



Panther

PRESS
<http://pio.wrdsb.on.ca>

OCTOBER 2014—This important publication is distributed as a paper copy to the oldest/only student in our school

Dear Parents:

The beginning of a new school year is a very exciting time for students and teachers. It is a time where we all begin to create our school community. In visiting classrooms during the past month, it is evident that students are settling in nicely and that learning is taking place in each and every classroom. Our staff and I are looking forward to a very positive year of working and learning together.

Our School Council met for the first time this year. For the 2014 – 15 school year, your Executive is: Mrs. J. Wenzel; Chairperson, Mr. S. Day, Co-Chair; Mrs. M. Compton, Secretary; and Mrs. J. Deacon, Treasurer. Our School Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month with the exception of December, March, and June. All meetings start at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. New members are always welcome. This is an excellent opportunity to get involved with your child's school.

The school parking lot continues to be a problem area at entry and dismissal times. Please remember that the school parking lot is for staff only. Please set an exemplary example for your children by observing the posted signage and refraining from using our parking lot. Limited parking is available on Upper Canada Dr. (please observe the signs) and on Lower Canada Dr. If you choose to park on Lower Canada Dr. you will need to access the school yard through the path. Please help us keep students safe. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Although we have just started the school year, Progress Reports for students in Grades 1 – 6 will be coming home on Monday, November 3, 2014. Should you have any concerns about your child's progress prior to receiving the Progress Report, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher by using the student planner or calling the teacher's voicemail extension, found in the parent handbook or at the top of the monthly calendar.

Sincerely,
Glenn A. Kitamura
Principal

Dates to Remember

Oct 2, 9, 23, 30 Oct. 13	Panther Hockey 5:15 pm Sportsworld Arena Panther Hockey 6:15 pm Sportsworld Arena
October 3	International World Teachers' Day
October 2, 16, 30 October 9, 23	Pizza Days on THURSDAYS—order online at lunchboxorders.com Subway Lunch Days—order online at lunchboxorders.com
October 6, 20, 27	Learn to Skate 6:15 pm Sportsworld Arena
October 13	Happy Thanksgiving—No School today
October 20	Chocolate Bar Fundraiser \$\$ Due and return any unsold bars
October 21	School Council Meeting in the Library 7 pm—Please Join Us
October 21	Mad Science Begins! Ends December 9th
October 31	Happy Halloween—more info to come!!

HEADLICE

As in most schools, we have an issue with headlice from time to time. When a parent reports a child with headlice, a notice is sent home to everyone in that child's class. If the affected child has a sibling in our school, we also send home a notice in that class as well as a precaution. This child is then checked at the school upon re-entrance after treatment. Our Board policy is that the child must be nit (egg) free before they may return to the classroom. If you find headlice, please inform the office immediately. If you are unsure about what headlice looks like, we suggest you consult with your hair stylist/barber, pharmacist or family doctor. Please check your child on a regular basis. If you have any questions, please call the school.

REMINDER...

To ensure the safety of our students, please do not send your child to school prior to 8:50 am. There is no supervision prior to 8:50 am.

Breakfast Club is open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 8:15 a.m. Registration is required, please complete a registration form.

Parking at Pioneer Park

Please do not use the parking lot as a drop-off or pick up location before and after school as every spot is required to accommodate our staff. Limited parking is available on Upper Canada Drive at specific locations. Please be aware of the "No Stopping" and "No Parking" signs that are prevalent on both sides of the street in front of the school. By-law enforcement officers regularly patrol Upper Canada Drive during entry and dismissal times. Persons who are illegally stopped in a "No Stopping" zone may receive a ticket. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Has your child arrived safely at school??

Your child's safety is our number one priority.

When your child is marked absent at school, we work diligently to determine where they might be. This involves the very time consuming process of calling all the contact numbers you have provided. This process can take well over an hour, so if your child is missing, we have lost an hour of valuable time in locating your child.

IF you know that your child will be absent or late,

PLEASE call the attendance line at
519-570-8115 X 3632.

Please take the time to program this number into your phone. It is also on the magnet that was provided in the first day package. Please do not leave attendance messages on the classroom teacher's voicemail.



Afterschool Play

Our school policy is that all students must go home after 3:25 pm dismissal. This ensures that everyone has been safely dismissed. Your child may return to play outside the school after 3:45 pm. Please be aware that there is no supervision for your child and they may not enter the building to use the facilities.

Volunteer Opportunity!

We are fortunate to have support from our community to offer a unique program called *Letters, Sounds and Words*. Volunteers from our community help children aged five to seven learn the names of letters, the sound each letter represents and a list of commonly used words in print. It has been designed specifically for volunteers, who work with one child at a time, and enjoy watching the great gains that are made in only ten weeks. You can read more about Strong Start on its website:

www.strongstart.ca

This program would not be possible without the generous gift of time and talent from our volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering in this program, please contact Mrs. Herriott (ext. 4966) or Mrs. Nikolic (ext. 8359) at 519 -570-8115.



From the Library/School Council

Thank you to everyone who supported our Scholastic Book Fair. We had another successful bookfair resulting in receiving books valued at over \$1,000.00 for our classrooms. Thanks to our School Council for coordinating this event!

The next "library event" will be our OLA programs, Blue Spruce and Silver Birch starting in January 2015. More details will be coming closer to that date.



BOOK CARE

Please remind your child about the importance of taking good care of their library books. This means not eating or drinking when reading their library books, as well as not tearing out pages or defacing the book.

Please remember to keep your library books in a safe spot at home, away from younger siblings and pets. Always return your books on time! If you are moving, please return your books before you start packing.



We continue to collect:

Campbell's Soup Labels & Goldfish Cracker UPCs—to purchase outdoor equipment

KoolAid Jammer packaging—proceeds to Panther Hockey

We no longer collect Zehrs Tapes as Loblaws has terminated this program

Chocolate Bar Fundraiser Starts SOON...

Boxes of Chocolate bars will be distributed this Wednesday, October 1st. If you have not returned a permission form, please complete the one below. If you would like a second box, you must return the proceeds from the first box and complete another permission form. The money raised from chocolate bar sales pays for our off campus busing. Please support our school.

IF YOU CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE

PLEASE ADVISE THE SCHOOL as soon as possible

Our family **CHOOSES TO** participate in the chocolate bar campaign.

Child's name _____ Room # _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____