

Monthly Newsletter :

May, 2019



ÉCOLE WILLINGDON SCHOOL

EXAM SCHEDULE

This is a reminder to all parents that the end of the year exams are taking place until June 14th, 2019. Attendance to the exams is mandatory. Please make sure that your child is present and on time. Please avoid booking appointments during this period. These exams are long to complete and will be spread out throughout the days.

GRADE 4 VACCINATION

On May 1st our school nurse and her team from the CSSS, were in school providing vaccinations to our grade 4 students. The two vaccines being offered are Gardasil 9 (second dose) and Twinrix (second dose). Thank you to all parent volunteers and staff that helped throughout the day.

OUTSTANDING SCHOOL & LUNCH FEES

Lunch fees last installment was due April 26th, 2019. A STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT will be issued on May 8th for all past due fees. This will be the last notification you will be receiving. Please note that the file will be transferred to the EMSB Legal services department for all uncollected fees.

LOST AND FOUND

A reminder that the lost and found bins have been emptied and sent off to Share the Warmth. Thank you to Home and School parents volunteers for helping with this large endeavour. We kindly urge you to please write your child's name and homeroom on all your children items so that we can return them to the children. The office monitor has been returning all tagged item to students during the day. Thank you for your cooperation in that matter.

Upcoming Events

MAY 1

GRADE 4 VACCINATION

MAY 3

WILLINGDON'S GOT TALENT

MAY 8

PARENTS TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL WORKSHOP

MAY 12

MOTHER'S DAY

MAY 16

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN

MAY 17

PED DAY

MAY 20

VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY

MAY 28

GAIN MEETING #3

MAY 30

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

MAY 31

FUN FAIR PIZZA DAY

Practice HALO run and Clean-Up

Come one come all. Come practice for the Halo Race at the mountain. Meet Miss Belinsky at the Beaver Lake chalet between at 11:00am this Sunday, May 5th to do a practice Halo Run. We'll walk through both the 1km and 2km routes so students can be prepared for the race on Thursday, May 16. The race is for grades 3,4,5,6 but the entire Willingdon community is invited with all family members, even those with four legs aka dogs. New this year, we will be doing our part to clean up the environment and keep the mountain nice and green. If you would like to join us, meet us between 10:15-10:30am at Beaver Lake. If you like, bring a pair of gardening gloves to keep your hands clean. If not you can always give your hands a good scrub at the Beaver Lake chalet afterwards. We'll walk around and pick up what we can.

HALO RACE

Come and join us at Beaver Lake on Thursday, May 16. Students in grade 3,4 will be running a 1km run and students in grades 5,6 will be running a 2km. Every student will have different goals but the greatest success will be showing up and doing their best. The race schedule will be out soon. Please come and join us if you can. Fingers crossed that mother nature will be kind. Our theme song this year is Sharkira's Waka Waka... it's time for Halo Race (we changed the lyrics a little 😊)

Hockey Play Day

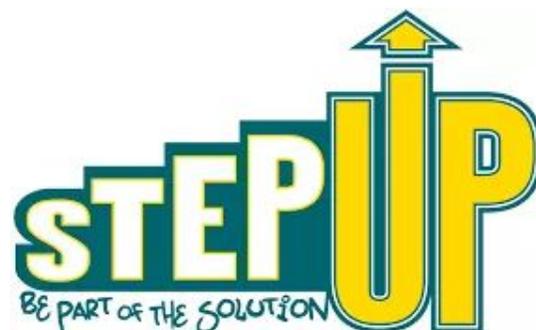
On Thursday, April 11, Mr Jon accompanied a group of students to a hockey playday at Pierre Elliot Trudeau elementary school. The students played hard and came back proud of their accomplishments. Congratulations to everyone who participated.

Step up for Haiti

On Friday, April 12, the Willingdon community rallied to raise funds and step up for Haiti. Students were challenged to accumulate as many flights of stairs as possible in 15 minutes. Room 30 raised the most money with \$156. Rooms 7 and 23 were chosen at random to have their class donations double for having collected the most flights. Congratulations to all and thank you for your donations.

Track and field Playday for grades 4 and 5

On Tuesday, May 28 Miss B will be taking a group of grade 4 and 5 students to a Track and Field playday at Riverside Park in Lasalle. Students will be competing in running, jumping and throwing events. This is the first time for elementary schools and we are very excited.



Camp Boute-en-Train for Grade 5

On June 6 and 7, Grade 5 students will be embarking on a 2 day 1 night adventure at Camp Boute-en-Train in Chertsey. Students will be playing in the forest, rock climbing, swimming and observing pond life along with many other activities. Everyone is looking forward to the trip.

Grade 3 - Toolbox Strategies To Combat Bullying

Ms. Danusia Lapinski, a parent volunteer, was welcome by all the grade 3 classes last month. The students were treated a 1-hour session where they learned to recognize bad situations, how to deal with them first-hand and as a bystander, as well as practical strategies to get themselves or a friend out of bad situations.

Grade 4 - Ensemble Workshops

A series of three 1-hour workshops begins May 1st as a part of our school's mission to provide a safe school environment and prevent bullying. The workshops delivered by Kasha and Sarah from ENSEMBLE will have themes of "I am assertive", "I have empathy", and "Let's talk about bullying". Please feel free to discuss the workshops with your kids this month; they will be taking place on Wednesdays.

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN EVENT

On May 16th, Willingdon will be hosting the "Welcome to Kindergarten" event from 5pm to 8pm for all the incoming Kindergarten students and their families. We are all looking forward to a fun event and the chance to get to know all our new additions to the Willingdon family.

TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR GRADE 6

Grade 6 parents and their children are invited to a Transition to High School Workshop, presented by BARTIMAEUS on Wednesday, May 8th at 7:00 PM. This event is a follow-up to the 8 sessions the children participated in during the past months. These sessions covered a variety of topics such as: long-term project planning, managing weekly homework, successful methods for test preparation, organizing notebooks and binders and much, much more.

WILLINGDON'S GOT TALENT CABARET 2019!

On May 3, 2019 the Willingdon Home & School Association will be hosting Cabaret 2019 at the Loyola Hive Café. Willingdon families, teachers, students, alumni and friends are known far and wide for their talents! Now it's their time to shine! All proceeds raised by this amazing evening of entertainment will go to the Willingdon Family Emergency Fund, helping Willingdon Families in need to cover extra school-related costs since 2002.

WILLINGDON'S FUNFAIR 2019

Willingdon's Home & school is excited to announce that it is Fun Fair time again!!! Mark your calendars for May 31st from 6 pm to 8:30 pm at Willingdon School. There will be bouncy castles, face painting, games, a bake sale, a BBQ pit, refreshment table, a raffle and more!

Rock Climbing at Willingdon

Rock climbing fever has hit Willingdon Elementary School. Students from Cycle 2 and 3 recently completed an extensive 8 week climbing program that allowed students to develop a variety of skills such as communication, cooperation and problem solving. It is also a wonderful example of two different schools within the same community collaborating since students from Willingdon walked to Royal Vale School so they could have access to an indoor climbing facility. All of the climbing sessions took place during Physical Education classes. Willingdon's Physical Educators Jonathan Stein and Lara Belinsky were pleased with the results of the program.



Specifically, they enjoyed working with their students in a new and challenging environment and watching them progress and develop their self-confidence through climbing. In addition, Willingdon students were led by Kim Weiner, an experienced climbing instructor who also organizes climbing sessions with Royal Vale high school students. Willingdon plans to continue building its climbing program for next year and is proud to be one of the few schools in Quebec that offers a rock climbing unit at the elementary level.

Indigenous Dance at Willingdon

We are excited to inform you that our spiritual animator, Ms. Linda Luca, has planned an Indigenous Dance performance at Willingdon on Monday May 13th (from 2pm-3pm). We are all looking forward to taking part of this incredible opportunity.

EMSB IMPACT NIGHT

A reminder that the traditional "EMSB Night," this year bringing the Roster of Orlando city to town, will take place on June 26th (7:30 pm) at Saputo Stadium. Tickets, which are usually \$20 each, are priced for EMSB families at a discounted \$15 each. Some of the proceeds from ticket sales will go towards Inspirations, a publication dedicated to the special needs community. We will accept orders on a first-come, first-serve basis from the schools and there is an option to purchase tickets safely and securely via credit card. For more information visit www.emsb.qc.ca/impact.



Willingdon Spring Concert

On April 11th Willingdon grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 students performed beautiful songs to a very exuberant audience. This year's Spring Concert held the theme "We are the Champions" and displayed a wide array of student talent, including singing, dancing, poetry and playing instruments. A big, heartfelt thank you to our incredible Home and School Association for their involvement and funding of this event. We are so grateful for all that you do for Willingdon.



Music News

Our students are very excited about composing music using the music lab and different instruments such as the electric guitar, electric bass, drums, piano, and all percussion instruments. They have formed their own bands and are rehearsing during lunch time. They are also listening to different styles of music and are learning musical concepts and the historical importance of these pieces. One student was very inspired after listening to Bach's Fugue in G minor that he started learning it on the piano.

MUHC Visit

On April 26th 15 Grade 5 student representatives along with Dr. Kat and parent volunteers Isabelle Gaul and Danica Meredith walked to the Montreal Children's Hospital (a 5.4 km round trip!) and enjoyed a tour with Friends of the MUHC volunteers. Two nurses from the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) brought a Kangaroo Feeding Pump down to the Resource Library with their teaching doll and showed the children how it works. It was wonderful for us to see how appreciated and beneficial this tool is that we helped fund through our fifth annual Toonie Challenge. Over the past two years Willingdon was able to raise close to \$5000.00 for the purchase of two state of the art enteral feeding devices (Kangaroo Pumps) for the NICU. Thank you to all who donated and to all the hard work by Grade 5 that went into this initiative!



Human Body Science Expo

The Grade 5 Human Body Science Expo takes place Friday May 10th from 4-6pm up on the 3rd floor. The students have worked very hard on their projects and are looking forward to sharing them with the wider Willingdon Community as well as their families, please come and encourage them!

Willingdon Alumni

A Willingdon grad returns on May 2nd to speak to grade 6 about his career and study path in Engineering. **Thomas Bugden**, class of 2009, has enjoyed a stage at Bombardier working on an app that will help determine lightning damage to flight craft. He will also demonstrate his steam car. It is wonderful when former Willingdon students return to inspire us!

School Food Gardens

School Food Gardens: Dr. Kat is looking for a couple more families to work in the gardens over the summer. Please contact her at kusher@emsb.qc.ca if you think your family could sign on for two weeks this summer!

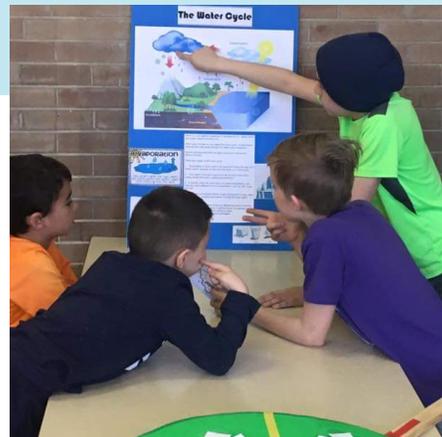
Earth Day

Green Committee raised \$500 at the Earth Day Bake Sale this will be added to our Well Project in Ecuador Initiative through WE Villages (Water Pillar) – thank you for your contributions – we ran out of baked goods and apologize to anyone who was left out, next time we will recruit more bakers!



WE Walk for Water

On Wednesday May 15th Green Committee will organize the WE Walk for Water and will provide pledge forms for any student wanting to participate. Access to clean, safe drinking water is still just a dream for many people living around the world. Green Committee wants to raise awareness through this WE campaign and raise funds for a water well project in Ecuador, home country of our foster child, Carlos. Participants will walk the equivalent distance of an Ecuadorian Water Walk in the schoolyard carrying water along the way. Let's come together around this important global issue and help our kids make a real difference!



EMSB CHORALE AUDITIONS FOR THE 2019-2020 (40TH) SEASON

WHEN: TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019

COME ANYTIME BETWEEN 6:00 AND 8:00 P.M.

WHERE? EMSB ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 6000 FIELDING

Open to students currently in Grades 3 to Sec. IV



The EMSB Chorale is a project of the Educational and Technology Services Department which offers students the opportunity to acquire vocal and musical training, to perform a wide variety of music and to gain professional concert experience.

Info: Ms. P. Abbott - 483-7200, ext. 7234 pabbott@emsb.qc.ca / www.emsbchorale.org

EMSB SPRING GALA CONCERT

Musical Journeys - Voyages Musicaux

Come hear the EMSB Chorale in performance with pianist Anne-Marie Denoncourt and several guest musicians under the direction of Patricia Abbott and Marie-Ève Arseneau on May 4, 2019 - 7:30 p.m.

Oscar Peterson Hall, Concordia, 7141 Sherbrooke W.

Tickets: Adults - \$15 / Students - \$10 - / Children under 12: \$5

Montreal Center for Learning Disabilities presents: Rick Lavoie

The Montreal Centre for Learning Disabilities is pleased to present Renowned Special Education Expert & Author Rick Lavoie M.A. M.Ed. I have attached presentation flyers and early bird registration fee is available until April 26th. Can you kindly share & post to help us reach more families and professionals. The seminar is designed for parents of children/teens with LD, ADHD, teachers, school support staff, psychologists, special educators and educational consultants.

Saturday, June 1, 2019 from 9AM-3:30 PM at the Ruby Foo's Hotel (7655 Decarie Blvd.)

Two interdependent seminars:

#1 Behavioral Strategies that Don't Work with Struggling Kids...and Some That Do

#2 Understanding the Social Side of Learning Disorders: from Isolation to Acceptance



Message from the Minister of Education

On April 15th, 2019, the Minister of Education, M. Jean-François Roberge shared a letter with the Presidents of all school boards and private educational institutions regarding the modification to the marking system for ministerial examinations. In an effort to maintain a fair and efficient education system through evaluating students based on learning skills that truly reflect their success, The Minister has confirmed that moving forward, students that obtain marks of 58% and 59% in a subject for which credits are required for the certification of studies, will no longer be raised to 60%. Please find attached (in the email) the French letter and the translated English version.