

# ***A. K Wigg Public School Announcer***

## **November 2011**

### **Thank you to the community**

It is difficult to believe that we have two months of school behind us already. Time flies when you're having fun! Students and teachers are heavily involved in their term one assignments. November should prove to be a busy month with many activities filling our plates. We have: School Council, Student Council, intermediate volleyball, intra murals, class trips, Progress Reports and parent-teacher interviews, to name a few. There will be many more things to follow in the upcoming months. Our character theme this month is Integrity.

### **Helping Your Child in Math**

In our mathematics classrooms, we are exploring concepts, solving problems, talking about the math and practising the skills we use. To follow up from our classroom lessons, please have discussions with your child about what they learned in math class. Have them show you a problem they did in school and share their solution with you. Listen to their explanations and ask them questions about what they did and why it worked. This will be beneficial for all students in the class!

It is important for you to support your child at their level of understanding. Don't show them more than what they're ready for. Exploring the mathematics that they are doing in class more deeply is usually more beneficial than pushing ahead to get to bigger numbers or to the next concept. For example, if your child is practising adding 2 digit numbers at home ( $32 + 44$ ), it is better to explore a variety of 2 digit numbers ( $74 + 19$ ), rather than worrying about going ahead to 3 digit numbers. Spend time solving the 2 digit numbers in many different ways, so that your child becomes flexible in their thinking about numbers. When helping them practise their math facts, be sure to discuss and explore the concepts behind the math they are doing. Memorizing that  $4 \times 6 = 24$  isn't meaningful without knowing that  $4 \times 6$  represents  $6 + 6 + 6 + 6$  or  $4 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 4$  or that it is 4 groups of 6 or 6 groups of 4.

However, finding real world situations to explore the math your child is doing in school is still the best way to help them develop a better understanding of their school math. Ask them how much will it cost them to buy that new video game for \$49 and the batteries they'll need for \$15? Ask them to explain how they got their answer to you.

Keep your eyes open for the many opportunities to discuss the math you encounter every day! Keep it fun!

### **Parking Lot**

Thank you to the many parents in our community for helping to make our parking lot traffic safer and more efficient. As mentioned last month, the Presbyterian Church across the way is allowing us to use their lot at pick up times etc., but they do request that we use the parking spaces away from the building which are reserved.

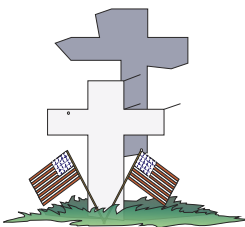
If you are using our parking lot, please honour the marked areas which are for buses and safety vehicles to enter and leave. If you live close by and it is possible, please consider having students walk to and from the school.

### **Progress Reports**

Although the year always moves along quickly, it is hard to believe we are already into November. Staff members are currently preparing Progress Report Cards for their students. The Progress Reports will be sent home with students on the Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> this year. We will be hosting parent-teacher interviews during the evening of the Thursday November 17<sup>th</sup> between 4:00 and 7:30 p.m. Please make every effort to set aside some time to meet with the class room teacher on this date. This is a valuable time to exchange information and get further clarification on the academic and social progress of your children. If this is an inconvenient time, please contact the teacher to set up an alternate time to discuss the report card, either by phone or through a meeting. I will shortly be sending home a parent information and request sheet that outlines how to request preferred times to meet. We will try to accommodate requests as best as we are able. As always, we request that you bring your child with you to the interviews and to have them to be a part of the discussion.

### **Remembrance Day Assembly**

We will recognize our solemn appreciation of the sacrifice of young Canadian servicemen and women on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. We will have a short assembly with video footage and presentations from some of our classes. We will be having an earlier and shorter first nutrition break that day to facilitate the Minute of Silence at 11:00 a.m. Nutrition break will begin at 10:00 and we will go outside at 10:15 am. Thank you to **Mr. Triano and our Student Council** for their organization of this assembly.



Ms. Bowman, our Science, Design and Technology teacher, has also organized a special thank you to our military who are serving in Afghanistan. She has fashioned a 25 foot scroll. She is having this scroll tour all the schools that she services with her program in Welland and Pelham. Students from each of the schools are signing it to show their appreciation of our soldiers' efforts.

### **School Council Meetings**

We will hold our third School Council Meeting on **Tuesday, November 22nd**. We begin at 6:30 and hold the meeting in our school library. Come out and join us. We have wrapped up our Magazine sale and have surpassed last year's output by over \$1800. Thank you to everyone who was able to order their magazines through CCRP. We will continue to do this next year – when the requests for renewals start coming in to you, please hold off re-ordering until we hold our campaign next year. The revenue we make goes to help run extra-curricular activities such as plays, trips and special guest speakers.

**The Hot Lunch Committee** is hard at work and the second hot lunch day is set for **Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**. We will be enjoying the fine foods of Swiss Chalet. Forms will be going home shortly. We thank all the parents who have volunteered to assist with these lunches as class moms. We would like to send out a special thank you to Mrs. DiRaddo and Mrs. Free for taking on the role of Hot Lunch Chairpersons. **Please note that late orders cannot be accepted.** Thank you from our parent helpers and organizers.

### **Halloween For Hunger**

Thanks to a group of dedicated students, our school once again collected more than 1000 items of food to be donated to Pelham Cares. Our students brought non-perishable food items to the school for the week leading up to Halloween which were then collected by our student committee each day. The items were picked up by Pelham Cares on the Friday before the Halloween weekend. We are very proud of everyone's efforts in this endeavor. Our school and community would also like to thank Tyler J., Gavin O and Sydney Z. for their organization of the event. On Friday we held special draws. Anyone who brought in items on that day got raffle tickets for each item they donated that day. We drew four winners who picked prizes from the office.

### **A Musical Note!**

Can you feel the music? The A.K. Wigg Junior choir has begun. Rehearsals are held every Day 6 and Day 10 at 1:20 p.m. in the library. New members are always welcome. Boys and girls – what a great way to enjoy the opportunity to sing some new songs! We look forward to hearing you in the upcoming months. We thank Ms. Brazeau for all of her hard work and expertise.

Monthly Music Recognition for September and October:

September

Gr 1S Owen M.  
Gr. 1B Brooke S.  
Gr. 2C MacKenna B.  
Gr. 2/3 Holly K.  
Gr. 3 Joey W.  
Gr. 4/5 Katie M.  
Gr. 5 Jon W.  
Gr. 6 Jessie F.

October

Gr 1S Grace S.  
Gr. 1B Kaede M.  
Gr. 2C Lauren F.  
Gr. 2/3 Seth G.  
Gr. 3 Sarah S.  
Gr. 4/5 Matthew D.  
Gr. 5 Elliott S.  
Gr. 6 Sarah P.

### **Medical Information Reminder**

Parents, if your child requires the use of an EPI PEN, PUFFER, or BENADRYL in the case of an emergency, please ensure that your child's medication is available at the office, with the appropriate up-to-date written authorization. Contact the office immediately to submit any new forms or medication. It is very important that we have this information up-to-date.

Our school is enrolled in the "No Child Without" program which started last year. It is a partnership with the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation. This provides students at A. K. Wigg with 24 hour MedicAlert emergency information services, at no cost. If your child is a candidate for a MedicAlert bracelet, please contact the office to receive the brochure which outlines how to get your child/ren started in this program.

### **Lock Down Drill**

As part of our Safe School measures, we will be holding two lock down drills each school year. We have set our first drill for this school year as November 18<sup>th</sup>. I will be sending a letter home prior to this lock down drill to remind students and parents of the importance of practicing this routine. We understand that this is a scary event for some of our younger students. Teachers will be discussing the routines with their students before the drill on the 18<sup>th</sup> to help to prepare them for the drill.

### **Volleyball Season at A.K. Wigg**

Our season games are well under way. We are almost half way through the season already. Both teams have grown tremendously and we wish them success! With every passing game our players gain more confidence and skill. Congratulations to all team members!

#### ***Intermediate Girls' Team:***

Angel K., Lauryn G., Emily T., Miranda S., Hayley N., Rachel H., Anika C., Alexis F., Gabrielle P., Alanna P., Sophie P., Julia B., Emma F.

***Thank you Mrs. Fucile and Mr. Paprosky!***



#### ***Intermediate Boys' Team:***

Jake B., Thomas Y., Andrew P., Hendrix H., Michael K., Carter Z., Ben B., Ethan R., Ryan K., Curtiss W., Ben D.

***Thank you to Mrs. Young and Ms. Stefaniuk!***

### **PALS**

During the first weeks of November, many of our junior students are going to be involved in PALS training with Ms. Bradley and our school nurse. PALS is short for Playground Activity Leaders in Schools. Once trained, these young leaders will organize and oversee cooperative games for our primary students during the fitness breaks. We will next have an assembly for our K to 3 students so that we can introduce our new team of Playground Leaders and provide them with a look at some new games.

### **Grade 8 Visit to E.L. Crossley**

All Grade 8's in the Pelham region will meet at E. L. Crossley for the annual Grade Eight Day on November 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am to about 2:00. Students will be transported to and from A. K. Wigg School by bus arranged through Crossley. This is an excellent opportunity for our grade eight students to tour the facility and meet some of their future teachers and friends.

### **Dress for the Weather as well as the Season**

As much as it is wonderful to see the days go by, we have to prepare ourselves for the upcoming weather changes that we will be experiencing as winter nears. Please make sure that your child has warm clothes and outside footwear for the season and that it is worn each day at school. Students will be going outside at all fitness breaks until the weather is extremely cold or miserably wet.

### **Grade 8 Graduation Committee**

Within the next few weeks we will be organizing a graduation committee. The date is set for Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> for the ceremony. We will send a letter out to grade 7 and 8 families to begin the planning process. Watch for this coming home soon.

### **Labels for Education**

We would like to remind you that A.K. Wigg's Labels for Education Program is continuing this year. If you use any of the products listed below, please send the labels in to the school. We have a collection container outside the office and the labels can be redeemed for points to use towards purchasing educational products.

Campbell's Soups

Ready to serve Soups

Soup at Hand

Campbell's Easy Cooking Sauces

Chunky

Goldfish Crackers

Habitant Soups

Pace Salsas

Ramen Hearty Noodles and Gattuso

V8 Juices and Soups

### **Nevada Tickets**

The Avondale store on the corner of Canboro Road and Haist sells Nevada Tickets. A part of the proceeds from this License go to A.K. Wigg to support our playground maintenance. If you like to play, please consider purchasing tickets from this location.

### **Zehr's Receipts**

Ever wonder what we do with all of those Zehrs receipts we ask you to send in to the school?

Well, a member of the School Council adds them all up and submits them to Zehrs every time we reach \$100 000 in total. The Zehrs "SAVE A TAPE" program then gives the school a rebate of \$1 for every \$450 in receipts. Each time we submit our receipts, we receive a rebate of approximately \$220. Please ..... keep those Zehrs receipts rolling on in!

## AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures.

At times when student transportation has been cancelled and schools remain open, the decision of whether or not to have children in school on that day rests with the parent or guardian.

**Should you decide not to send your child to school in the event that transportation is cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call your child's school to inform them of your child's absence.**

A key resource in any emergency is the DSBN Emergency Information form that you filled out at the beginning of the school year. Please let the school know of any changes in contact information or procedures you wish to be followed throughout the school year.

For secondary schools it may become necessary to cancel late buses. Notice will be provided via school announcements and on the websites and subscription features by 11:30 a.m.

Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will be available as soon as it is available through the following channels:

**Websites:**

[www.dsbm.org](http://www.dsbm.org)

[www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca)

**Subscription Features:**

DSBN Facebook or Twitter

NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts

**Phone:**

Niagara Student Transportation Services 905-346-0290 Voice Auto Attendant

**Radio Stations:**

CKTB (610 AM) St. Catharines

WAVE (94.7 FM) Hamilton

CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton

CHML (900 AM) Hamilton

CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton

Y-108(107.9) Hamilton

CHRE (105.7 FM) St. Catharines

CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines

CKEY (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/Fort Erie

K-LITE-FM (102.9 FM) Hamilton

GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland

**Television Stations:**

CH – Hamilton

CityTV Breakfast Television

CTV Toronto

Cogeco Channel 10



**District School Board of Niagara**  
*Achieving Success Together*

*(Please return ballot to be entered into our monthly Newsletter Draw)*

---

***A.K. WIGG PUBLIC SCHOOL***

***"NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER BALLOT"***  
*Draw to take place on Tuesday, November 8th .*

***Student:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Teacher:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Parent Signature:*** \_\_\_\_\_