

École West Kent Elementary – June 2019 Newsletter

West Kent Elementary School

27 Viceroy Ave. Charlottetown, PE C1A 2E4

(Phone) 902.368.6065; (Fax) 902.368.4559

Tracy Ellsworth, Principal

Emily Waye, Vice-Principal

Lena MacRae, Admin Assistant



West Kent Pancake Breakfast in support of an inclusive playground

- Saturday, June 15th 8:00-10:30 am
- Tickets can be purchased in advance at https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/west-kent-elementary-pancake-breakfast-tickets-61906957376?fbclid=IwAR0xbNKg9-_Ad49RzKpIOX_LfCOnm_40CthS2zOvkDpbyzUxS0yN1yQxxOI.
- \$10 a person \$30 a family
- If you cannot attend but would like to support, you can purchase tickets that we would share with others OR you can make a donation in the office or on the day of the event. Hope to see you all there!
- The breakfast includes pancakes, sausages, coffee/tea or juice box
- Everyone welcome



Dates to Remember

June

- June 5 & 6 – Grades 3 & 6 Math Assessments
- June 11 - Grade 3 field trip National Park (rain date 13th)
- June 12 – Grade 4's Greenwich
- June 12 – Grade 2's Orwell
- June 14 – Grade 6 Sand Spit (rain date 17th);
- June 20 – K & Grade 1 Stanhope (rain date 25th)
- June 20 - Grade 2-5 Shining Waters (rain date 25th)
- June 21 – Grade 6 Greenwich (rain date 24th)
- June 24-K & Grade 1-Victoria Park
- June 26 – Grade 6 Closing Ceremony (11:00); Last Day for Student/Report Cards
- June 26-H & S Ice-Cream Social 2:00 PM. All welcomed!

September

- Sept 3 – Orientation Day for Teachers (No classes)
- Sept 4 – Joint Staff Day (No classes)
- Sept 5 – First Instructional Day for 2018-2019 School Year

Music News

Congrats to our West Kent school choirs for receiving Gold Standings in the Queens County Music Festival.

West Kent 2-3 Girls' Choir were given the award for Best Primary School Choir.

West Kent 4-6 Choir were given the Award for Best Elementary School Choir and the Outstanding Choir award.

The West Kent 4-6 Music Festival Choir competed in the Provincial Music Festival Friday, May 31, 2019. Our choir received the first place trophy. The choir was nominated to represent PEI in the National Music Festival competition in Saskatoon in August. The Choirs from across Canada sent a professional unedited recording to be judged.

Thank you to all the singers who come to rehearsals each week. Your dedication and hard work to the choirs was evident in your singing.

"The only thing better than singing is more singing" Ella Fitzgerald

Small Beginnings

Students in Grade 3 would like to invite primary students in becoming a Garden Caretaker for one week over the summer. A letter will be sent home with all primary (K-3) students outlining what responsibilities (watering, light weeding, enjoying any ripe and ready vegetables) involved and inviting them to show leadership while having fun being a Garden Caretaker for our two planter boxes located in front of our school. Please indicate as many weeks you are available and interested in being responsible for the planter boxes on the bottom portion of the letter. Each family will only be assigned for one week as a Garden Caretaker throughout the summer. Your support with our school gardens is greatly appreciated! Anyone who has questions or who would like more information above what is outlined in the letter, please contact Julie Lynch, jalync@cooperating.edu.pe.ca

Library News

Indigo Fund-raiser:

Thanks to all the families who came out to support the school library at Indigo in May, we earned \$700 in gift cards. It takes a lot of fund-raised dollars to keep a library updated. The average age of our books is 21 years old. Our nonfiction area is dated, we continually fund-raise to try to improve.

Library Volunteers

The library is looking for a few volunteers the week of June 17th. Volunteers would be helping to organize the library by "shelf reading". This means that volunteers would make sure that books were organized in alphabetical or numerical order. Volunteers could come for 1-2 hours each day. They would also help to cover the shelves with plastic for the summer. High school students are also welcome. Criminal record checks should be done if you volunteer during the day.



END OF YEAR FEES REMINDER

If Supply fees are not paid please do so ASAP

Supply Fees (\$40)

School Supplies 2019-2020 – Students entering **Kindergarten** in September 2019 and **present K-5 School Fees are \$40.00** –Also students presently in Grade 6 moving to Junior High Supply List will be posted on-line.



Summer Camps and Programs

There are a number of Summer Programs and/or Opportunities available to students for 2019. Please check out the West Kent web page for the link.

Important Grade 6 Dates

Grade 6 Closing Ceremony (11:00) June 26

Grade 6A Students

6A will be performing Shakespeare in the Park during the week of June 17-21. Final date and time to be determined!



LOST AND FOUND

Our Lost and Found box is overflowing once again! We have multiple items of clothing, lunchboxes, etc. with no names on them.

Please ask your child to take a look and see if any of these items belongs to him/her. Help us help you! Labelling your child's belongings helps us return found items to their owners.

Any items not claimed by the end of the school year will be donated to charity.

Busing Info for the 2019-2020 School Year!

If you require busing to an after school care facility that is different to one you are using this year, please contact the PSB to see if there is space on the school bus. Please do this prior to confirming a spot with any of these after school care providers. There is limited space on the buses travelling to these care facilities, so it is best to check in advance.

Transportation is provided to these after school care facilities and may change for the 2019-20 school year:

- Murphy's Drop off Centre - 91 Prince Street, bus #34
- Island Montessori Centre - 81 Highland Street, bus #163
- Kids Connection - 11 Christie Dr., bus #163
- Boys and Girls Club - 39 St. Peters Rd., bus #163
- St. Jeans Chances Program - 335 Queen Street (St. Jean School) bus # 186
- Tiny Tots – 195 Kensington Rd., bus 162

Parents as Partners

As we draw closer to the end of the year, parents are encouraged to take some time over the summer to reinforce concepts, especially those related to reading, writing and mathematics. Practice over the summer months prepares students for the school year. Research demonstrates that without practice of concepts over the summer months, students may regress. You can help your child to retain concepts and skills by encouraging time for reading.

Children can read, novels, magazines, on-line blogs, comic books etc. to keep their comprehension skills sharp. There are many free online resources and the library offers electronic sign out privileges for e-books. Check out this website about how to improve summer reading: <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/how-can-i-improve-my-childs-reading>.

Students can start their own blog to practice writing or they can keep a summer journal to record their summer memories. Include kids in cooking and baking so that they get a chance to practice their mathematical skills. They can also assist in deck making and fencing projects around the house to practice measuring and geometry skills. Take kids grocery shopping and ask them to estimate the total cost by keeping a mental account of all items.



Ice-Cream Social 2:00
June 26, 2019
Everyone Welcome

CLASS FIELD TRIPS

Over the next few weeks, classes have many field trips planned. When helping your child to prepare for these outings please remember the unpredictability of our weather in June. Please ensure your children have adequate clothing for the day and the event. A proper hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen are important. A reasonable lunch and an adequate supply of drinking water are essential as well as proper footwear. Properly fitted athletic shoes (runner) work well, flipflops, and sandals do not offer enough support for uneven terrain. Also, please remember to sign your child's permission forms. If you need a copy, please stop by and see Mrs. MacRae at the office.



Caribou Math Competition

We have completed another year of the Caribou Contest in mathematics at West Kent. Congratulations to all who took part in this challenging test of math skills! Special congratulations to our top five participants at each level: In the 3/4 competition, 1st - Xavier M, 2nd - Mae M, 3rd - Elizabeth WL, 4th - Nadia F and 5th - Elijah O. In the 5/6 competition: 1st - Golnar S, 2nd - Duncan M, 3rd - Ezgi M, 4th - Callum C and 5th - Callum M.



After School Dismissal

We work hard to ensure your children are safe every day. We are asking for your support when you pick up your child to monitor their behavior and help them make appropriate choices which are in line with our school code of conduct. For safety reasons, we are also asking that students who walk to school to please head home at dismissal time (2:35 p.m.) and check in with parents first before deciding to just hang around the school playground. There is no supervision outside at the end of the school day and to avoid playground issues, we ask for your continued support in these areas as the nice weather approaches.

Bicycle Safety

It is great to see the spring weather and to have our bikes out again.

Please remind your children that it's the law that all students must wear helmets and follow the rules when riding their bikes. It is a proven fact that helmets save lives and the lives of our students are very important to us. Also, please remind your children to follow the rules of the road. Students are asked to walk their bikes once they reach the school grounds. Thank you for working with us to promote safety on the road for everyone.



Report Cards

Report cards will be given out on the last day of school at the end of the school day, at dismissal time with students to take home.

Students who are absent or leaving early can pick up their report cards after 2:30 p.m. or on Thursday or Friday.

Any reports remaining at the school can be picked up when school re-opens August 26th

Sun Sense Guidelines

SLIP! on clothing to cover your arms and legs. Covering your skin will protect it from the sun. Choose clothing that is: loose fitting, tightly woven and lightweight.

SLAP! on a wide brimmed hat. Wear a hat with a wide brim that covers your head, face, ears and neck.

SLOP! on a sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher. Look for "broad spectrum" on the label. This means that the sunscreen offers protection against 2 types of ultraviolet rays, UVA and UVB. Apply sunscreen generously, 20 minutes before outdoor activities.



Want to be ready for the next school year?



(Start planning in August)

All families tend to slide into new routines during the summer months. It's a more relaxing and slower pace for most families. Everyone tends to go to bed a little later, and sleep in a little longer. While this is certainly appropriate during the summer months, it can have a negative impact on the start of school if you don't plan ahead.

In general, you should start to prepare a back to school schedule at least one week in advance. This will help to give the child time to adjust to going to bed earlier and help to ensure that they are getting enough sleep. These routines should carry over into the weekend; otherwise it can have a negative effect on their wake and sleep phases. Weekend wake hours should not exceed past one hour of school day wake up times.

Bed time routines should be easy to manage and not exceed 30 minutes in duration. Extending the process can defeat the purpose of having a set bed time. As a child becomes older, they can become more independent with carrying out these routines themselves. Following these easy steps can help to ensure a smoother transition when we all return in August. To learn more visit www.healthychildren.org.

PEI Home and School Federation News - June 2019

Congratulations Provincial Heritage Fair students!

In recognition of the excellent work of students, the PEI Home and School Federation awards specialty prizes in the Provincial Heritage Fair. Congratulations to:

- Seamus Studer, Athena Consolidated School TOPIC: Bops (My great-grandfather)

My project was all about my great-grandfather Orville Vincent Studer, AKA Bops. I chose this topic because I think that more people should remember all the soldiers that fought in wars and I wanted to know more about him. Bops was part of the Canadian Army in the 8th Recce Squadron. His job was to go behind enemy lines during WWII to gather information. Even though I never had the honour to meet my great grandfather, through this project I feel closer to him and better understand some of what he went through in the war to allow me to enjoy the life I have.

- Emma MacDougall, Central Queens TOPIC: My Great Grandmother Was a War Bride

My Heritage Fair project was about my great grandmother Isabella MacDougall, a war bride from Dundee, Scotland, P.E.I. When my great grandmother was in school WWII had started and her and others were suddenly evacuated out to a farm just outside of Aberdeen, Scotland for about a month before Isabella's mother decided it was best to go back home. While in Scotland she met her husband Roland at a local ice skating rink, a Canadian soldier. They married in Dundee, Scotland in 1946. Isabella travelled on the R.M.S. Aquitania ship across the North Atlantic Ocean, to Pier 21 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Roland met her at Pier 21 and they travelled to their home in Tyne Valley, P.E.I. They had four sons: Gordon, Gary, David, and Ian MacDougall. Sadly my great grandmother passed away from a stroke on November 23, 2013, in her 87th year.

Awards

School Bus Driver Awards will be presented before the end of the school year in recognition of bus drivers who keep our children safe while travelling on the bus to and from school throughout the school year. Recipients names will be posted at: <http://peihsf.ca/bus> following presentations.

Parent Leadership Program

Read about Parent Leadership Projects, 2018-2019

Elections

June is an excellent time to hold Home and School elections for new board members who will work to prepare for the next school year. If you need guidance, contact the Federation office at: 620-3186 / 1-800-916-0664 / peihsf@edu.pe.ca

Annual Meeting & Convention Reports

The 66th Annual Meeting & Convention minutes, final resolutions, Round Table and other summaries have been compiled and posted online at: <http://peihsf.ca/agm>

More Community News.....

~ Summer Reading is Important and Fun: Have you heard of the Summer Slide? Data from our Kids & Family Reading Report™, Canadian Edition shows that only 1 in 3 parents with children ages 6-17 have heard of the Summer Slide! 84% of kids ages 6-17 and 96% of parents agree that reading books during the summer helps kids during the school year!

Take kids to the library

Bring books on trips and vacations

Get books from your local bookstore, library, school book club or book fair

Start series so there are multiple books to read

Build reading into your daily summer routine or schedule

<http://www.scholastic.ca/summerreading/>

~ Kiwanis Student Award The Kiwanis Club of Charlottetown has teamed up with Martin Rutte, International speaker, and co-author of the New York Times Business bestseller Chicken Soup for the Soul at Work, to challenge Island youth to build a better world. They have established an award for students for this school year - one \$100 award available for each school. Find more details at: Student Leadership Award

