FALL:

Our kick off Assembly is Friday October 6, 2017. Remember, if you have any questions regarding your magazine order; please call **QSP Customer Service at 1-800-667-2536**

STUDENTS SHARE THEIR VOICE ABOUT RAMADAN:

The Islamic calendar has 12 months and one of them is the month of Ramadan. The Islamic Calendar is lunar which means it is based on the moon.

During this month Muslims all over the world fast from sunrise to sunset, which means that we can not eat or drink anything from dawn to sunset. We wake up early before dawn and eat and drink a big breakfast, because it will be a long day before we can eat again. Only those people who are healthy are allowed to fast. When the sun sets, we break our fast with dates and water. Then we say our prayers and eat a nice dinner with the whole family.

Muslims pray 5 times a day, but in Ramadan there is a special prayer called the “night prayer”. It is fun to go to the mosque for these special prayers because lots of people come and I see my friends.

At our home we celebrate by sharing food and inviting family and friends over. It is also a month of prayers and the reading of the Holy Quran, as it was during Ramadan that the Quran was revealed.

When we fast in Ramadan, it teaches us patience, respect and to be thankful to God for what we have. It is also a time when Muslims give charity to the people in need. Ramadan is a good time to practice doing good deeds too. But we shouldn't just wait for Ramadan, we should do them all the time

The end of Ramadan is celebrated with a day of Eid. Eid is a time of joy, exchanging of gifts and being with family, much like Christmas. On Eid day we wish each other by saying EID MUBARAK!

By Fiza Ahmed (Westminister Woods Gr 3) and Ayyan Sayyed (Meezan School, Gr4)