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The Woodland Word

May 2014

A Message From the Principal

Dear Families:

Here we are in May! Life at Woodland Public School continues to be busy and exciting.

TEACHER LEARNING

Our teachers have been busy working on our Challenge of Practice—planning rich tasks for students to develop critical thinking, reasoning and problem solving skills, and on assessment and evaluation practices. Please continue to contact your child's teacher if you have questions.

VOLUNTEER BREAKFAST

We are very fortunate to have wonderful volunteers at WPS. Please join us on **Friday, May 23rd at 7:45 a.m.** in the library for a light breakfast as we recognize and thank all volunteers.

FAMILY DANCE

Our Family Dance promises to be a lot of fun. We look forward to seeing you all on **Thursday, May 8th.**

SPRING CONCERT

This is a reminder that we will be hosting our Junior/Intermediate (Grades 5-8) spring concert on **Thursday, May 22nd at 6:30 p.m.**

We look forward to the next two months of learning and growing together!

Yours in education,
Nandy Palmer



School Climate Survey for Parents/Guardians

Between May 20 and June 2, we will be inviting parents/guardians to participate in a school climate survey. The surveys provide the Board and our school with valuable information about how you feel about the school environment and your child's education. The results will be used to identify areas that need to be addressed, monitor progress and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. We value parent input and encourage you to complete the survey. The information parents provide will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. Information about how to access the survey will be sent home with students later in May. Please contact the school if you have any questions.

Positive Climates for Learning Update—Mme Cherid



SCHOOL HOURS

Entry:	8:05 a.m.
School Starts:	8:10 a.m.
Recess:	9:50-10:20
Lunch:	12:00-1:00
Dismissal:	2:40 p.m.

*“The future depends on what we
do in the present”*

~ Mahatma Gandhi

Mme Cherid has been working hard to support a number of initiatives to ensure a positive climate at Woodland P. S. A huge thanks to Mme Cherid, as well as all of the students on the PC4L team. Merci also to our parent team members, Cindy C., Darrelle M., Cheryl A., Duessa D. and Deborah M who help support the work we do.

1. **First Nations Communities** - Our community donated many winter items for our Keep Warm! initiative, including gloves, scarves, hats, etc. for the communities of Webequie and Attawapiskat.
2. **Milk Bag Campaign** - Students are making announcements every morning and the collection box gets filled up every few days. Collected milk bags will go to Markham, where they will be used to make mattresses and bags as a temporary solution for communities in need.
3. **Gardening/Greening** - Trees planted last fall have survived, and leaves are starting to come out. The pots at the entrance of the school will be redone, and students will care for these plants.
4. **Eco Certification** - We are silver certified, and are aiming for gold certification this year. The application was submitted last Wednesday, and eco inspectors will be coming on Wednesday, May 7 to meet with the school Eco Team and conduct the audit.
5. **Class Presentations** - PC4L student members have shared their Eco and Positive Climate activities with Grade 3, 4, 5, & 6 classes with great success!
6. **Equity and Inclusivity Conferences** - These were held during the month of April. Six Grade 7 & 8 students attended "Together We are Better" conference, while two attended the "Our Voices" conference. Students are organizing their post-conference notes to be delivered to classmates.
7. **Vow of Silence** - With the support of Mme Valenzuela and Roxana Jam (a student), our students participated in the "Day of Silence" campaign. Students had the opportunity to reflect on how fortunate they are to have the freedom of speech and voices that matter in Canada.
8. **Walk/Wheel to School** - Thanks to Janet M., one of our parents, this campaign begins on May 9th. Please encourage your child to walk or wheel to school - it's good for one's health as well as the environment.
9. **PC4L Communication** - A bulletin board has been created at the front of the school to keep our community up to date with PC4L work.

Day of Silence

On April 17th, Woodland joined Free The Children to participate in the international Day of Silence to show support for children around the world whose voices are not heard. Woodland students were invited to donate \$1 to participate in the Vow Of Silence. They raised \$220.65 for the Free the Children foundation. Students also had the opportunity to reflect on how fortunate they are to have the freedom of speech and voices that matter. Thank you to Roxanna Jam (student) for heading this initiative!

Girls on the Run

Girls on the Run - Girls on Track is off to a great start at Woodland. Thanks to our coaches Mme. Valenzuela, Mme. Brion, Mme. Moussey and Mme. Kotliarova, we were able to accommodate all girls in Grades 6-8 who wanted to participate. No girls had to be wait-listed! The Girls on Track mission is "to inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running."

Student Dress Code

As the warmer weather approaches, we ask that families review our student dress code.

The York Region District School Board believes that students must focus on achievement and well-being to be successful. It is important that students dress appropriately to demonstrate respect for self and others at all times. Woodland's student dress code promotes a caring, safe and respectful learning environment, and considers the diversity of the community in terms of culture, socioeconomic status, gender and other factors.

Woodland Dress Code:

The student dress code applies at school, on field trips and during any other school-related activity or event.

- ◆ Language or graphics on clothes will not display provocative, obscene, sexist or racist slogans, or refer to drugs, alcohol, smoking or sex.
- ◆ Clothing which contravenes the Human Rights Code in any way is unacceptable.
- ◆ Students will not wear clothing to school which is revealing or provocative. Midriffs and undergarments will remain covered at all times, and shorts or skirts will be mid-thigh in length. The following items are not acceptable: short skirts and shorts, tube tops, halter tops, and tops with narrow shoulder straps or 'spaghetti' straps.
- ◆ Clothing and accessories which depict violence or death or identify or promote cults or gangs are unacceptable.
- ◆ Head coverings of any description will not be worn inside the school. Exceptions are made for religious or medical reasons.
- ◆ Pyjamas or clothing which look like pyjamas are not to be worn at school except on Pyjama Spirit Day.
- ◆ For obvious safety reasons, weather appropriate shoes must be worn at all times. It is essential that all students have both indoor and outdoor shoes.
- ◆ Students will wear appropriate clothing for gym class, as indicated by Phys. Ed. teachers.

Parent Notification:

Parents will be notified when a student is not dressed appropriately for school. A student may be asked to:

- ◆ Turn the piece of clothing inside out
- ◆ Wear something over the inappropriate clothing
- ◆ Change into something else
- ◆ Remove the accessory and give it to the teacher, Vice-Principal or Principal

According to Board Policy #635.0 "Student Dress Code", Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are responsible for ensuring their child follows the student dress code, and students are responsible for following the student dress code.

~ EQAO DATES ~

This month, students in Grades 3 and grade 6 continue preparing for the **EQAO** assessment. Please note the following dates for these assessments:

Grade 6: May 26-June 6

Grade 3: June 2-4

We ask that if you have a child in **Grade 3 or 6**, to refrain from arranging appointments or planned absences for your child during the respective time period as they may not be able to make up missed sections. We encourage you to visit **www.eqao.com** for more information and great parent tips.



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Planning for Next Year

If you are planning to move prior to the beginning of September 2014, please let the office know as soon as possible. We are in the process of planning for next year and this information is extremely helpful when we make projections regarding student numbers.



Hours of Instruction for French Immersion—New for 2014

YRDSB offers a French Immersion program that is highly sought after. As we continue to implement recommendations from our recent French as a Second Language (FSL) review, we are making a slight adjustment, based on our research, that will provide better consistency within our schools while also better meeting student needs. Research shows the importance of time spent learning in French at the beginning of a program. In Grades 1 to 3, YRDSB students receive 100 per cent of their instruction in French. Beginning in Grade 4, English instruction is introduced for a number of subjects. Starting in the 2014-15 school year, weekly instructional time in Grades 4-8 will be shared equally between French and English language of instruction. Students will accumulate at least 5,000 hours of French language instruction by the end of Grade 8, which far exceeds the 3,800 hours mandated by the Ontario Ministry of Education. YRDSB remains deeply committed to providing high quality and sustainable French as a Second Language (FSL) instruction.

YRDSB's Equity and Inclusive Education Policy

Ministry Definitions

Equity and Inclusive Education, 2009
Ministry of Education

Equity

A condition or state of fair, inclusive, and respectful treatment of all people. Equity does not mean treating people the same without regard for individual differences.

Diversity

The presence of a wide range of human qualities and attributes within a group, organization, or society. The dimensions of diversity include, but are not limited to, ancestry, culture, ethnicity, gender identity, language, physical and intellectual ability, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

Inclusive Education

Education that is based on the principles of acceptance and inclusion of all students. Students see themselves reflected in their curriculum, their physical surroundings, and the broader environment, in which diversity is honoured and all individuals are respected.

Web Link

www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/inclusiveguide.pdf



Belief Statements from all our Partners

From Community Partners

- ✓ I see the school environment as welcoming and reflective of the diversity of our student body and the larger community.
- ✓ I see the diversity of parents/ community members valued in our school. We see them as partners in education.

From Students

- ✓ We are proud of who we are and who we are becoming!
- ✓ I am encouraged to use my home language at school.
- ✓ There's no limit to what I can do. Learning happens in all kinds of ways.

From Support Staff

- ✓ I serve every student, parent, staff and visitor in a polite and welcoming manner.
- ✓ I am a valued member of my school community.
- ✓ My work environment is welcoming and inclusive

From Teachers

- ✓ We hold high expectations for all students.
- ✓ I work to ensure that our school and classrooms are inviting and free of barriers.
- ✓ I address inequitable treatment of others and bias in myself, students and colleagues.

From Administrators

- ✓ My schools'/workplace's policies and practices align with the boards Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (P #261.0).
- ✓ I ensure that all resources (human, financial etc.) are reflective of the needs of a diverse student body and parent community.
- ✓ I provide an opportunity for the voices of all stakeholders to be represented and validated in the decision making at our school.

At Woodland, we strive to create an inclusive and equitable learning/work environment.

Library Resources

There are links to e-learning tools on the new Woodland Website.

Bookflix

Sign On: dsbyork

Password: dsby7692

Encyclopedia Britannica

Login: dsbyork

Password: dsby7692

OERB

Student userid: YRDSBstudent

Student password: oerbs

Naxos

The NAXOS Online Music Library offers classroom teachers and students more than 47,000 CD-length recordings, notes, resources, and teachers and students can create playlists.

Student userid: dsbyorkMM

Student password: dsbyorkMM

English Book Fair

The library book fair will coincide with Education Week May 5th-May 9th, and be open on Tuesday May 6th, 7th and 8th, culminating at the Family Dance. Come one, come all to buy a book or two and fuel your love for reading at support our school library.



"There is no friend as loyal as a book." Ernest Hemingway

Important—Talking Tom and Talking Angela Apps

It has recently shared with us that there are two apps that are viruses - one is Talking Tom and the other is Talking Angela. At this point, we are receiving conflicting reports - some communication state that the apps are viruses and others state that it's a hoax. Parents are encouraged to research and make their own decisions as to whether to keep or delete the apps. These apps are not used at school, and do not present an issue for students here.

Woodland's Parent Engagement Evening—Math Learning

My husband and I attended the Parent Engagement Evening on Thursday, April 24th. The evening's topic was "Supporting my child's learning in Mathematics", which is something that we and, I am sure, many parents struggle with. The evening was prepared and presented by many of our dedicated Woodland teachers, and was made possible through funding by Woodland School Council and a PRO (Parent's Reaching Out) Grant.

The evening began in the gymnasium with a Powerpoint presentation by the teachers which accurately summed up how many parents feel about the current Mathematics curriculum...it's not how we learned Math! The teacher's pointed out that while the Math curriculum and its instruction is very different today, it is important not to pass our skepticism onto our children. Instead, parents were encouraged to instill perseverance and a "Can Do" attitude in our kids. A positive parental attitude towards Math goes a long way towards building a student's confidence.

The second part of the evening was broken into six stations, hosted by each teacher, which allowed parents to get some hands-on experience of different ways to incorporate Math into everyday life.

Mr. Robertson provided us with some great Math games for the iPad; Mr. Nieuwold took us on a tour of some excellent Math websites; Mr. Brion taught us about perseverance by having us work with tangrams; Mme. Cherid showed us how something as simple as looking through supermarket flyers and comparison shopping could provide an everyday, practical way to learn Math; Mme. Campbell demonstrated examples of how to use shapes to represent fractions; and Mme. Romansecu and Mme. Rosca had us play probability games with gym equipment that incorporated Math concepts. Each station had wonderful take away items and/or handouts to help with learning Math concepts at home. As a family, we have already incorporated many of them and are already seeing benefits.

I know in our busy lives with work, family, activities, etc., many parents find it difficult to attend events like this, but I can honestly say that the few hours we spent at Woodland P.S. on the 24th, it was well worth the effort. So, if you weren't able to join us for this presentation, please consider attending the next event...you will be glad you did!

Thank you to all the teachers mentioned above who put together this presentation, along with support from Mme. Palmer. Thanks to Stephanie Bell who organized the child minding and refreshments for the evening.

~Karen Peck, Parent

Council Corner..



WALK OR WHEEL TO SCHOOL FRIDAYS



- Woodland's Spring Challenge: let's see how many kids we can get walking/riding bikes to school. We are encouraging families to walk or bike kids to school on **Fridays**. We would like to address the following areas:
- **FITNESS** - encouraging kids to be physically active;
- **ENVIRONMENT** - reducing the numbers of cars on the road; and
- **FUN** - encouraging friends and neighbours to get out together.
- This is of course, an entirely voluntary activity. School buses will continue to run as usual on these days. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure their children have a safe route to school, and adequate supervision.
- As Woodland is a regional school, some students live quite far away. Consider meeting some friends at a closer location (e.g., Thornhill Community Centre parking lot, at Bayview and Green Lane, or the plaza at Yonge and Royal Orchard), and walk together from there. Parents not able to walk each week? Talk to your neighbours, and consider a Walking School bus where one or two parents walk the route, and pick kids up along the way. Let's get walking/wheeling, and enjoy the spring!

Family Dance & Silent Auction - May 8, 2014

Woodland Public School will be holding its Annual Family Dance on May 8th, 2014. Please mark your calendars now! Not only is this a fun family night and a community building event, but also a fundraiser. Our mission is to raise funds for technology and educational materials that support the delivery of the curriculum in our children's classrooms. Please send in your forms for advance ticket sales.

Yearbook

Please find, towards the end of this newsletter, a yearbook order form. Submit your order form on time to avoid disappointment! Thanks to Michelle Koffman and Caryn Van Brugen, two of our excellent parent volunteers for coordinating this memorable keepsake for our students!

Ensemble tout est possible!

WOODLAND SPIRIT WEAR!

THIS IS A FUNDRAISER FOR THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Simply choose your favourite items, complete the form, and attach the cheque!

Return the completed form to Mr. Catenacci by: May 6th

To view full colour, please see the posters in the front foyer of the school or visit Woodland's website at:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/woodland.ps/students/Documents/SpiritwearFlyer.pdf>



FRONT
9"W X 7.75"H
3 COLOUR IMPRINT
PMS: WHITE BASE + WHITE
BLACK

For visualization purposes only Image is not to scale



FRONT
9"W X 7.75"H
3 COLOUR IMPRINT
PMS: WHITE BASE + WHITE
RED 186 C

For visualization purposes only Image is not to scale



FRONT
9"W X 7.75"H
2 COLOUR IMPRINT
PMS: RED 186 C
BLACK



RIGHT LEG
3.5"W X 1"H
3 COLOUR IMPRINT
PMS: WHITE BASE + WHITE
RED 186 C



LEFT CHEST
3.5"W X 1"H
3 COLOUR IMPRINT
PMS: WHITE BASE + WHITE
RED 186 C



BACK
10"W X 2.86"H
2 COLOUR IMPRINT
PMS: WHITE BASE
RED 186 C

WOODLAND PS 2013 / 2014



YEARBOOK ORDER FORM

Another year of memories at Woodland.

This yearbook promises to be full of facts and photographs from all grade levels, giving students the opportunity to look back on those memories for years to come.

Please fill out the order form below and return it to the school by

Monday, May 26th, 2014

with cash or cheque made payable to Woodland P.S.

Feel free to contact carynhamburg@hotmail.com with any questions.

Tell your kids that you're proud of them.

For only \$5.00, include 3 lines of best wishes in the yearbook.

"We are so proud of you for all your hard work this year. Love Mom & Dad."

"Congratulations on a wonderful year, Michael and Emily Smith. We are proud of you both."

Student Name(s): _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Phone #: _____

Homeroom Teacher(s): _____

Number of Yearbooks: _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____

+ HST (13%) \$ _____

Best Wishes: _____ x \$5.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL\$ _____

A summertime tradition is back.

The Limited Edition Camp Combo™!



Camp season is almost upon us! And back by popular demand, the **Mabel's Labels Limited Edition Camp Combo™** is packed with a collection of UV resistant, waterproof labels and tags designed especially for everything that goes to summer camp.

This essential summer combo is perfect for clothes and footwear, toiletries, swim gear, backpacks and more. But don't miss out – it's **only available from April 8 – June 30, 2014** for just **\$39.95**.

Get ready for camp and help support our fundraiser, too.

Customize and order now at

www.woodland.mabelslabels.com



Labels for the stuff kids lose!®

Please note that due to anticipated demand dispatch times may be as long as 2-3 weeks.



Join us for

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Celebrate the long and rich history of Asian Canadians

Saturday, May 3, 2014
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
47 Don Hillock Drive, Aurora



**Paying tribute to the 100th
Anniversary of the Komagata Maru**

Deeds Speak



Join us at Woodbridge College for

A Workshop Geared for South Asian Women, however all are welcome

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

In partnership with Yellow Brick House

**All Parents are
welcome!**

Topics for discussion will include:

- Communication and Language barriers
- Advocating for your child
- Navigating the Canadian education system

Translation support available (Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu)



Date: Monday, May 26, 2014

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

Location: 71 Bruce St., Vaughan, ON L4L 1J3



**Light Refreshments provided
Child Care provided**

RSVP to:

Mini at 905-884-2046 ext. 271 or

Sarah at sarahsa@yellowbrickhouse.org or

Hina at hshah@ccsyr.org or

Oksana at oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca

May 2014

Character Matters!

Integrity

We are truthful and sincere. We ensure consistency between what we say and what we do as well as between what we believe and how we behave.



Woodland Public School

Tel: (905) 889-4910 Fax: (905) 889-6287

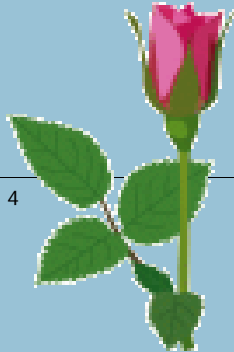









Website: www.woodland.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

eMail: woodland.ps@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

BUS ROUTES HOTLINE

1-877-330-3001

www.schoolbuscity.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 * Grade 4 Beaulieu Scientist in School	2  HOLY FRIDAY	3 
4	5 * Grade 6 VIP	6 * Junior Boys' Regional Basketball	7 * Junior Girls' Regional Basketball	8 * Grade 6 VIP * Family Dance - see you all there!	9 * Walk/Wheel to school 	10
ENGLISH BOOK FAIR IN THE LIBRARY						
11 	12	13	14	15	16 * Walk/Wheel to school	17
HIP HOP DANCE						
			VISAKHA PUJA WESAK			
18 International Museum Day	19  VICTORIA DAY	20 * Monday schedule * Grades 6-8 Track and Field	21 * Grades 4-5 Track and Field World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development	22 * Spring Concert (Grades 5-8) @ 6:30 p.m. in the gym * Track and Field Rain date	23 * Volunteer Appreciation Tea @ 7:45 a.m. in the library * Track and Field Rain date 	24 
25	26	27	28	29	30 * Rainbow Day * Walk/Wheel to school 	31
GRADE 6 EQAO						