



WEST BAYFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Angela Pino
Vice Principal: Pamela Hamilton
Trustee: Kathleen Aikens
Superintendent: Anita Simpson
Follow us on Twitter: @WestBayfield

Phone: 725-8229
MAY 2015

Dates to Remember

May

4-6 Dental Screening
4- Music Monday/Talent Show
4 - Helmet Safety Presentation – 11:30-gr.1-5
8 - Gr. 8 final payment Toronto Trip
15 -Retro Day (spirit day)
19 - Volunteer Tea -2:30
20 - Track & Field Jr. & Inter.
26 - Welcome to Kindergarten -3:30-4:30
27 – Boston Pizza -5pm -8pm

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the last few months of school, it is hard to believe that summer is just around the corner. The next few months are quite busy at West Bayfield. We have our EQAO testing for our grade 3 and 6 students, Welcome to Kindergarten evening, track and field, Graduation, our Bronco Bash and many other events. May and June will go very quickly. Please continue to check the school website for upcoming dates and events. We have started a new program at West Bayfield called Bronco Bucks. Students are able to earn a Bronco Buck when they show good Character at any time through the day. All staff have Bronco Buck slips that they hand to the students and then students are able to bring their slip down to the office in order to put it in the appropriate Primary, Junior or Intermediate bin. During our ABC monthly assemblies draws will take place from each bin. A few students each month will win various fun West Bayfield prizes. We continue to focus on the positive choices students make throughout their day. Please feel free to discuss Bronco Bucks with your child and continue to encourage them to make positive day-to-day choices!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Pino

School Council Meetings

Our school Council meetings happen on the last Monday of the month. We have a fun Council. School Council meetings are open to anyone interested in attending. We welcome your ideas and suggestions. If you have any

additional questions, please feel free to contact us in the office.

Being On Time

The Importance of Being on Time to School each day! We are concerned about students arriving at school late on a fairly regular basis. We understand that this can happen on occasion as students have appointments, etc. that can make them late for school. We are not eluding to those situations. For those who are consistently late it can be a disruption to the class. When a student comes in late to class it can be a disruption to the learning that is happening along with the teaching. The teacher then has to repeat the lesson for the student who is late. If your child is late on a fairly regular basis and there really isn't a justifiable reason please help us by ensuring that your child is on time each day. It is no fair to the other children in the class and the teacher to have a lesson interrupted each day. Arriving on time also helps teach children the important of organization and time management which will help them in their daily lives and throughout.

Are you moving?

If your family will be moving prior to the start of school in September 2015, please provide this information to the school. We can help make this transition a smooth one for September.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION 2015-2016

Many parents and families will soon begin to wonder where their child will be placed for the next school year. Unfortunately, we are unable to confirm classroom placements until September. Parents often ask if their child can be placed in a particular class. We are unable to accommodate such requests unless there is a legitimate educational reason for it. When determining classes, school staff work extremely hard and take into account many factors including the personalities of students, the number of students in each grade of a combined class, balance of boys and girls, the special needs of students, contract obligations and written requests made on a legitimate educational basis. **If you have a legitimate request or have some information about your child that may affect the class placement**

for September please write a letter to Mrs. Pino or Mrs. Hamilton by Thursday, June 4th.

As with most schools, we will have some changes to our staff and some teachers will be changing grades. Please also remember that combined classes are also common in schools. Class placements will be announced on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 8th, 2015.

Music Monday / Talent Show May 4th -1:35

Outside gr. 4-7 Everyone Welcome 

Helmet Safety Presentation May 4th 11:30

Gr 1-5 (Health Unit & Barrie Police, presentation on proper use of helmets)



Delicious kernels popcorn is for sale every Wednesday for \$2. We have awesome flavours: White Cheddar, Lo-fat caramel, dill-pickle, butter-salt, kettle corn, and salt and vinegar. All proceeds go towards the Intermediate year-end trips.

Popcorn will be sold at the Art Show and Sale for \$2.

The Grade 7 students are off to their overnight trip to Camp Kandalore on May 7 to 8th.

Thank you for supporting our fundraising efforts by purchasing Kernels popcorn.



**Grade 8 Parents – Mark Your Calendars
Graduation: Evening of Wednesday
June 24th, 2015**

**REMINDER GR. 7 Hep.B & 8 HPV Needles –
June 4th**

SAFETY PATROLLERS

West Bayfield is lucky to have a fantastic group of students that serve as Safety Patrollers for our students. These dedicated patrollers have faced both rain and shine (and SNOW) both morning and afternoon for the entire

school year. We are thankful for their efforts and are proud of their leadership. **THANK YOU SAFETY PATROLLERS!!**

EQAO TESTING GRADE

The grade 3 and 6 students will be taking part in the province wide Education Quality and Assessment Office (EQAO) assessment at the end of May and beginning of June. The assessment requires students to participate for certain portions of each day over the duration of the assessment. Grade 3 students will participate in the EQAO assessment from May 25-28 and the grade 6 students will participate from June 1-3. The assessment involves Math and Literacy components as multiple choice and short answers along with comprehension questions. In our partnership with parents to help their students achieve success, we have created a list of things that parents can do to ensure that each student has a positive experience when writing the assessment:

BEFORE THE ASSESSMENT:

- Mark the assessment dates on your calendar at home.
- Discuss the assessment with your child; ask about activities that are being home in class to prepare for the test.
- Help your child feel comfortable by letting him/her know that we only want them to do their best.

DURING THE ASSESSMENT:

- Support your child by discussing the daily assessment activities.
- Avoid making appointments on assessment days as attendance is crucial.
- Ensure your child has a good night's sleep and is well rested and has a great breakfast.

SCHOOL IS IN FOR SUMMER!

SCDSB is yet again offering a MATH PREP PROGRAM for students entering grade 7, 8 & 9. The program runs from August 10-21, 2015, Monday- Friday from 9:00am – 1:00pm. Please register online www.thelearningcentres.com or contact the school for further information.

2015 Summer School Age Daycare Programs – for more information please see our school website.

Working Together To Make Our Kids Successful presentation on May 7

Dr. Bruce Ferguson will focus on how the community, school and family can work together to support children as they develop and grow into healthy citizens at this free event for all parents on May 7. Dr. Ferguson is a Senior Consultant and the founding Director of the Community Health Systems Resource Group at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids).

This event is free to all parents in Simcoe County. It takes place May 7 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Liberty North in Barrie (100 Caplan Ave.). Simultaneous language interpretation services will be available for those who request it. Registration is available at: www.smcdsb.on.ca/families/parent_workshop.

Message from your local Health Unit: Prevent the bite from mosquitoes and ticks

West Nile virus is spread to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito. Lyme disease is an infection caused by a bacteria spread by the bite of an infected blacklegged tick. It's important you and your family take precautions to reduce the chances of being bitten by a mosquito or a tick. Steps to protect yourself include:

- Wear long pants and a long sleeved shirt.
- Wear closed footwear and socks. Tuck your pants into your socks.
- If hiking or spending time outdoors, check for ticks on exposed areas of your skin or clothing.
- Use a personal insect repellent that has deet (following the manufacturer's directions for use). Apply it to your skin and outer clothing. Avoid your eyes and mouth, as well as cuts and scrapes.
- Put a tick and flea collar on your pet and check them for ticks periodically.

When choosing a repellent, consider a product that meets your needs, and only use personal repellents that are registered in Canada. Never use a product labeled as an insecticide on your body. For more information about West Nile virus or Lyme disease, visit the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's website at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

Circle of Learning Parent Academy - Free workshop May 13 on resilience

As a parent/guardian, you were your child's first

teacher and you are still his or her most important teacher. Your involvement in your child's education has an impact on success. The final Circle of Learning Parent Academy event for this school year, *Resilience: Nine things kids need from their families, schools, and communities*, takes place on May 13.

Find the workshop locations, times and descriptions on the SCDSB website:

www.scdsb.on.ca/circleoflearning. You can also register at this link. The Circle of Learning Parent Academy is hosted by the Simcoe County District School Board's Parent Involvement Committee and made possible with the support of the Ministry of Education through a Parents Reaching Out Grant.

Help prepare your child to write the EQAO tests

Students in elementary and secondary schools across Ontario write provincial assessments in reading, writing and mathematics each year. The assessments are developed and scored by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). Each student that completes a provincial assessment receives an Individual Student Report (ISR) which describes the student's achievement. School and board achievement data is used to improve teaching practices and to support student learning.

This year's EQAO testing for Grade 3 and 6 students takes place from May 25 to June 5.

Further information about the provincial assessments, including resources to help prepare your child for the test, can be found at www.eqao.com.

Proposed 2015-2016 School Year Calendars

On the SCDSB website (www.scdsb.on.ca) under 'Schools' – 'School Year Calendars', you will find the **proposed** 2015-16 School Year Calendars, pending Ministry approval. These calendars were approved by the Board in February for submission to the Ministry of Education. They are awaiting final approval by the Ministry of Education, which usually occurs in early May. The finalized calendars will be posted on the webpage above once they are approved.

Eye See...Eye Learn offers eye exams and free glasses to JK students

The Eye See...Eye Learn program provides comprehensive eye exams by local optometrists to Junior Kindergarten (JK) students. The eye exams are covered under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) when parents show their child's health card. There is no out-of-pocket cost for the eye exam and if the child requires a pair of glasses, they will receive them free of charge. The Eye See...Eye Learn program was developed to raise

awareness among parents about the importance of having their children's eyes checked upon starting school. The Ontario Association of Optometrists recognizes the important link between eye health and learning, and recommends comprehensive eye examinations for all children entering kindergarten. All children can receive an annual comprehensive eye exam covered by OHIP until their twentieth birthday. The new program for children born in 2011 will begin on July 1, 2015. For further information and a list of participating optometrists in your area, visit: www.eyeseeeyelearn.ca.

Education Week – Celebrating public education

Education Week, May 4 to 8, is a province-wide celebration of student achievement and excellence in education. It is an opportunity to recognize the work and accomplishments of Ontario's publicly-funded schools. Many schools host special events during Education Week.

EITTargetURL: link to your own school post re: Education Week events or link to the SCDSB media release which will outline Board-wide events (will be posted on April 19 under 'News' at www.scdsb.on.ca)

Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week is May 3 to 9. One in five Ontario children and youth struggle with mental health concerns - that's about 500,000 kids. Children's Mental Health Week is about promoting positive mental health, increasing the awareness of signs related to children and youth struggling with mental health problems, decreasing stigma and understanding how to access community supports that are available to improve well-being. For more information, visit <http://www.kidsmentalhealth.ca/>.