

Important Dates

Thurs. March 8

Yum, Yum! A Celebration of Food in Song - performance for the afternoon JK/SK and Grade 1 @ 1:30pm.

Sun. March 11

Daylight Savings Time begins

March 12-16

March Break

Tues. March 20

- Parent Council meeting @ 7pm
- First day of spring

Fri. March 23

Movie Night! Featuring HOP

Sun. March 25

Musically Speaking Concert Series @ St. David's Anglican Church

Tues. March 27

Junior Choir performs @ TDSB Music Festival
Bickford Centre, Toronto

Thurs. March 29

Primary Choir performs @ TDSB Music Festival
Bickford Centre, Toronto

Fri. March 30

- Honesty Assembly after AM recess
- Pizza Lunch
- Earth Hour from 2-3pm

Contact Us

Go to our Web site at www.wilkinsonschooll.ca
or leave a message at (416) 393-9575.

Thank you to this month's contributors.

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NEWSLETTER

MAR. 2012

Principal's Message

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

- Eleanor Roosevelt

As an EcoSchool, one of our goals for this year was to create an electronic newsletter to reduce the amount of paper we use. We are pleased to say that many of our families are now receiving our monthly newsletter electronically, but we would like to expand our list. If you would like to receive our e-newsletter, please send your e-mail address to leasa.adams@tdsb.on.ca. A big thank you to our School Council Communication Committee for all their help with this project.

March is a busy month! Both the Primary and Junior Choirs are rehearsing for the Toronto District School Board's Music Festival, auditions for our annual Talent Show are taking place, and the Character Trait Assembly on Honesty will be held after morning recess on Friday March 30.

Also, on March 30 from 2-3pm, the whole school will be taking part in the **TDSB Earth Hour**. Students will use their creativity and passion to make a difference through an energy conservation campaign. Last year schools in the TDSB reduced their electricity use by 29.09 % during that hour! This year we hope to beat that record.

Finally, we wish everyone a happy March Break. We hope that families will have time to have fun together, and students will be able to re-energize for the final term.

Sincerely,
Leasa Adams, Vice-Principal

Music Program News!

Both the Junior Choir and Primary Choir will be participating in the Toronto District School Board music festival.

The Junior Choir will perform on Tuesday March 27 from 10-11:30am at the Bickford Centre. The Primary Choir will perform on Thursday March 29 from 12:30-2pm at the Bickford Centre.

Bickford Centre: 777 Bloor Street West (Bloor and Christie).

Spring Concert

The Spring Concert takes place on **Thursday May 3**. The Primary Concert (from Kindergarten to Grade 3) will perform from 6-6:50pm. The Junior Concert (Band, Strings, Ukulele, Junior Choir & Orff Ensembles) will perform from 7-8:15pm.

- Ms. Levy

Eco-Team News!

It has been a busy month of energy saving at Wilkinson. Students have jumped on board our Lights Off competition mentioned last month. We have been monitoring classroom lights at morning and afternoon recess. Classes that have their lights off get a stamp. The class with the most stamps by the end of February got a popcorn treat. We have been so impressed that many classes have had their lights off for EVERY recess in February. Students have done a great job remembering to turn them off. Way to go! We hope this will continue after the competition ends.

Eco Team members have also been working hard to prepare classroom presentations on how to save energy. Some of the presentations have gotten very creative with funny skits. Some of the groups have completed the presentations, and others are just finishing up writing and rehearsing them.

In March the Eco Team will be working on something for the Honesty assembly at the end of the month. We will also be continuing with our "caught being green" program.

If all goes well, we will be awarded Silver Eco Schools status in June!

- Ms. Barbier

Library News!

Wilkinson students constantly impress me with their appetite for books and reading. From September to February they checked out a record 9,000 books! This is considerably higher than neighbouring schools and almost 1,000 books more than the same time period last year. Way to go, Wilky readers!

Forest of Reading: The Blue Spruce and Silver Birch reading programs are going strong. The Kindergarten to Grade 3 students are half-way through the Blue Spruce books and Silver Birch participants are working their way through the five required titles. Ask your daughter or son about these books to learn more or, check out the Ontario Library Association's Forest of Reading site at <http://bit.ly/rgTE9G>.

Volunteers Needed: If anyone is interested in helping out in the library, I am always looking for volunteers to help with the management (cataloguing and processing) of library books. I can offer a brief library orientation tour and coffee (or tea) during your visit. Reading on the job is encouraged! If interested, please leave your name and contact information with the office or e-mail me at: wilkinsonlibrary@me.com.

Digital Wilkinson: For more library news, don't forget to check out the Wilkinson Library landing page at <http://about.me/wilkinsonlibrary> and the Library Blog at <http://wilkinsonlibrary.tumblr.com/>. To get regular updates of all events and activities at Wilkinson, follow us on Twitter at http://twitter.com/TDSB_wilkinson.

Happy Reading!

– Mr. Krentz

Health and Physical Education News!

It was another busy month for sports at Wilkinson. The Wilkinson/Morse ice hockey team made it to the conference finals where they were beaten by a very good Huron Street School team. It was the team's only loss of the year! They played exceptionally well and represented Wilkinson with pride and earned a South Conference Finalist banner. Great teamwork Lions!

The girls volleyball team, coached by Ms. DiModugno and Ms. Vlahos, practised hard and played great team volleyball in their tournament. Way to go, girls!

As for the W.J.I.H.L., teams were playing hard at lunch in preparation for the playoffs that started on Thursday, March 1. The finals will be played after the March break. Good luck to all teams!

From the H.E.A.L.T.H.Y. eating program, yet another great month for healthy eating. It was good to see more Junior students participating this month. The healthy snacks for March are:

- March 5-9: Cucumber
- March 9-23: Peppers
- March 26-30: Apples.

Hope to see everyone eating healthy – so keep away from those unhealthy snacks! Happy healthy eating, Wilkinson!!!

Parents: For more information on the availability of fruits and vegetables in Ontario each season, visit: <http://www.foodland.gov.on.ca/english/availability.html>

– Mr. Kasaval.

Wilkinson Chess Club

After six weeks of intensive play, the Wilkinson Chess Club is coming to an end on Monday March 5. The Grades 4-6 were with Mr. DePasqua and Grades 2 and 3 with Mr. Low. The focus has been on being a good sport, strategic play and neurosynaptic development. Here's what some of the players have said: "Wow...I didn't know chess was so fun." "I think my brain has doubled in size!" "I need a bigger hat."

– Mr. Low

Storytelling Club!

Storytelling Club for Grades 2 and 3 is off to a wonderful start.

Many children have signed up for this exciting lunchtime program!

The group meets every Tuesday from Feb. 28 to April 10, 2012.

This club focuses on developing oral communication skills that children need to understand and interpret ideas and to interact with others. They are developing the confidence to express and present their ideas fluently.

– Ms. Mangos, Ms. Cerqueira, Ms. Dilorio and Mr. Krentz
(Supervising Teachers)

Talent Show

The Talent Show auditions took place the last week of February. As in previous years, Ms. Cerqueira and Ms. Nastos had a difficult time selecting this year's performers. A big thank you goes out to all students who auditioned. This year's Wilkinson Talent Show will take place on Thursday April 4 at 12:30. It promises to be another entertaining event!

Sweetheart Bake Sale makes sweet profits

This year's Sweetheart Bake Sale on Feb. 14 was a huge success. The sale raised \$973.45, which the Parent Council will put towards many of the activities it supports and items it contributes to: Scientists in the School, Visiting Authors, Smart Boards, new risers, Grade 6 graduation and more. Thank you to the school community for supporting the sale and a big thank you to Laami Portelli, Manita Thome and many others for organizing and helping during the sale.

Shop online and donate

Looking to make your life a little easier and to help the Wilkinson school community at the same time? Here's one idea: shop online at Donate Naturally (www.donatenaturally.com). This online store sells organic and natural products and will deliver them right to your home. The other good news is that Wilkinson will receive 15% of the total you spend. All you have to do is select Wilkinson from the scroll down menu when you register. **First time users will also get a 30% discount by using the code: tryit30.**



Fun Fair News!

The date is set and prep work for Wilkinson's biggest fundraising event is underway. Fun Fair takes place on Saturday May 26. If you'd like to get involved, there are plenty of opportunities and something for everyone. Get involved in planning the event, the Wil-Kitchen or set up. Fun Fair's first planning meeting is taking place Monday March 5 from 6-7pm in Room 3. Send an RSVP to April Moon if you can attend the first meeting or just let her know you'd like to help! More planning meetings will follow. Moon.wallis@sympatico.ca

Parent Council Meeting - Notice

The March council meeting has been moved to Tuesday March 20 from 7-9pm. Daycare is provided. Council members and non-members are welcome! Contact: wilkinsonparents@yahoo.ca.

Dandyllion Daycare Update - Vacancies

Dandyllion Daycare Centre currently has four vacancies in the After School-Age Program (ASAP) room. The ASAP room is for children in Grades 4-6. This program is only offered after school from 3:20-6pm and is closed for the summer, Christmas Break, March Break and P.A. Days. The program teaches the children responsibility, team building, involves outdoor time and plenty of fun with creative activities for the children. For more information regarding the centre or going on our waiting list for another program, please contact Patrina Stathopoulos or Sarah Hoac at (416) 469-0091 or via e-mail dandyllion@bellnet.ca.

Movie Night!

The next Movie Night is Friday March 23 featuring the animated comedy, HOP. Doors open at 6:30pm and the movie starts at 7pm. If you're interested in helping out, the Movie Night team is always looking for volunteers. Come out early and speak to one of the parents.

MOVIE NIGHT



FRIDAY MARCH 23
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

60 **FRIDAY**
MARCH
30
EARTH HOUR