

Wiltse Elementary School Newsletter

February, 2012



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Website: www.sd67.bc.ca/wiltse.asp

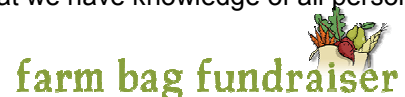
Important Dates

February 1 st	Class Representative Meeting at 6:30 pm in the Library
February 2 nd	Grade 4/5 Basketball Game: Wiltse Black Team vs Uplands at Uplands, 3:00-3:45 pm
February 8 th	Last day of Grade 3 Swimming Lessons
February 8 th	Last Grade 4/5 Basketball Game: Wiltse Orange Team vs Uplands at Wiltse, 3:00-3:45 pm
February 9 th	Wiltse Farm Bag Pick Up at 2:30 to 4:00 pm in the Multipurpose Room
	NATIONAL SWEATER DAY: Turn down the heat and wear a sweater!
February 13 th – 14 th	Division two Bake Sale in support of the SPCA (more info to follow)
February 14 th	Valentines Day: Wear Red, White or Hearts
February 20 th	Princess Margaret Secondary School Drama Department presents <i>Once Upon a Mattress</i> to Grade 2-5 Classes
February 22 nd	“Raising Confident Boys and Girls” workshop 6-8 pm in the Multipurpose Room
February 24 th	Black Widow Skippers visit Wiltse at 11:00 am. Wiltse PAC Movie Night (more info to follow)
February 28 th	Cross Country Skiing for Grade 5 Students at Nickel Plate
February 29 th	Wear “Pink” for Anti-bullying Day
March 1 st /2 nd	Wiltse Science Fair Project Set Up in the DPA Room
March 3 rd	Wiltse’s Day at the Penticton VEESGame: Chilliwack vs Penticton VEES at SOEC, 5 pm game. LOOK for a special notice on how to purchase reduced price tickets with \$\$\$ returned to Wiltse Elementary School Parent Advisory Council.
March 5 th & 6 th	District Science Fair: Students Kindergarten to Grade 5 are invited to share their Science Fair Project at the District Science Fair. This will be an opportunity for all Wiltse Scientists to work on a project at home and share it at school on March 1 st and 2 nd .
March 8 th	Wiltse Farm Bag and Backyard Bean Pick UP at 2:30 to 4:00 in the Multipurpose Room
<u>March 8th</u>	<u>Early Dismissal Day: Students will be dismissed at 1:35 pm for parents to meet with teachers, Student-led Conferences or a showcase of student work in the style of an Open House.</u>
March 9 th	Cross Country Skiing for Grade 5 Students at Nickel Plate
March 11 th	Turns Clocks Ahead 1 hour – Daylight Savings
March 16 th	Last Day of Cross Country Skiing for Grade 5 Students at Nickel Plate
March 19 th to 30 th	Schools closed for Spring Break
April 6 th	Good Friday – Schools Closed
April 9 th	Easter Monday – Schools Closed
April 15 th	Student Transfer Request Deadline
April 19 th	Ready, Set, Learn (more information will follow)
May 18 th	Kaleden Run
May 21 st	Victoria Day –No School
June 27 th	Celebration of Learning and Leaving Assembly
June 28 th	Last Day of School – Students dismissed at 11:35 AM
June 29 th	Administrative Day – No students attend

WILTSE VISITORS

We are implementing a new visitor program at Wiltse. If you are volunteering or spending time in our school, please sign in at the office and pick up a visitor badge to wear. Safety rules require that we have knowledge of all persons in our school in the event of an emergency. Thank you for helping us with this.

FARM BAG FUNDRAISER



Our next order with the Farm Bag Fundraiser will be delivered on February 9th, 2012. Please ensure your order is placed by February 24th, 2012 for the next pick up on March 8th, 2012. Final orders must be in by March 16, 2012 for pick up on April 5th, 2012. On February 9th please come to the multi-purpose room between 2:30 and 4:30 pm to pick up your produce. Thank you to the many families who have participated to date. Please see the website for more information. <http://farmbag.littlegreenbook.ca>.

With the success of the Christmas Backyard Beans (Coffee) Order, Wiltse PAC will be offering another chance to order coffee at the end of February and the beginning of March. The pick up will match the Farm Bag Pick Up on March 8th. Look for an order form in the office or being sent home with your child soon.

WILTSE PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (WPAC)

This year's WPAC Executive includes:

Derek Hurst Chair Laura Kuypers Vice-Chair
Morag McMillan Secretary Sandy Acheson and Lea Shortreed Co-Treasurers

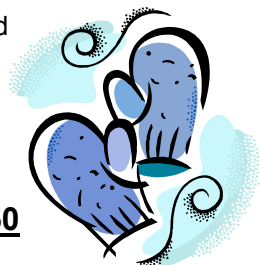
The next meeting will be **Wednesday, February 15th, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.** Child minding will be available.

Wiltse PAC is hosting two parent workshops in the New Year. Both workshops are facilitated by British Columbia Teacher's Federation (BCTF). **Raising Confident Boys and Girls has been** rescheduled for February 22nd from 6 – 8 in the Multipurpose Room. The second workshop, *Antibullying*, will be on **Tuesday, April 10, 2012 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.**

WPAC is organizing a **Movie Night** in the gym on the evening of **Friday, Feb. 24th.** Look for details on this night. Families are invited to attend at **NO COST!** WPAC with help from Grade 5 students will sell popcorn and drinks.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

As conditions become cooler, and less predictable, we ask that you ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather – whatever it may be. Students are expected to go outside before the bell in the morning, at recess **AND** at lunch for some fresh air and exercise. Only on the **MOST** inclement of days do we recommend an "inside" day. If a child is not well enough to be outside, please consider keeping them at home.



Additionally, students should not arrive before 8:20 am and not linger after 2:50 pm as supervision is not provided before or after these times.

Please also ensure your child has a pair of indoor runners at school at all times.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Due to the current job action, **teachers are not available** to supervise students at recess, lunch or after school. **ALL** students are expected to go outside at recess and lunch where supervision is provided. As well, **all students are expected to leave** the school grounds promptly by **2:45 PM.** Our library is open at 8:30 am and closes at 2:45 pm daily. Please **do not ask your children to wait in the library to be picked up.** Your cooperation with this would be greatly appreciated.

LICE

Please be aware lice can occur at anytime. With the winter weather we ask children not to share hats, toques, scarves, combs or brushes. Check family members on a **weekly** basis and treat as necessary. For further information please call Interior Health or visit their website www.interiorhealth.ca.



School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha)

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Children born in 2007 are eligible to enter kindergarten in September 2012. Parents, who feel their child is not yet ready for kindergarten, may defer enrollment for one year. Please contact Wendy Hyer (770-7700) at the School Board Office for information on this.

Placement in your neighborhood school kindergarten is based on your address and registration date. The earlier you register, the more likely your child will attend a school close to your home.

Register at your neighborhood school during regular school hours. **A birth certificate, care card as well as proof of address will be required.**

Wiltse Elementary has 16 kindergarten registrations to date.

***IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING TRANSFER INFORMATION**

From: School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha)

The window for students requesting transfers from their catchment area school to another school in School District No. 67 for the September 2012/2013 school year is **8:00 am, February 1st, 2012 to 4:00 pm, April 15, 2012.** Transfer requests received prior to February 1st will be date/time stamped as "February 1st, 2012, 8:00 a.m." and transfer requests received after April 15th may not be considered until September 2012. Although a siblings attendance at a school will be given priority as per Choice and Flexibility Policy #305, it should not be assumed that the transfer is approved. A transfer request still needs to be completed and must go through the transfer process. If you are unsure, please check with your school secretary.

GR. 5 CROSS-COUNTRY SKI PROGRAM

The Grade 5 students will again take part in the ski program offered by the Nickel Plate Nordic Centre. They will be going three times on February 28th, March 9th and March 16th. Bussing will be provided by PAC and students will be leaving the school promptly at 9:00 am and returning at 2:30 pm. An information letter went home asking for parent volunteers, if you can volunteer please let us know. All fees are due in the office by Friday, February 17, 2012. Students are reminded to wear layers and bring plenty of snacks and water.



***IMPORTANT NOTE**

All Grade 5 students who attend Wiltse Elementary are automatically assigned to Skaha Lake Middle School for Grade 6. If another school is required a transfer must be received following the above guidelines. This does not apply to those students applying for French Immersion.

FRENCH IMMERSION

Registration for 2012/2013

For Parents of current Grade 5 students:

Information sessions for parents of Grade 5 students regarding registration for September 2012, Grade 6 Late French Immersion classes were held as follows:

**Wednesday, January 25, 2012 @ 7:00 pm. at KVR Middle School and
Thursday, January 26, 2012 @ 7:00 pm. at Summerland Middle School**

A letter, along with an application form, regarding next September's grade 6 French Immersion classes will be sent home January 16, 2012 with all grade 5 students. This letter will outline the program and the application process. Application forms will be available January 16, 2012 at all elementary school office, the Okanagan Skaha School District No. 67 Board Office (425 Jermyn Ave, Penticton), or on the district website at www.sd67.bc.ca.

Deadline for Applications is 4:00 pm. Friday, February 3rd, 2012

The program is available to all students residing in the Okanagan Skaha School District entering grade six in September of 2012. Students outside the district are permitted to enroll on a space-available basis (ie., after Okanagan Skaha School District students have been accommodated).

Please note: These will be the only information meetings scheduled regarding French Immersion.

EARLY DISMISSAL DAY: Thursday, March 8th

On Thursday, March 8th students will be dismissed at 1:35 pm for parents to meet with teachers regarding their child's progress this year. The format will be designed by the teacher in the form of Parent-Teacher Interviews Student-led Conferences or an Open House showcasing student work. Parents will receive an invitation to attend. Alternately, if you would like to have an interview please contact your child's teacher.

Busses will run at normal times and supervision will be provided for those students. We ask that parents make arrangements to pick up their child(ren) at 1:35 pm. Thank you for your cooperation in this regard.



Hello,

WWF-Canada is thrilled to invite you to participate in two events launching early 2012: National Sweater Day and Earth Hour. These events aim to engage Canadians in a fun and celebratory way while raising awareness about climate change and encouraging individual behaviour change.

On February 9th, 2012, for National Sweater Day, turn down your heat and turn up your sweater! We are calling on Canadians to turn down their thermostats and wear a fun sweater to symbolize their commitment to the environment.

On March 31st, 2012 between 8:30 - 9:30 pm, turn off your lights for Earth Hour. Year over year Canada has remained a leading country in terms of participation. For us the moment of Earth Hour is a bit like an environmental New Year, providing a chance to reflect on how our planet is fairing and what new or renewed commitments we can make to help.

There are a multitude of things that divide people: gender, nationality, race, political and religious beliefs to name a few. But when it comes to fighting climate change, it doesn't matter who we are or where we're from - we're all on the same team. This is our opportunity to ignite change and ensure that Canada is on the right path for future generations, our economy and the planet.

Pledge your commitment and support for WWF's National Sweater Day and Earth Hour and make sure these dates are in your calendar for 2012.

- **Help us communicate with the schools that you represent in your district, and ask them to participate in these important campaigns. Schools can host an Earth Hour assembly, or celebrate National Sweater Day in every classroom with students wearing fun sweaters. We need your support!**

I can be reached by e-mail at: ayee@wwfcanada.org or by phone: 1-800-267-2632 ext. 7244.

Alisha Yee
Marketing Coordinator, WWF-Canada
wwf.ca

PARENT WORKSHHP SERIES

Date: Tuesday, January 31st, 2012 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Location: McNicoll Park Middle School

McNicoll Park Middle School is hosting a series of parent workshops for all parents in the district. All of these sessions are sponsored by DPAC. Please join us for this exciting session:

ETHICS AND PARENTING

Being a parent brings with it boundless joy, infinite patience and a lot of hard work. Along the way, you are suddenly faced with startling situations. Your 4 year old is old enough to know to tell the truth and is obviously lying; your 10 year old is desperate to be included in a birthday party but you are not certain that you want your child associating with some of the children you know will be at the party; your 14 year old is shutting you out and you are very worried about the emotional changes you are witnessing but you also have told your child repeatedly that you trust her. What do you do?

Based on Dr. Rushworth Kidder's book, ***Good Kids, Tough Choices: How Parents Can Help Their Children Do the Right Thing***, this two hour interactive workshop is designed for parents and educators who want to:

- Strengthen integrity and character in young people;
- Provide parents with frameworks for thinking about ethical issues; and,
- Build stronger collaborations between parents and schools around one of the 21st century's most urgent topics

Participants will define shared core values, identify ethical dilemmas with children that arise when these values compete with one another, and explore various ways that an ethical decision making framework and a shared common language will assist in difficult conversations.

PALS (Parents As Literacy Supporters)

Our Kindergarten teachers will host another P.A.L.S. session on Wed. February 22 at 1:00 p.m. in the music room. The session will be on "Learning to Write". All Kindergarten parents are encouraged to come. If they are unavailable another adult that knows the child is welcome to come in their place. Babysitters will be provided.

WILTSE SPELLING BEE

Congratulations to grade 4 student, Marcus Grainger who won the Wiltse Spelling Bee and to grade 5 student Udaibir Kahlon who was the runner up. Thank you to the following contestants for a job well done: Jackson Wrigglesworth, Devika Johnson, Amrit Dhaliwal, Sydney Trim (overall grade 3 winner), Roman Gill, Marcus Bartier, Adam Heck, Nolan Walton, Ashley McMillan, Marlee Caruso, Ashmine Dhillon, Ellen Ball, Harleen Bansoota, Jasmin Gill, Anand Brar, Harjas Bansoota, Cassidy Thomsen, Emma Wilson, Mantoj Tiwana, Jashan Saran, Oscar Grainger (overall grade 2 winner), Parmveer Brar, Grace Connelly, Melissa Doering, Karanveer Gill, Kiera Epp, Jocelyn Mahal, Manjot Gill,

Marcus will compete at the CanSpell Spelling Bee in Kelowna in March.

LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found bin is over flowing. Please ask your children to check our bin for their missing mitts, sweaters, hats, scarves, shorts, shoes, shirts, boots and even water bottles. Sometimes items take a couple days to appear in the lost and found but they eventually make their way into the bin. Please check often. Parents are welcome to check anytime they are in the school.

BULLYING STOPS HERE



Bullying is a major problem in our schools, workplaces, homes, and over the Internet. On Wednesday February 29, 2012 we will be helping raise awareness of these issues with promotion of **PINK SHIRT DAY**. We encourage our whole school to wear something pink to symbolize that we as a society will not tolerate bullying anywhere. We wish we could take credit for this idea but it comes from two incredible Nova Scotia high school students who took a stand against bullying by wearing pink in support of a younger student who had been bullied for wearing the color pink to school. If you do not

have a pink t-shirt you may purchase them at Penticton's Boys & Girls Club at 1295 Manitoba Street between the hours of 9:00 am—5:00 pm. They have youth sizes for \$5.00 and adult sizes for \$7.00. London Drugs also sells them for \$9.80 with proceeds going to the Boys and Girls Club of Penticton.

BC FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM

BC Farmers Grow Food for YOU

More than 200 different commodities are produced on about 20,000 agricultural farms in BC.

Less than 5% of the land in BC is suited to agricultural production. It is included in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). The ALR was put in place to preserve farmland and provide some guarantee that it would continue to be available to produce food for future generations.

Vegetables grown in BC include: asparagus, beans, beets, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, Chinese vegetable, corn, cucumber, eggplant, fennel, green onion, leeks, lettuce, mushrooms, onions, parsley, parsnips, peas, peppers, potatoes, rutabagas, spinach sprouts, squash, tomatoes and watercress.

Fruits grown in BC include: apples, apricots, berries, cherries, cantaloupes, grapes, kiwi fruits, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, rhubarb and watermelons.

Look for Grown in BC when buying fruits and vegetables and support BC Farm families.

- Pick a variety of local fruits and vegetables
- Wash fruits and vegetables before eating
- Enjoy the taste of local fruits and vegetables
-



Colour Your World with a Variety of Fruits and Vegetables

The wide range of vitamins, minerals and phytochemicals found in different colours of fruits and vegetables are used by the body to stay healthy and energetic. Also, they protect against the effects of aging, help maintain healthy body weight, and may reduce the risk of cancer and heart disease. There are five main colours:

Blue/purple – e.g., blueberries, prune plums, red cabbage, purple grapes, blackberries, purple carrots, purple peppers, eggplant.

Green – e.g., green grapes, green pears, broccoli, romaine lettuce, spinach, green apples, kiwi fruit, brussel sprouts, green cabbage, green beans, green peppers, peas, zucchini.

White – e.g., cauliflower, brown pears, mushrooms, onions, parsnip, white corn, potatoes, garlic

Yellow/orange – e.g., peaches, nectarines, cantaloupe, oranges, winter squash, pumpkin, yellow peppers, carrots, turnip, apricots, yellow potatoes, corn, yellow beans

Red – e.g., tomatoes, strawberries, raspberries, red grapes, red potatoes, rhubarb, beets, cranberries, cherries, red peppers, red apples.



WILTSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY, 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Grade 3 Swimming Class Rep. Meeting 6:30 pm -Library	2 Basketball Game Team Black (@Uplands) 3:00- 3:45pm	3 8:15 am Open Gym B.Ball Hot Lunch Booster Juice Applications for Gr.6 French Immersion applications due	4
5	6 Mr. Major – student teacher begins practicum in Mr. Carriere’s class	7	8 Final Day for Grade 3 swimming Basketball Game Team Orange (@Wiltse) 3:00 – 3:45 PM	9 Farm Bag Program Pick Up 2:30 to 4:30 pm in the music room! National Sweater Day Turn down the heat; Wear a sweater!	10 Hot Lunch Edo Japan	11
12	13 Div 2 Bake Sale in support of the SPCA	14 Div 2 Bake Sale in support of the SPCA Happy Valentine’s Day ♥♥♥♥	15 WPAC meeting 6:30 PM in the Library	16 Final Basketball Game Team Orange vs Team Black @ Wiltse 2:45:3:30	17 Hot Lunch Dominos	18
19	20 No Assembly 1:00 PM PMSS Drama Presentation “Once Upon a Mattress”	21	22 1:00 pm PALS in the multipurpose 6:00 pm Raising Confident Boys and Girls in the multipurpose room	23	24 Hot Lunch – TBA Black Widow Skippers 11:00 am WPAC Movie Night (Details to come)	25
26	27	28 Gr 5’s to Nickel Plate	29 Wear Pink Anti-bullying Day	March 8th is early dismissal at 1:35 PM		

Safe Arrival (250)490-0842 before 8:00 am and after 3:30 pm.

***Please ask your child to check in at the office upon arrival at school.**