



Wiltse Elementary School Newsletter

October 2011

640 Wiltse Blvd., Penticton, B. C. V2A 8J2
Phone: (250) 770-7694 Fax: (250) 490-0842

BELL SCHEDULE

8:45	1 ST Bell
8:50	Classes Begin
10:25 – 10:40	Recess
12:10 – 12:55	Lunch
12:25 – 12:55	Students Outside
12:55	Classes Begin
2:35	Dismissal



ADMINISTRATORS' MESSAGE

Thank you for your vital part in making this year's start up successful. We had many registrations this year of grade five students with a few adjustments and agreements we were able to place students into their classes. Teachers have been working on routines, expectations and assessments while getting to know the students in their class. Thank you for keeping up with the many requests at the beginning of a school year.

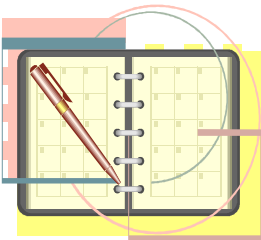
As you are aware, Ms. Rose and I with the support of Mrs. Maywood, Mrs. Owen, Mr. Burgoyne and/or Mr. McIntyre are out for morning, recess, lunch and after school supervision. Our first bus arrives at about 8:25 and one of us is out at 8:20 am. Some students are arriving at school well before this time. To best ensure the safety of children, please have students arrive at school after 8:20 am or make arrangements for their child minding. Our last school/day care bus leaves at about 3:00 pm. Students should be heading home or into the care of an adult at 2:35 pm. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

With the support from parents and the RCMP, traffic, parking and crosswalk safety has been a work in progress. Thank you for leaving the circle "turn around" at the front of the school for day care buses and handicapped parking. As the rainy days continue, congestion is a concern. Thank you for being extra careful with this.

CLASSES AND SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

Please welcome Ms. Heather McPhillamey to Wiltse School Staff. Ms. McPhillamey will be working Wednesday mornings in the Fine Arts Department. Welcome aboard Ms. McPhillamey.

GRADE ONE to GRADE 5 PLANNERS



Most students have paid for their Wiltse School Planners. If you have not already done so please stop by the office to see Ms. Leiding to pay for your student's planner. The planner is a vital communication tool between home and school and also assists students with organizing their homework. Please also use the planner to inform your child's teacher of any changes in their usual routine. For example if your child usually takes the bus home but will **not** on a particular day. Please write a note in the planner informing the teacher how your child will be going home.

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

Please contact our office at 250-490-0842 to advise us if your child is going to be away or late for school for any reason. Please feel free to leave a message on our answering machine before or after school hours, give your child's name, grade and teacher, and date of absence. Or if you know your child is going to be away ahead of time please write a note in the planner. We also ask that



you do not send your child prior to 8:20 in the morning, when outside supervision begins. All students are expected to leave the school grounds promptly by 2:45 pm unless they are accompanied by a parent or guardian. Thank you for your help with this.

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS

Student Verification Forms are almost all in. Thank you for making the necessary changes and returning your forms to the school. Ms Leiding is working hard to update all our student data so that we have all the correct information. This important information is needed to contact you in case of emergency. Should your contact information change during the school year please let us know by calling 250-770-7694 or by dropping the office.

OUTSIDE PLAYTIME

Students are expected to go outside during playtime at recess and lunch as well as before and after school. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate outer gear for rain (water resistant jacket and footwear) and snow (winter jacket, snow pants, hat, mitts or gloves and winter boots). We ask that all students have indoor shoes at school now. Thank you for your assistance with this. We will be reminding students to wear their gear done up!

PICTURE RETAKE DAY

October 13, 2011 is picture retake day. Please make sure your child knows to attend retake day. Please also write a note in the planner so your child's teacher knows who to send to see our photographer on this day.



COURTESY BUS RIDER REQUEST

All students, regardless of how often they ride a school bus, must be registered to ride. If you have not already filled out a pink bus card please contact Berry and Smith at 492-4042 or have your child speak to the bus driver to pick one up. If families have play dates and will be riding the bus, please write a note on paper or in your child's planner. The bus driver must know who is riding the bus each trip.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

All families should have received a student accident insurance package. If you did not receive one and would like to enroll please pick one up at the office.

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 October 19, 2011 at 6:30 pm in the Library.

WPAC Traffic Safety Sub-committee Meeting will be meeting on Thursday, October 6, 7 pm upstairs at the Barley Mill. Please consider attending this parent meeting. Thank you.

PAC FUNDRAISER

"Stik-ees" orders are due **October 6th**. Please place them in the envelope located in the school office. Thank you!

TERRY FOX RUN

Friday, September 24th was Wiltse's chance to help in raising money and awareness for the Terry Fox Foundation. At our assembly we viewed a video presentation on Terry Fox and the legacy he has left us before all students, staff and some parents enjoyed a walk/run around the school yard. This year Wiltse raised over \$300.00. Thank you for supporting the Terry Fox Foundation.



CALENDAR YEAR

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA) 2010-2011 STANDARD SCHOOL CALENDAR for all Schools	
Schools Open	Tuesday, September 6, 2011
Thanksgiving Day – schools closed	Monday, October 10, 2011
Professional Development Day – schools closed	Friday, October 21, 2011
Remembrance Day observance – schools closed	Friday, November 11, 2011
Schools close for Winter Vacation	Friday, December 16, 2011 (last day of school)
Schools Reopen	Tuesday, January 3, 2012
*Schools close for Spring Break and Teachers' Professional Development Days.	Friday, March 16, 2012 (last day of school)
Schools Reopen	Monday, April 2, 2012
Good Friday – schools closed	Friday, April 6, 2012
Easter Monday – schools closed	Monday, April 9, 2012
Victoria Day - schools closed	Monday, May 21, 2012
Administrative Day (students not in attendance)	Thursday, June 29, 2012

HEAD LICE

Parents should be aware this is a time of year when Head Lice appear. Head lice can affect anyone and are common in school-aged children. Head lice are annoying and may cause itching, but they do not transmit or cause disease. Children and adults' reactions to head lice can subject children to teasing, bullying and isolation. Reactions to head lice can significantly interfere with a child's emotional well-being, social status in the classroom and ability to learn. For these reason, head lice infestations should be treated.

Facts:

- Head lice do not spread disease.
- Head lice are tiny insects about the size of sesame seed and can vary from white to brown in color.
- Head lice live only on a person's head and can only survive 1-2 days away from the scalp.
- Head lice do not jump or fly.
- Head lice can move quickly on dry hair, so they are difficult to see.
- Head lice bites can make the scalp itchy (but not always).
- Adult head lice lay about 5-6 eggs (called nits) every day. These nits are glued to the hair very close to the scalp (within 6mm or ¼ inch).
- It takes 7-10 days for the nits to hatch into a nymph.
- It takes 7-10 days for a nymph to become an adult. During that time, it stays on the head, but does not lay eggs.
- You can find nits anywhere on the head especially behind the ears or on the back of the neck.
- You can't get rid of nits by brushing, or with a hair dryer.
- After the head lice hatch, the shell of the nit stays glued to the hair. If it is more than 6 mm or ¼ inch away from the scalp, it is probably empty.
- You can get head lice by touching heads with someone who has head lice, or by shairing combs, brushes and hats.
- Heat lice are common where children play or work closely together.
-

Lice can occur anytime and often circulate through schools. Please take the time to regularly check your child for lice by following the steps below:

- Step 1: Find a comfortable well lit spot.
- Step 2: Check the hair from the scalp to the end of the hair strand. First, look at the hair at the back of the neck, behind the ears and above the forehead. Then, check the rest of the head.
- Step 3: You are looking for live lice and/or eggs. Nits (eggs) are glued to hair close to the scalp. Nits are white to light brown in colour and may be confused with dandruff. Nits are firmly attached to the hair and do not move unless you slide them down the hair strand.

Step 4: If you find a louse or nit, check all household members. Treat only those who have lice or nits following Option A or B.

**OPTION A:
Head Lice Shampoo-Creams-Rinses
Kill the Head Lice
&
Remove the Nits
(within ¼ inch of scalp)**

Special head lice products are used because they have been tested and determined to be a safe and effective treatment. They can be purchased at your local pharmacy.

**OPTION B:
Wet-Combing
Remove the Head Lice
&
Forget the Nits**

A non-chemical way to find and eliminate head lice. Wet combing with hair conditioner immobilizes the lice.
Note: the research to support this method is unclear but many people say it works

For further information please contact Interior Health at 770-3434 or check the website at www.interiorhealth.ca/

EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS

Early dismissal days are scheduled for: **Tuesday, October 25th, Wednesday, October 26th & Thursday, October 27th.** Students will be dismissed one hour early at **1:35 PM** to allow parents the opportunity to meet/speak to teachers regarding their child's progress. Please contact your child's teacher directly at 250-770-7694 to arrange an appointment or include a note in your child's planner. **Bus students only** will be supervised at the school until their regularly scheduled run.

Teachers will also be meeting on Friday, October 21st, for Professional Development therefore there will be **no school** for students on **Friday, October 21, 2011.**

GRADE 3 – BUS SAFETY



On September 21st our grade three classes received a “Bus Safety” presentation from Berry and Smith. There was a presentation by a district bus driver, a video and a loading and exiting activity on the bus. The students also received a School Bus Safety Activity Booklet. Thank you to the Berry and Smith Bus Drivers.

PALS (Parents As Literacy Supporters)

This program is for parents of kindergarten children and has been in place at Wiltse School for four years. It is designed to improve the child's skills in reading, writing and math at school and to build the connection between home and school. Thank you to Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Lund for their efforts in organizing and presenting this worthwhile program. This year's first session will be on Wednesday, October 19th, 1 pm. Parents are asked to meet in the Music Room.



HALLOWEEN PARADE

You are welcome to join us for our annual Hallowe'en Parade where each class will have the opportunity to parade their costumes in the gym. This activity will take place after lunch 1:15ish on Monday, October 31st. This assembly will also feature Ms. McPherson and Ms. Setters Grade 4 classes who will present their creative dances to the school. Students may get into costume during the lunch break. We will be having regular classes on Monday morning.



We will be having

BC FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM

So far this year we have had two snacks, blueberries and organic peaches, from the program. *Autumn is Harvest Time in BC*. Many communities are having fall fairs or apple festivals to celebrate the harvest. Farmers' markets are still open and many farms offer tours of corn mazes and pumpkin patches. Try to take advantage of these opportunities to explore the bounty of food produced in our province. For Farm Tour listings please check www.aitc.ca/bc/farmtours.aspx.



RAISE A READER ASSEMBLY

At Monday, October 4th afternoon assembly, Mrs. Yasmin John-Thorpe through her work with *Raise A Reader* facilitated two author visits to Wiltse Elementary School. Lee Edward Fodi (Mr. Wiz) presented to the Grade 3 to Grade 5 classes and Kallie George presented to Kindergarten to Grade 2 classes. The presentation included: sharing of how they became an author, what is involved with writing and publishing books, ideas for creating a character and much more. Each student and teacher received a signed copy of the author's book that we hope will be shared and cherished at home. We are most appreciative of Mrs. John-Thorpe's support of learning with the students and staff at Wiltse. We will thank *Raise A Reader* and Mrs. John Thorpe for the gifts we received.



INFINITUS CULTURAL PERFORMANCE

On Thursday, October 6th at 11 am, Wiltse students, staff and parents will be invited to the gym for a cultural performance. Please join us if you are able.

FIRE SAFETY WEEK

As part of *Fire Safety Week* (Oct. 9th to 15th), Wiltse students, staff and parents will be treated to a Fire Safety Drama presentation lead by Ms. Megan Rutherford and Penticton Secondary School drama students. This presentation will be on Thursday, October 13 at 1 pm, Wiltse Gym. Parents are welcome to attend this assembly.



SHAKE OUT BC (Provincial Earthquake Drill)

This year's province-wide Earthquake Drill is on Thursday, October 20. Wiltse Elementary School will be practicing our Earthquake Drill at approximately 10:10 am. Students and staff will be guided through the drill following the *Shakeout BC* format. Check out the web-site: Shakeout BC.

SOCCER

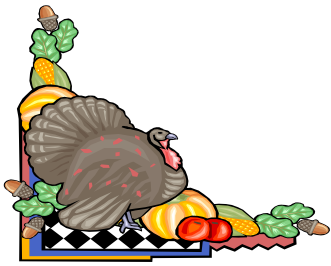
Indoor soccer is off to a great start! Grade five students have the opportunity to play Tuesdays at lunch, and grade four students play Thursdays at lunch. The matches have been fast-paced and exciting! Thank you to all the students who have come out and to Mr. Bailey for coaching our students.



CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING


Wiltse students have now begun their fitness runs each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We will continue as long as the weather remains mild. Thank you to Mrs. McPherson for organizing this. Some intermediate students will have the opportunity to attend the Naramata Cross Country Run on October 26th.

Happy Thanksgiving



WILTSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OCTOBER, 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 "I Walk" to School Week ➔	3 Raise A Reader Assembly at 1 pm. One Primary and one Intermediate Assembly	4	5	6 Cultural Performance @ 11:00 am "Infinitus"	7	8
9 Fire Prevention Week➔	10 Thanksgiving All Schools Closed	11	12	13 Individual Photo Retakes Fire Safety Presentation 1:00 PM	14	15
16	17	18	19 PALS Program 	20 Shake Out BC (Province-wide Earthquake Drill at about 10:10 am for WES) Wacky Hair Day	21 Professional Development Day (no school for students)	22
23/30	24/31 Monster Mash 1:30 PM	25 Early Dismissal Day. Students will be dismissed at 1:35 pm.	26 NARAMATA RUN Early Dismissal Day. Students will be dismissed at 1:35 pm.	27 Early Dismissal Day. Students will be dismissed at 1:35 pm.	28	29

Safe Arrival (250)490-0842

Please ask your child to check in at the office once they arrive to school.