

# A.K. WIGG PUBLIC SCHOOL ANNOUNCER

*The Mission of A.K. Wigg Public School is to involve students, parents, teachers, and community members to maximize individual potential by providing a safe and friendly environment which promotes achievement of academic skills, accountability, effective communication and a positive value system.*



*Academics Arts, and Athletics through Concentration, Co-operation, Communication, and Courtesy*

## October, 2011

### Leaving Summer Behind – Here Comes Autumn

It is always amazing how quickly the days pass by once we get into the swing of things at school. Here we are, a full month into the year already. September, and the end of summer, passed in a blur. The weather was great for our annual Open House and Barbecue on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you to all who were able to make it out to meet with us and see the class rooms. Students and staff are settling into a rhythm after our reorganization near the end of September. We certainly appreciate everyone's patience as our school went through this process. The **Early Release Day** on September 23<sup>rd</sup> went smoothly. Teachers worked to prepare for new students, grades, and subjects.

### School Growth Planning

Our School Achievement Team will be meeting shortly to review our school growth plan and set a direction for staff and student learning for 2011/12. This will be reviewed by staff and will take greater shape following our meeting during the **Professional Activity Day, Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**. During this time all teaching and support staff will spend the day in planning meetings addressing the results of last year's EQAO and setting Literacy and Numeracy goals for 2010-2011.

The Hot Lunch Committee is ready to go with our first hot lunch for the year. We are setting Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> as the first hot lunch provided by the Pita Pit. Notices will go home with the verified date and menu. We thank all the parents who volunteer to assist with these lunches. At this time, the staff members and students would like to thank Mrs. Lalonde for her service as chair of the Hot Lunch Committee. We have all appreciated her great work and dedication in facilitating this great program for our students. Mrs. Mooney will be filling in for the interim of October's hot lunch. We will be looking for a new chair of this committee for the remainder of the year. There was some interest expressed in the volunteer request forms sent home on the first day of school. We will follow up and keep you posted on the status of the yet-to-be-named chair of the Hot Lunch committee.

### You're the Chef

Mr. And Mrs. Ratcliffe are once again providing our grade 5 to 8 students with tasty, nutritious tips on creating healthy snacks. They will be running "You're the Chef" this fall in the library during nutrition breaks on the following dates: Nov. 9, Nov. 16, Nov. 23, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14. This is a wonderful program where students learn how to prepare different healthy, appetizing meals for themselves. Watch for permission forms shortly.



### School Council Meetings

We held our first meeting on **Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**. At the meeting, Mrs. Debby Reisebosch stepped down as chair and Mrs. Linda Mooney filled in to assume the role of Chair for the 2011-12 school year. If you are interested, come out and join us. We will be posting the minutes of the meetings on the school website.

### Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

Our first fund-raiser, the *Annual Magazine Fundraiser* is set to kick off with the students on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and will run until the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month. Please consider supporting the students by taking part in this worthwhile fund raiser. There are many Canadian titles and this is a Canadian company that we work with. There are many titles, reaching a wide array of interests. The proceeds we collect help us facilitate extra-curricular activities throughout the school.

### Halloween for Hunger

A few of our students are once again going to organize a school food drive at the end of this month as part of an initiative being run by Me2We clubs across Niagara. Last year the students collected around 1000 food items for the Food Bank. Our goal is to surpass last year's totals. The donated non perishable food items will be given to the local food bank. We will run the campaign the week leading up to Halloween. Be on the lookout for more news in the upcoming weeks.

### Picture Day

We will have our class photos and individual pictures taken on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Make sure you come with your best smile. Picture retakes for students who were absent will be coming up shortly. When the date is chosen, we will send a reminder home for those students.



### Nutrition Breaks at A.K. Wigg

On behalf of staff, I would like to welcome back our lunchtime assistants, Mrs. Young and Mrs. Leppert. Students are expected to treat our supervisors with respect, following their directions. At the first nutrition break, students eat in their classrooms from 10:40 to 11:00, at which time outside fitness break commences. At 1:00 our second nutrition break begins and at 1:20 the students go outside, pending weather conditions, for their second fitness break.

### **PARKING LOT COURTESY**

**"Our first concern, and yours, is that our students are safe!"**

A letter was sent home last Friday. In it, we expressed our interest in keeping the parking lot as safe as possible. Please help in reducing the congestion by looking at alternate ways of having students dropped off or walking to school.

Please recognize that there is not sufficient parking for all of our parents. **Parking of cars can only be in designated spaces. There is no parking on the grass or along the inside fire lanes. Do not enter or park in the staff parking lot at the north end of the school close to the primary doors.**

I have been in contact with the church across the road. For any parents using this parking area, remember we are guests. There are posted areas in that facility where you are not permitted to park. Also, please be careful not to drive over the grass as you are entering or exiting the lot. Let's show them

what courteous neighbours we can be.

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

Please make sure that your child has the correct clothes for the weather and the season and encourage your child that appropriate clothing for the weather each day needs to be worn at school. Students will be going outside at all fitness breaks until the weather is extremely cold or miserably wet. Children need to bring an outdoor and separate indoor pair of footwear for the school day. This goes a long way in keeping the rooms and halls clean as well as providing proper footwear in physical education class.

### **Terry Fox Run/Walkathon**

Thank you for your support of the Terry Fox Run/Walkathon which was held on **September 28<sup>th</sup>**. We appreciate the help of Mrs. Stefaniuk who organized the run/walk and the teachers and parent volunteers who came out to show their support. This year the weather held off just long enough to allow us to show our support. Together, our school ran/walked during the latter part of the day. Congratulations to everyone who "went that extra mile" in bringing in donations to help with this cause!  
**Pledges are due a.s.a.p.**

### **Sports**

Our staff began in the first week with try-outs and practices to get ready for the first inter-school sports for 2010. We encourage everyone to try out when teams or clubs are announced through the year.

### **Cross Country**

The cross country team has been training hard since the first week of school. Our 66 runners were ready to compete with more than 20 schools at our first of two regional meets held at Chippawa Creek in Wellandport. A.K. Wigg had 33 runners finish in the top 20 of their respective divisions. Wow! Good

### **Junior Co-ed Soccer**

The junior coed soccer team competed in the region 2 soccer tournament on September 27th. The Wildcats were a force to be reckoned with as they swept through the field, beating Glynn A Green, Richmond and Princess Elizabeth in round robin play. We then faced GAG in the finals and won 2-0. Congratulations to Mr. Eliopoulos and the junior wildcats.

### **Intermediate Boys Soccer**

The A.K. Wigg boys soccer team competed in the region 2 soccer tournament on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Facing 10 other teams, the Wildcats finished fourth in round robin play earning a berth in the playoffs. From their the team was able to capitalize on opportunities and came away champions of the tournament. Thank you to Mr. Hildebrandt and Mr. Kurland for coaching the boys and convening.

luck to all of our participants in the upcoming events. Athletes who finish in the top 24 of their division will compete at the DSBN meet held at *Fireman's Park* in Niagara Falls in the *afternoon of October 12<sup>th</sup>*. A special thank you goes to Mr. Lacasse / Mr. Triano for their efforts in preparing the team.

### **Intermediate Girls Soccer**

The intermediate girls soccer team competed in the Regional Soccer tournament on September 19<sup>th</sup> at the Welland Soccer Club. The girls played hard in all games and finished with 3 wins and a tie. Their great teamwork earned them a spot in the semi-finals where they were outscored, but not outplayed, by Glynn A Green. Mr. Triano was very proud of the way that the team played and represented our school.

### **A.K. Wigg Inoculations**

The grade 7 and 8 students across the board will be getting vaccinations in the upcoming months. Our grade seven students have received their first dose against Hepatitis B on the afternoon of September 22<sup>nd</sup>. At the same time, our grade eight girls received their Gardasil shots. These are administered by trained health care professionals on site. Follow-up booster shots are scheduled for November 23 and March 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Yearly Medical Awareness

Because some of our students have severe allergic reaction to some foods, particularly peanuts, peanut butter and other nut products (ie almonds, walnuts) and anything that has been fried in peanut oil, it is very important that:

- you instruct your child(ren) not to share food at nutrition breaks as they may contain traces of these ingredients;
- you instruct your child not to accept food from other children, especially if you know that your child has food allergies;
- you refrain from using peanut oil in your baking if you are contributing to a school function or bake sale. **Your co-operation is greatly appreciated!**

### Reminder

Parents, if your child is required to use an **Epi -pen, puffer, or Benadryl** in 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. Emergency information must be updated regularly.

### School Programs and Excursions

We are well into our academic programs in all grades. Please remember that we are happy to communicate with you. Do not hesitate to call your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

### Brock University Teachers In Training

Once again this year we are a Teaching Centre for Brock University. For the fall term, we welcome the following people:

Brianna Sauve with Miss Bradley

Andrew Kraus with Mrs. Young

Oren Siegel with Mr. Eliopoulos

Lauren Bisnett with Mrs. Cunningham

Observation Days are on Thursdays and Fridays. The first teaching block will be November to December.

### Scholastic Book Fair

Our first "Book Fair" of the school year was held from September 20<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> in the school library. A vast selection of reading materials was on display. We made approximately \$2300 in sales. This permitted us to purchase hundreds of dollars in reading material for the library. Thank you to all who purchased. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Iannizzi and Mrs. Lawler for running the fair.

### Labels for Education

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.

**A.K. WIGG PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**"OCTOBER NEWSLETTER BALLOT"**  
*Draw to take place on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.*

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

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

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