

The Council's Fundraising Committee presents...

Movie Night - Friday April 11th

"The Bee Movie"

Doors open at 6:00pm, Movie starts at 6:30pm

Bring your blankets and pillows and come early to get a good spot at the front

Pizza and drinks will be available for sale

"Pay what you can" at the door

This event is put on by Wilkinson parents to raise money for educational activities, equipment and school performances for our students.

Volunteers are always needed!



School Buses Name Change

In the very near future you will see the big Laidlaw buses that service our schools change names from "Laidlaw" to "First Student Canada".

Please note that their office phone numbers will remain the same.

contact us

Have an article to contribute to the newsletter? Interested in helping out? Compliments? Go to our Web site at www.wilkinsonschoo.ca or leave a message at (416) 393-9575.

Thank you to this month's contributors:
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WILKINSON NEWSLETTER

April 2008

Published by the Wilkinson School Council

principal's message

It's April and we're finally able to see some grass. With March Break behind us let's hope winter is behind us and we can start getting our gardens prepped for the summer months. As we enter the third term of the school year we have a number of events planned for the month of April at Wilkinson that are highlighted throughout this newsletter. You'll note that the choirs are particularly busy with upcoming performances.

In addition to the music and sports activities, the Ambassadors Club will be having a bake sale on Tuesday April 1st to raise money to purchase books that they can use when working with students new to the country.

Kari-Lynn Winters, author of Blue Spruce nominated "Jeffrey and Sloth", will be visiting with students from Kindergarten to grade 3 on May 20th. Thanks to the council for funding this visit. More information about Ms. Winters is available on her web site at: <http://kariwinters.com>.

Here's looking forward to spring and a productive and enjoyable final term!

Tanya Sterioff
principal

important dates

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Fri., Apr. 4: | P.A. Day – No school |
| Mon., Apr. 7: | Primary Choir performs at TDSB Music Festival at 10:00am

Fun Fair Meeting – Room 3 at 6:30pm |
| Tues., Apr. 8: | Junior Choir performs at TDSB Music Festival at 12:30pm |
| Fri., Apr. 11: | Movie Night ("The Bee Movie") – Doors open at 6:00pm |
| Mon., Apr. 14: | Council Meeting – 7:00pm; childcare provided |
| Wed., Apr. 30: | Spring Concert
Primary Choir 6:00pm;
Junior Choir 7:00pm |

field trip review

A Really Big Shoe...

On February 28th Ms. DiModugno's Grade 1 class braved frigid temperatures to venture out on the TTC to the Bata Shoe Museum. Located steps from the St. George subway station, the museum building resembles a bulging shoe-box and the class certainly found lots to see

there. Splitting into smaller groups, the children were given a guided tour which showed a history of footwear from ancient times. They saw sandals from ancient Rome, tiny Chinese shoes for bound feet and even medieval plate mail boots. They also got to hold, examine and discuss some special pieces of footwear including Inuit mukluks, firefighter boots and ballet shoes.

After the formal tour, the students enjoyed lunch and then explored the museum in small groups. Highlights included the Rococo exhibit which was full of "princess shoes" according to one girl, and a section containing shoes belonging to famous people. These included Elvis' blue suede shoes, Winston Churchill's boots and Terry Fox's single runner. Dwarfing them all though were the size 23 (!) hiking boots that belonged to the basketball player Shaquille O'Neal.

Special thanks to Ms DiModugno and all the parent volunteers who made this trip possible, as well as to the museum staff who created a very interesting tour for us.

Submitted by Phil Kahn

arts & music

Superheros

On **Friday, April 11th** we have a special performance and workshop involving music and dance for our grade 5 students. It is entitled "Superheros".

Choirs

On **Monday, April 7th** the Primary Choir will be performing at the TDSB Music Festival. This will take place from 10:00-11:30 at Winston Churchill C.I. (2239 Lawrence Ave. E. – just west of Warden).

On **Tuesday, April 8th** the Junior Choir will also be performing at the TDSB Music Festival. That performance will take place from 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Our Spring Concert will take place on **Wednesday, April 30th**. The primary students will perform from 6:00-6:45pm and the junior students will be on stage from 7:00-8:00pm.

The Arts Committee of the council presents... Taiko Drumming!

While the Primary Choir is performing at the music festival on **April 7th**, the Junior Division will be watching a Taiko Drumming Performance in the gym starting at 9:30am.

Taiko drumming has been part of the Japanese culture for centuries. The word "Taiko" means "fat drum" in Japanese. Some uses of taiko in old Japan:

- to send messages. You could hear how far away someone was if they were travelling towards your village
- in olden days, the size of your village, the boundary was marked by the sound of your drum
- taiko was also used in religious rituals, and ceremonies
- farmers used taiko to drive away pests when there were infestations of mosquitoes, locusts
- during wars, there would be one or two drummers to motivate the troops.

This event is being funded through the fundraising efforts of the Wilkinson School Council.

report cards

Second Term Report Cards... They're here!

You should be receiving your child's report card at about the same time as this newsletter. This term's report cards continue to communicate your child's strengths, weaknesses and next steps as it relates to achievement of the curriculum expectations for each subject area as well as their achievement of the learning skills.

JK students receive a summary report at this time. This summary is a means of communicating to parents/guardians a profile of their child's interests, strengths, development and learning.

Parents are always welcome and encouraged to request a parent/teacher interview. Page 3 of the report card provides parents/guardians and the student with an opportunity to comment on student achievement, goals and home support.

Learning is a partnership and parents are encouraged to be involved in their child's education.

Source: TDSB web site (www.tdsb.on.ca)

sports & clubs

Badminton

The 2008 Wilkinson Badminton team is busy practicing on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Their first game is on April 1st at Earl Haig and their first home game is on April 8th.

Cricket is Wicked at Wilkinson

Cricket is in full swing at our school. At the moment, we have two teams practicing, the Grade 4/5 team is called "Wilkinson One" and a Grade 5/6 team is called "All-Wilkinson". A girls team should be created shortly. Our teams are currently practicing with our indoor equipment however our outdoor set of equipment will arrive early in May so we should have very skilled teams who will be playing the Thorncliffe Park powerhouse and hopefully a city-wide tournament in June.

Girls' After School Volleyball

There has been much interest in the Girls' After School Volleyball program on Tuesdays. We have a consistent attendance of about 15 girls who continue to work on their serves, bumping and volleying. Much appreciation must go out to Kim Diamond, a Wilkinson parent and volleyball coach who has helped Mr.

Kechnie with her enthusiasm and leadership. There is already a marked difference in the confidence of the girls' playing.

fundraising

Fun Fair 2008

Saturday, May 31st 11:00am – 3:00pm

Spring is in the air so that means planning for Wilkinson's annual Fun Fair is underway... Mark the date on your calendar for food, fun and shopping!

The fun fair is Wilkinson's largest fundraiser. Terrific concerts, field trips and Scientists in School visits are made possible through funds raised at this community event.

- You can make the fun fair a success!
- No experience is necessary!
- Huge time commitments are not needed! (We know you are busy.)
- We have enthusiastic parents who will show you the ropes and support you!

Co-leaders are needed for these areas:

- Outdoor Games
- Indoor Games
- Food Planning ("World Food Fair")
- Freezie and Sno cone Sales
- Extreme Makeover Tent (hair wraps, mendhi, tattoos)
- Photography

This is a great opportunity to help your school, learn a new skill and connect with Wilkinson parents!

Contact:

Karin Deane (Volunteer Coordinator)
kadeane@sympatico.ca 416-462-8738

April Moon (Fun Fair Co-chair)
moon.wallis@sympatico.ca 416 462 9719

Alternatively, come to Room 3 on **Monday, April 7th @ 6:30-7:30** for a gathering of fun fair organizers. See you there!