

Willingdon School

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www.facebook.com/willingdonschool

Info session and site visit re the potential expansion of Willingdon

A reminder that we will be holding an information session for parents regarding the potential for an expansion at Willingdon on **Tuesday February 5 (TODAY) at 7:00 PM** in the gymnasium. We will also be hosting a site visit of the building on February 11, 2019 from 6 to 7:30 PM. All updates will be shared with parents and uploaded on our website. We look forward to seeing you there.



Report card distribution and parent-teacher interviews

Term II report cards will be distributed to students on Monday, February 25th. The second term report card is worth 20% of the year end school mark. Parent-Teacher interviews will be held on Thursday February 28th, 2019 from 3:35 to 9:35 PM. This parent-teacher conference is by invitation only. You will be receiving a letter from your child's homeroom teacher shortly to that effect. We kindly ask you to respect the appointment that is given to you. The administration will also be available to meet with parents.

Tax receipts, school fees and lunch fees

The 2018 tax receipts will be sent to you at the end of the month. We will also be sending out a statement of account with your child's 2nd report card, for those of you who have not yet paid your fees. The office will be open during parent-teacher interviews to collect the outstanding fees. Thank you for your cooperation in making sure that your account is settled for the 2018-2019 school year.



Upcoming Events

February 5

Expansion consultation

February 8

Art Oratoire

February 11

Expansion consultation site visit

Staff Appreciation week

School perseverance week

February 14

Class to class bake sale

February 18

Holiday

February 22

Pizza Lunch

February 25

Report cards distribution

February 28

Book Fair

Parent-Teacher Interviews

March 1- March 10

MORE IMPORTANT NEWS

Reverse integration Program at Mackay Centre School

The EMSB and Mackay Centre School are continuing a joint venture, begun in 1973, in which a limited number of children in pre-K through grade 6 are given an opportunity to attend Mackay Centre School for one year. Reverse Integration students follow the regular curriculum and learn alongside students with physical disabilities at the Mackay Centre School. A letter from the director general and application form were sent out with the students earlier in January.

School Bus Safety campaign

In association with The Bus Carriers Federation and the Société de l'Assurance du Québec, Willingdon is participating in the 31st annual school transport safety campaign, which takes place from February 4 to February 8, 2019. Once again this year, the campaign will raise awareness among students and their parents regarding the importance of staying alert around school busses. We invite you to follow the **M'as-tu vu?** Facebook page and visit their website <http://mastuvu.info> for more information and to benefit from various activities, videos, and games. (Poster attached)

Teacher and staff appreciation week

The teacher and staff appreciation week will be held from February 11 to February 15th, 2019. Home & School will be offering breakfast on the 11 and lunch on the 13 to our wonderful team. Furthermore, goodies and surprises will be on the menu all week. Help us spread the gratitude by saying thank you to our dedicated, caring and committed staff.



Hooked on School Week

The Montreal Hooked on School week will be held from **February 11 to February 15th, 2019**. The theme for this year is **"Your actions A + plus in their success"**. Students will have the opportunity to participate in different activities raising awareness on school perseverance. The K and grade 1 students will be celebrating the 100th day of school with diverse activities. Grade 2 students will be writing messages to other students regarding "Never Giving Up." Grade 3 students are completing a mural celebrating everyone that helped our students succeed at Willingdon. Grade 4 students will be involved in structured play in the school yard (promoting movement.) Some grade 5 students will be participating in WE Day (youth forum) celebrating "empowering the youth." Grade 6 students will be listening to a presentation on Child's Rights by a lawyer from the Faculty of Law at McGill University. We encourage you to help your child keep their goal in mind and have them visualize the end result. Offer them tasks that are just challenging enough but not too overwhelming. Break tasks into small achievable goals. Encourage confidence, help them connect their mindset to their effort and praise your child's effort as much as their accomplishment. It is said that it takes a village to raise a child, in that spirit, we ask you to help us encourage our youth to stay in school and persevere in the face of adversity.



Geordie Theatre

On February 1st, 2019 Geordie Production was at Willingdon to perform the play "Little Witch" to cycle 2 and 3 students. This activity was sponsored by Willingdon's fantastic Home & School.



Art Oratoire

L'art oratoire se tiendra cette année le 8 Février 2019. Les élèves de quatrième, cinquième et sixième année présenteront leur histoire d'abord dans leur classe et deux candidats par classe seront choisis pour présenter leur histoire dans le gymnase le 8 Février. Ensuite, deux candidats seront choisis pour représenter l'école à la compétition organisée par la commission scolaire. Nous souhaitons bonne chance à tous nos élèves.

Junior Peacemaker program

Pendant les prochaines semaines, les élèves du cycle 2 auront la chance de participer au programme des Pacificateurs Juniors. Lors de chaque session guidée par des bénévoles de l'université McGill, les élèves parleront de sujets comme les droits humain, la résolution de conflits et l'activisme. Une belle opportunité en salle de classe!



Pink Shirt Day

Willingdon will be celebrating Pink Shirt Day on February 27, 2019. We encourage staff and students to wear PINK that day. Willingdon School stands together to take action against bullying.

Camp-Bout-En-Train Grade 6

The grade 6 students are looking forward to spending 2 nights and 3 days at the Camp-Bout-En-Train with their friends and teachers. This year's camp will be held from February 20th, 2019 to February 22nd, 2019. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated teachers for offering such a memorable experience for our children. Check our Facebook page for some pictures.





WE Day

On Monday February 11th Dr. Kat and Ms. Jenna will accompany 26 students to WE day at Theatre St. Denis. We are very proud that our school has been recognized for outstanding contributions through our various WE activities in Green Committee, Student and Athletics Council. Stella Acland-Wassan will represent Willingdon on the big stage during the event. Stella said she loves working with WE because "It can be upsetting to learn about environmental problems and social injustice in regular class but when we learn about these issues through WE at Willingdon we're learning about it because we want to fix it and that makes it better."

Royal West Science Fair

On February 14th our grade 6 students will be in charge of evaluating and summarizing three high school science fair projects. They have done a great job learning about Research Design and the Scientific Method.



The Toonie Challenge

Thank you to all who supported the Toonie Challenge this year. Our last collection day is Wednesday February 6th. A big thank you to all the Grade 5 students who have either been part of the marketing team, the presenters and collectors and the Part Planning Committee. The winning class will be announced soon and enjoy a lunch time party up in the Science Room.

Crayola Marker Collection Campaign

Green Committee has been working hard on the Crayola Marker Collection Campaign. With the help of some Grade 4 students Green Committee has made marker collection boxes for each of our 25 homerooms!! Please send any dried out markers, any brand not just Crayola, into class with your child. Green Committee members will be distributing the boxes next week. A big thank you to parent coordinator Grace Tang for her help with this initiative to turn old markers into usable energy!

Woohoo Grade1 field trip

On February 26, 2019, grade 1 students will be spending a fun filled day at Woohoo amusement park.



Play day Cycle 3

Ms. Belinsky will be accompanying 2 teams of grade 5 and 6 boys to the basketball playday at Sacred Heart. Mr. Gabriel will be accompanying a soccer team to play in a futsal tournament at Sun Youth. Good luck to everyone.



Rock climbing program

Rock climbing at Royal Vale has begun. Students in cycle 2 and 3 have started their rock climbing unit with Ms. Belinsky and Mr. Jon. Please make sure that children are on time and dressed appropriately on days that they go climbing. This is an amazing opportunity for our students. The school covers all costs related to this activity.

HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS

Geography Challenge

The Geography Challenge is a national program, sponsored by the Royal Canadian Geographical Society that thousands of Canadian school kids participate in each year. Willingdon participates in the Geo Challenge in January or February each year. It's a four-week study program, where the students work with their friends and volunteer parents on various geography questions during lunch time study sessions. The purpose of the study sessions is to prepare the kids for the actual Geography Challenge, a test which thousands of Canadian school children participate in each year. All students receive participation certificates and the top 3 finalists will receive medals. The gold medal finalist also gets a free, one-year subscription to Canadian Geographic.

Valentine Bake sale

On February 14, 2019 the Graduation committee will be holding a class-to-class bake sale. Be sure to send a couple extra loonies or toonies with your children so they can enjoy a sweet treat!

Book Fair



The second book fair organized by the Willingdon Home & School will be held on February 28th, 2019. The book fair is held on the same night as Parent-teacher interviews. Remember to pass by before or after your interview!

Grad Raffle Tickets on Sale Now

A raffle will be held at the February 28th, 2019 at the book fair in support of the graduation activities. Tickets will be available at the book fair but can also be purchased in advance from Grade 6 students. More information to come.

REMINDERS



Clothing for Winter Weather

A gentle reminder to all parents that children should be dressed appropriately for the winter weather. Snowsuits, winter boots, tuques and mittens must be brought to school every day. Students should have a pair of shoes and an extra pair of socks in their lockers. Students are not permitted to enter their classroom with boots for security and hygiene reasons.

Safety and Security in the school yard

As you may have noticed, we have started to plow half the school yard in order for students to be able to enjoy the outdoors at recess and at lunch. We ask your cooperation in reminding your child to play safe to avoid accidents and injuries. Please remind them that throwing snow balls is forbidden and that they need to be vigilant when climbing on the snow banks and running around. Thank you for your support!



Only running shoes in the gym

Students must remember to bring their running shoes on days they have physical education in the gym. Students that do not have proper shoes will be asked to sit on the bench. Thank you for helping your children remember their schedule as well as their running shoes.

In the event of school closure

In the event of a school closure due to inclement weather, the announcement will appear on the Twitter section of the EMSB website at www.Emsb.qc.ca. For all other emergency situations, the administration will contact parents by using Blackboard Connect either by phone or by e-mail

Willingdon's Facebook Page

The Willingdon Facebook page is updated regularly. Please make sure to LIKE and SHARE our Facebook Page. Let's showcase the wonderful things that the Willingdon community does!

