



William C. Winegard Public School

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Newsletter November 2016

Principal's Message

Well, we have finished off the month of October with a Halloween Parade assembly and kicked off the month of November with a Pajama Spirit Day and Celebration Assembly.

We have a variety of events coming up in November. Check out our "Dates to Note" later on in the newsletter for a summary.

Please don't hesitate to contact me or our Office Coordinator at the school if you have any questions or concerns. Stay up to date on everything by:

Checking out our website: www.ugdsb.on.ca/winegard

Following us on Twitter: @wcwinegardps

Following School Council happenings on

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/williamcwinegardschoolcouncil>

Curt McQueen
Principal

"New" Kindergarten Play Area

Thanks so much to your fundraising and the additional support from Dr. Winegard, we have been able to make some great enhancements to our kindergarten area. Our appreciation, as well, goes to Keith Thompson from Trillium Outdoor Services for his great work and attention to detail with all of the changes. Next up is our main yard. We are looking to put in similar additions to the grass area between the school and the forest, as well as some seating and gathering options, climbing posts and a sand "box". If we do not get started before the snow flies, it will be started in early spring.

Progress Reports and Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parents of students in grades 1-7 will receive formal documentation of how their child is doing on three occasions during the school year: a Progress Report in the fall and a Provincial Report Card at the end of Term 1 (February) and the end of Term 2 (June). The Progress Report will come home on Thursday, November 17th.

As a reminder, on the Progress Report, you will notice that Learning Skills are on the first page because of the recognition that good work habits are crucial in order for children to be successful in school and later in life. There are no marks on the Progress Report because it is not an evaluative document. It is meant to give students and parents early feedback regarding general progress during the first two months of the school year. Marks will be included on the Term 1 and 2 Report Cards in February and June.

There has been a PA Day set aside (November 25th) specifically for parent-teacher interviews to review the Progress Reports. More information will follow about setting up interview times.

KINDERGARTEN PARENTS - The new Kindergarten reporting document is entitled "*Communication of Learning*". This document will be going home with all JK and SK students at end of Term 1 in February and at the end of Term 2 in June. Another new document entitled, "*Communication of Learning - Initial Observations*" will be rolled out in November of 2017 for all kindergarten students. This November, there will not be a document or report come home for JK and SK students. However, there will be an opportunity to hear about your child's progress through our parent-teacher conferences toward the end of this month. More information to come about these conferences.

School Council

Winter Bazaar - Get some of your Holiday shopping done early and support our school!

Come to our WINTER BAZAAR!!

There will be vendors, baked goods, coffee/hot chocolate and MORE!!

This Saturday, November 5th from 9am-1pm in the school gym!

Vendors include: Organic Tan, PartyLite Candles, Arbonne, Scentsy, It Works!, Thirty-One, Epicure and many more!

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is **Tuesday, November 8th at 6:30 PM** in the library. We realize that evening meetings may be difficult with children at home. **Childcare will be available for our November meeting if needed.** Please email williamcwinegard.ps@ugdsb.on.ca if you would be bringing children to our next meeting. Indicate how many children would be coming and their ages.

MacMillan's Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who supported our MacMillan's Fundraising event. We were able to raise over \$3500 to go toward school resources and programs as well as our ongoing yard improvements. Thank you!

CHAPTERS FUNDRAISER EVENT

In support of William C. Winegard Public School

Tuesday, November 22nd, 6:00PM-9:00PM
435 Stone Road West, Guelph Ontario

You are cordially invited to a Chapters Fundraiser in support of WILLIAM C. WINEGARD PUBLIC SCHOOL. Come and get a head start on your holiday shopping while supporting your school. With every purchase of in-store, regularly priced books, gifts and toys made at Chapters Guelph this special evening, 20% in gift cards will be donated directly back to William C. Winegard Public School. When you arrive at the store, please ensure that you register at the Fundraiser table for directions. This event is a tremendous opportunity to support materials for our new library! There will be a flyer coming home soon with more details.

Paying for School Items Online - PLEASE REGISTER FOR SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into our school. School related expenses such as student agendas, pizza days, milk, field trips, spirit wear, yearbooks, etc. will be available for online purchase. Please take a few minutes to register so you can enjoy the convenience of online shopping now and into the coming school years. Currently over 60% of our families have joined! Way to go!

Here's How to Register for Online Payments

Step 1: Go to this website - ugdsb.schoolcashionline.com

Step 2: Register by selecting "Get Started Now" and follow the steps

Step 3: Respond to the confirmation email, select the "click here" option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account

Remembrance Day Assembly

We will be having a Remembrance Day Assembly on Friday, November 11th at 11:00 AM. There will be a variety of presentations from some of our classes recognizing the importance of the day. As well, Remembrance Day art work will be on display in the gym and in the hallways. Parents are welcome to attend.

Lost and Found

Please label your child's items that come to school. This includes backpacks, lunch bags, jackets, and other clothing items. We already have a growing Lost and Found table in our front foyer. Feel free to drop in to check out the table if your child is missing some items.

Drop Off and Pick Up Reminders

- Do not bring dogs on to the school property at pickup and drop off times
- Only use the parking lot if absolutely necessary
- The pickup and drop off lane in the parking lot is for picking up and dropping off. Please do not leave your vehicle parked in the lane
- Please park on the streets surrounding the school and walk to the school if picking up or dropping off (Cityview, Breesegarden, and Kearney are good options)
- It is unlawful to park in designated handicap parking spots without appropriate permission

PD Day

PD Days are scheduled on Friday, November 25th and on Friday, January 27th, 2017. There is no school for students on these days.

Bullying Prevention Week - “Walking in Your Footsteps” School Project

Bullying Prevention Week is November 21-25 for the Upper Grand District School Board. At William C. Winegard P.S., we strive to continually assist our students with the development of strategies which prevent bullying. Classroom teachers often have discussions about how to get along, how to treat each other, and how to include everyone. Throughout this week, we will have a particular focus on the prevention of bullying and review strategies to use if you think you are being bullied or if you witness an incident of bullying.

Throughout the fall, across the school, students and staff have been focusing on identity, our individual characteristics, and our different learning styles. Part of this focus is working toward Thursday, November 24th when we will display our “Walking in Your Footsteps” individual projects. Each student has been working on an artistic representation of their feet. Around their feet will be the following headings:

- **Looking Ahead** (statement about our personal goals and where we are heading)
- **My Needs** (What do I have a hard time with? What am I working on improving?)
- **My Team** (Who is important to me? Who helps me?)
- **Things I’ve Learned About Myself** (Reflections. What am I proud of? What have I learned about myself)

These projects will be completed by November 24th. On that day, the projects will be carefully laid out in the halls around the school. Each individual student will have a chance to “walk in the footsteps” of all of the other students at William C. Winegard. We are hoping that this will lead to many future discussions in classes and a greater understanding that we are all special individuals who can be celebrated and included in our school community.

Wear Pink - Wednesday, November 23rd

As a demonstration of school spirit and to show our support for bullying prevention, we are hoping for everyone to wear something pink on Wednesday, November 23rd.. “Pink Shirt Days” are recognized at various times in different schools. For a further explanation of the origin, please see this website:

<http://pinkshirtday.ca/about-us/>

Don’t worry if you don’t have a pink shirt. Any article of pink clothing will do!

VIP and VIP Plus Program with the Guelph Police Service

Constable Kyle Grant from the Guelph Police Service will be joining our grade 6 and 7 students this year to bring us the VIP and VIP Plus programs. V.I.P stands for Values, Influences, and Peers. Officer Kyle will be doing 3 sessions with our grade 6 students followed by a VIP “graduation” event. He will also be doing 2 sessions with our grade 7 students.

Below are the VIP and VIP Plus topics:

Grade 6

- Drug Awareness
- Bullying/Cyberbullying and Internet Safety
- Peer Pressure

Grade 7

- Drugs and Criminal Activities
- Internet, Mobile, and Social Networking Safety

Grade 8

- Mobile Device Safety (ie. photos, “sexting”)
- Open Forum

If you require any further information about these programs, please contact Mr. Cameron at the school.

Dates to Note

November 5 - Winter Bazaar - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
November 8 - School Council Meeting - 6:30 PM
November 11 - Remembrance Day Assembly
November 17 - Progress Reports Go Home
November 21-25 - UGDSB Bullying Prevention Week
November 22 - WCW Night at Chapters
November 23 - Pink Shirt Day
November 24 - Gr. 8 Students visit John F. Ross
November 24 - "Walking in Your Footsteps" Day
November 25 - PD Day - Parent/Teacher Conferences

Bullying Prevention and Reporting Bullying

We take all incidents of bullying seriously and work hard each day to prevent bullying. If your child is the victim of bullying or sees bullying behavior at school, please encourage him/her to speak with someone at school or use our Board's online reporting tool. "Report Bullying" gives students and parents 24/7 access for reporting bullying. You don't have to identify yourself – just your school – and your message gets sent directly to the school principal for follow-up. You'll find the Report Bullying button on our school's website.

Conflict or Bullying?

Is conflict the same as bullying? People may sometimes confuse conflict with bullying, but they are different. Conflict occurs when two or more people have a disagreement, a difference of opinion or different views. Conflict between students does not always mean it's bullying. Children learn at a young age to understand that others can have a different perspective than their own, but developing the ability to gain perspective takes time and the process continues into early adulthood. In conflict, each person feels comfortable expressing his or her views, and there is no power imbalance. Each person feels able to state his or her viewpoint. How people deal with conflict can make it positive or negative. Conflict becomes negative when an individual behaves aggressively by saying or doing hurtful things. Then the conflict is an aggressive interaction. Conflict only becomes bullying when it is repeated over and over again and there is a power imbalance. Over time, a pattern of behaviour may emerge where the person who behaves aggressively in the conflict may continue or even make it worse. The person who is the recipient of the aggressive conflict may feel less and less able to express his or her point of view and feel more and more powerless. That is when negative conflict may turn into bullying. A school will respond to bullying and conflict differently. For example, in the case of a conflict, a school staff member may try to have the students come together to tell their side of the story and help them resolve the situation together. There may be a different path of resolution for incidents of bullying.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION POLICY & PROGRAM:

The Upper Grand District School Board places a high priority on the safety of our students. The Child Abuse Prevention Policy is evidence of our commitment to this priority. The following is a quote from the policy:

“Every citizen in the community shares a responsibility for our children. School officials and teachers share this collective community responsibility for creating safe and nurturing environments for children. Under the Child and Family Services Act, this responsibility includes the legal requirement to report to the local Children’s Aid Society any suspected child abuse or other situations where a child may be in need of protection. Teachers and other Board employees have a special opportunity to know and understand children during their most influential years of development. They are in a unique position to be able to see early signs of maltreatment, and to know or hear about the abuse and neglect that is often suffered by children.”

As required in the Policy, we will be teaching age-appropriate lessons to help our students identify abuse and protect themselves from abusive situations. The goal is to provide children with the tools they need to keep themselves safe. The lessons cover a broad range of safety issues including bullying, stranger danger and abuse by a known and trusted adult. The programs we will be using are: the “Kids in The Know” program for grades 3 and 5, “Talk, Walk Squawk” program from the Canadian Red Cross Society for grade 1, and the “It’s Not Your Fault” program from the Canadian Red Cross Society for students in grade 7.

For grades one, three and five, the lessons will be taught by our classroom teachers with support from our CYC, Jeff Patrick. There is no formal program in grades two, four and six, although the safety concepts are reviewed by classroom teachers informally.

More information will be coming out to families with children in grades 1, 3, 5, and 7 prior to the start of the programs. We encourage you to discuss with your child at home, the concepts taught in the Child Abuse Prevention Curriculum.

For more information regarding the Child Abuse Prevention Policy and/or Programs please contact Curt McQueen, Principal or Jeff Patrick, Child and Youth Counselor.

Special Class Placement in UGDSB

Students who require special education programs and services receive support through the classroom teacher and the special education resource teacher at their home schools. However, in some circumstances, students can be referred to a special education class placement where focused instruction in the area of need is provided. These classes have smaller numbers and can provide targeted instruction to meet student needs. In elementary there are four specialized class placements for the following exceptionalities: Learning Disability, Mild Intellectual Disability/Language-based Learning Disability, Developmental Disability (Intellectual Disability), and Intellectually Gifted. Students need to have a diagnosis of an exceptionality before they can be eligible for class placement, and parents and the school team should feel like the placement would best meet the student’s learning needs. Contact your school team if you would like to have more information on special class placement options.

Important changes are coming to the Upper Grand District School Board’s Junior Kindergarten registration and selection process for the 2017-18 school year, including changes to the French Immersion registration and selection process. For more information, please visit www.ugdsb.on.ca/jkfi.

If you have or receive questions, please direct them to fsl@ugdsb.on.ca.

Monthly Environmental Activities to help celebrate our planet

November 25th is BUY NOTHING Day!

It is vital to teach our children to respect and take care of the environment.

Celebrate Buy Nothing Day on November 25th!

Buy Nothing Day is an awareness day highlighting society's habit of buying too many things.

Founded by Vancouver artist Ted Dave, *"The first Buy Nothing Day was organized in Canada in September 1992 as a day for society to examine the issue of over-consumption. In 1997, it was moved to 'Black Friday', which is one of the busiest shopping days in the United States."* <https://en.wikipedia.org>

Repair, reduce, re-use, recycle – 4 R's are best!

"It's time for a new kind of materialism, based on an economy of better, not more... that makes things which last and can be repaired many times before being recycled, allowing us to share better the surplus of stuff we already have, from furniture to tools, cars, fridges, clothes and food. 'Repair, reduce, re-use, recycle', could be the basis of a new economic model." <https://www.theguardian.com>

Some great ideas for your family on Buy Nothing Day!

- Instead of shopping, enjoy a day in the great outdoors by walking trails or going to the park.
- Recycle school supplies such as binders, workbooks, pens and pencils instead of buying new.
- Donate clothes, books, toys and games your family does not need any more.
- Think of things you can make or do for people as gifts without spending any money.

"Either way, there's no doubt that going without buying anything for an entire day is quite a challenge in the modern world, and will serve to make you think about what your life is really about."
<https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/buy-nothing-day>