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**Principal**  
Mrs. D. Opersko

**Office Coordinator**  
Mrs. S. Hofland



Will the groundhog  
see his shadow on  
Feb. 2nd?

### **THANK YOU!**

Sincere thanks to all our school volunteers who continue to help us out in so many ways. Your on-going dedication to our students is so appreciated.

### **Important Dates for the Month:**

Sunday, Feb. 4th	Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition at Holy Trinity at 1 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 9th	Speeches in the gym, Canada/Olympic Wear Spirit Day
Wed., Feb. 14th	HAPPY VALENTINES DAY! Wear red or pink today for colour house points
Thurs., Feb 15th	Term One Report Cards and IEP's go home
Mon., Feb. 19th	Family Day – No school for staff or students
Fri., Feb. 23rd	Climate Reality Presentation for Grades 6/7, 7 and 8 classes
Sat., Feb. 24th	Lions Skate-a-Thon
Wed., Feb. 28th	Pink Shirt Day, Parent Council Bhava Tree presentation, bring your family (see attached flyer for more details)

It's hard to believe that it's February already. Term One report cards and IEP's for Grades K- 8 will be sent home on Thursday, February 15th. We hope that if you choose to do so you will make the time to contact your child's teacher(s) to discuss your child's report card further, to hear more about all the great things he/she is doing at school and to find out how you can help at home. Please be sure to fill in, cut off and return the parent/guardian section of your child's report card, as well as your child's report card envelope so it can be reused in June. Your questions and concerns about your child's progress are important to us. Working together, home and school, will ensure even greater success for our fantastic students.

As usual, the focus at the school is on the positive. I am pleased to report that more and more students are coming to see me in the office, not because of behavioral issues, but to be recognized for their leadership skills, their excellent work ethic, their kindness to others or because of something they have accomplished for the first time in class! What a highlight it is to my day to see a smiling face at my door asking if he/she can show me something or to read to me. That's an offer I can't refuse!

Have a great month and on behalf of the staff and students, Happy Valentine's Day!

*Mrs. Opersko*

### **Way to Go, Wildcats!**

Congratulations to the Junior Co-ed Volleyball team who won the Division A Championship at the Norfolk County Tournament, and then continued to the Grand Erie District School Board's CAGE tournament and incredibly came in third place! Great sportsmanship and skills were demonstrated by all team members: Quinton O., Kaden S., Ethan W., Jaxon K., Owen S., Kennason B., Avalon M., Kiera S., and Shaylen C.! Special thanks to Mrs. Stronks for coaching the team and to our parents who helped drive our athletes and for cheering them on. A busy basketball season is now underway and Mr. Brady, Ms. Van Kessel and Mr. Woods are busy practicing with their hoopsters.

### **Looking Out for One Another:**

The Grade 2's in Mrs. Smart's class are holding a fundraiser to raise awareness for cancer research. One of the students' families is greatly affected by this currently and the class wanted to do something to show their support. They have decided that proceeds raised will be donated to the Juravinski Cancer Centre in order to help any families going through the same fight. The class brainstormed and decided that we would raise money through the sale of Valentine's Day candy grams, a winter carnival for Kindergarten to grade 5 and an Out of Class activity for grades 6-8, to be decided upon. More information will be sent home soon!

### **Speeches:**

It's that time of year again! You just have to walk down the hall these days to catch the excitement in the air, as students work together to practice their speeches. If you'd like to hear speeches on a variety of fascinating topics, please join us on Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> in the gym. A few Grades 4, 5, and 6 pupils will be saying their speeches at 11:15 am. and a few grades 7 and 8 students will share their speeches at 2 p.m.

### **Skate-a-Thon Reminders ~ Saturday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> at the Waterford Arena:**

12 - 1 p.m.	Registration
1 - 2 p.m.	Skating
2 p.m.	School pictures
2:20 – 3:20 p.m.	Skating
3:20 – 4 p.m.	Prizes and trophy presentation, after the presentation participants will get a free hot dog, drink and snacks

### **What's New?:**

Mrs. Crowhurst recently started Stitchers club for students in Grades 4 through 8. They will be learning the basics of knitting, crocheting, and cross stitch. We meet during 1st nutrition break and recess twice a week and will continue until the March break.



### **Pink Shirt Day:**

Join us and wear pink on Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **How did Pink Shirt Day Get Started?**

To find out more watch: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjmf3I1\\_ZhU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjmf3I1_ZhU)

"In 2007, David Shepherd, Travis Price and their teenage friends organized a high-school protest to wear pink in sympathy with a Grade 9 boy who was being bullied [for wearing a pink shirt] ... [They] took a stand against bullying when they protested against the harassment of a new Grade 9 student by distributing pink T-shirts to all the boys in their school. 'I learned that two people can come up with an idea, run with it, and it can do wonders,' says Mr. Price, 17, who organized the pink protest. 'Finally, someone stood up for a weaker kid.' So Mr. Shepherd and some other headed off to a discount store and bought 50 pink tank tops. They sent out message to schoolmates that night, and the next morning they hauled the shirts to school in a plastic bag. As they stood in the foyer handing out the shirts, the bullied boy walked in. His face spoke volumes. 'It looked like a huge weight was lifted off his shoulders,' Mr. Price recalled. The bullies were never heard from again."

~ GLOBE & MAIL

### **Upcoming Hot Lunches:**

Friday Feb 2 – Pizza Day

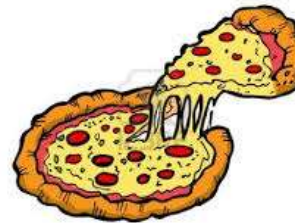
Friday Feb 9 – Pizza Day

Friday Feb 16 – Kerry's Wraps

Friday Feb 23 – Pita Pit

Friday March 2 – Pizza Day

Thanks for using  
our on-line  
cashless system  
to place your  
orders.



### **End of the Day Help Requested:**

We ask that parents please make sure that their children know their end of day plans before they go to school each morning. This will help with student's anxiety over changes to their routine, as well as ensure that messages don't get missed or properly relayed. WPS is a busy school and we want to avoid any issues or undue stress. Thank you for your cooperation.

Do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day?  
Sure, they're very scent-imental!

What did the bat say to his girlfriend?  
"You're fun to hang around with."





# WPS Parent Council - ProGrant Funding



Wed. Feb 28:  
Family Yoga Making Healthy Food  
for Everyone

Mon. Mar 5:  
Family Yoga and Managing Stress for all Ages

Thurs. Mar. 8:  
Family Yoga and Finding Happiness with  
Mindfulness

ALL SESSIONS HELD @ WPS 6:30pm -  
8:00pm

In partnership with: Sheryl Puckering



PIC•COLLAGE

### **Late and Absent Students:**

We all know that good attendance and arriving on time for school are important for a student's academic success. Students who experience on-going attendance and on-time arrival issues receive a letter from the principal. If issues persist, Mrs. Opersko is required to make a referral to the school's attendance counsellor.

We understand that mornings can be hectic but we do need to receive a phone call if your child will be absent or late. The school phone has voice mail so you can call the evening before or prior to school hours and leave a message, if necessary. If your child is late, a parent/guardian is required to come into the office and sign the student in.

Please ensure your child knows your family's plans, appointments, and changes to routine i.e. getting picked up instead of riding the bus before he/she leaves for school in the morning. Please also make sure you include these plans in your child's agenda or communication book.

Your help to ensure safety and optimal learning is appreciated.

### **Kindergarten Registration:**

Now is the time to enroll your children at our school for September 2018. This includes students for Junior Kindergarten or new students for Senior Kindergarten. It is important that you register now so the school board will know our enrolment numbers for Kindergarten classes in September. Knowing the number of students we will have as soon as possible will let us know how many teachers and Early Childhood Educators we will be allotted. We appreciate your assistance to pass on this information to friends and family in our school community. Do not wait until September, please register NOW!

### **Visitors to the School:**

Parents and community members are always welcome at the school. We ask that you always stop at the office before proceeding further into the building. We have a sign in and out system for our students and guests to ensure safety at all times. In the event of fire or evacuation we need to know at all times who is in the building, to ensure everyone is accounted for.

Although you may be recognized by some staff members, it is still important to announce your presence at the office. Your co-operation is appreciated. Please never pick up or drop off your child(ren), go to your child(ren)'s classroom, walk onto the school yard or leave the building with your child(ren) without first notifying the office.

What did one oar say to the other oar?  
"Can I interest you in a little row-mance?"

What do you call a very small valentine?  
A valen-tiny!

