

SWC NEWS

Integrity | Responsibility | Excellence

Speed Dates

Tuesday, December 8, 5:30pm
Parent Council Meeting SWC
staff room.

Thursday, November 19 and
Friday, November 20
Parent/Guardian Interviews

Wednesday, November 25 and
Thursday, November 26 7pm
Intn'l Baccalaureate Open
House at Colonel By SS.

Thursday, November 26, 7pm
Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds
at Longfields-Davidson
Heights S.S. Auditorium

Tuesday, December 1, 6-8pm
Anger Management for
Parents workshop at SWC

Tuesday, December 1, 7pm.
Canterbury Arts Open House,
for all parents and Students.

Thursday, January 7, 7pm
Merivale High School Grade 8
information night.

Our Digits

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November at SWC!

Thank you for joining us on Wednesday, November 11th at 10:30 for our Remembrance Day Ceremony. We don't have to look very far to see why Remembrance Day is so important. We live in a free country, where you can choose what schools to attend, what religions to observe, what language to speak, all day to day choices that many take for granted are a part of our lives because of the people who died to defend Canada's freedom. Check out our photos from the ceremony on our website.

Parent teacher interviews will be scheduled for the upcoming P.A. Day. Please note that interviews will be scheduled by the teacher, where the teacher has a concern about the progress of a child. The interview days will take place on Thursday, November 19th and Friday, November 20th. This is a change in practice due to the Work Action. Progress reports will go home on Thursday, December 10th.

We look forward to working in partnership with you over the course of this year, to develop age-appropriate goals in order for your child to be a successful and independent learner.



Reminders

- Thanks to all families who supported the fall QSP fundraiser, we raised nearly \$900! Student participation prizes will be arriving shortly, and although the official campaign is over, you can continue to purchase and renew online throughout the year at www.qsp.ca. Approximately 37% of all sales go to SWC school council.
- Thanks to all parents and kids who came out to the fall clean up day, our yard is looking great!
- Huge thanks go out to all parents who helped out during the work action!
- Next pizza cycle starts on November 23rd, please get your orders in promptly.
- Don't forget those weekly lice checks!! If you're not sure what you're looking for visit: <http://ottawa.ca/en/residents/public-health>

Please note, there will be no Extended Day programming running at the OCDSB on the November 20th PD day. For more information, go to the OCDSB website: <http://www.ocdsb.ca/programs/ExtendedDayProgram/Pages/default.aspx>

Cell Phone Use

We live in fascinating times, the opportunities that our children have for the use of technology and communication are unprecedented in human history. Students can do millions of times more with a cell phone than could be done on the computers that powered space exploration forty years ago! At SWC, we are working hard to develop a plan to help our students become better digital citizens. As we deal with the influx of more and more cell phones and mobile devices in our school, we want to remind students and parents of the current policy.

Cell phones may enter the building, however, once they come into the building, students must keep the phones in their lockers, with their lock securely fastened. Cell phones are only to be brought into classrooms with teacher permission, otherwise they are not to leave lockers until the end of the school day. If a student is using a cell phone without permission, it will be confiscated by the teacher and brought to the office. The student must get a note from their parent or guardian to get the phone back the next day, when they can claim the phone from the office.

This policy is in place to protect student property, as these expensive items should not be left unsecured at school, thank you for your cooperation.

Parking at SWC

We have had a few close calls with the drop offs and pickups on Walgate avenue. We would like to remind parents (again!) there should be no stopping in the bus drop off area, and no turning around in the staff parking lot. Traffic on Walgate is one way during the drop off and pick up times, and parents should travel around the block to get out rather than try to turn around. Please follow these instructions to keep all of our students and staff safe. Thanks for your cooperation. If any parents are available to help with traffic issues during these times, please let us know!



International Baccalaureate

To parents of grade 8 students, please join us at Colonel By S.S. on Wednesday, November 25 or Thursday, November 26 at 7pm for an Open House on the International Baccalaureate Program. Visit www.ibcb.ca for complete program and application information.



Kinder Outdoor Education

The kindergarten team at SWC would like to provide students with a varied and rich outdoor education program. To accomplish our goal, we are looking for a variety of materials. If your children have outgrown some of their toys and you would like to donate them to us, we will be placing boxes in the kindergarten corridor, starting on Monday, November 26th. We are looking for the following items:

- Outdoor shovels
- Pails
- Little tykes or tonka trucks (dump trucks/diggers)
- Fisher Price Little People
- Plastic dinosaurs
- Small plastic animals
- Small hot wheels cars or vehicles
- Toy plates and cups

We are also looking for some household items for the outdoor play house:

- Muffin or cupcake tins
- Wooden spoons
- Small cake pans
- Plastic mixing bowls
- Ikea plastic plates, cups, and spoons
- Ice cube trays

Thanks for thinking about the youngest students at SWC, play is a child's work and we appreciate anything you can do to support their learning.

Spectacular! Spectacle!

Tables are still available for purchase at SWC's Spectacular! Spectacle! Craft Sale, happening on Saturday, December 5th from 8:30-12:30 in the gym! If you are a small business owner and would like to connect with others and sell your wares, then please contact us by emailing:

elias.naomi@gmail.com

Don't have a home business? That's okay, come and see what others have for you!

Math and Reading

“Literature provides students with opportunities to make connections with their own lives, provides a context to think and practise math and enriches students’ view of the world of math.”

- A Guide to Effective Instruction in Mathematics, Kindergarten to Grade 6. Below is a list of a few books to help you begin the conversation about math at home:

- Caps for Sale, by Esphyr Slobodkina (number sense and patterning)
- The Doorbell Rang, by Pat Hutchins (number sense)
- Count to 10 with a Mouse, by Margaret Wise Brown (number sense)
- Is a Blue Whale the Biggest Thing There IS? By Robert Wells (number sense and measurement)
- Actual Size, by Steve Jenkins (measurement)
- One Gran of Rice, by Demi (number sense, multiplication, and division)
- Grandfather Tang’s Story, by Ann Tompert (geometry)
- Stone Soup, by Heather Forest (data management and probability)

If you and your child are more comfortable in a language other than English, then read to your child in that language. Your local public library may be helpful in choosing books connected to mathematics. The link below may also be helpful to access digital books online in a number of languages: International Digital Library: <http://en.childrenslibrary.org>



Student Vote 2015

by Arham Ahmed and Zachary Parent

What was the student vote?

The student vote was when the students of SWC were given a chance to express themselves. They were given a chance to vote for who they thought would be an ideal leader for our beloved country. You have to be 18 to vote in the actual election but the students were able to vote in their classes as part of a symbolic vote.

Who voted in the student vote?

Why, the students of SWC, of course! The students of grade 5 were the first to vote. Students of grade 5 to grade

8 voted for their top choice. They voted for their own choice.

The results were pretty nail biting. Anita Vandenberg of the Liberal Party managed to get 58 votes, while Abdul Abdi of the Conservatives gathered 34 votes. NDP party member Marlene Rivier got 23 votes. Finally, Mark Brooks from the Green Party got 17 votes. Every child had a choice to vote. But in the end, Anita Vandenberg stole the game and

Go Bulldogs!!!

Student Vote 2015 Continued

was elected as the local MP for the Ottawa West Nepean region. It was interesting to see that vote results were similar in the adult vote and in the student vote.

We decided to interview some students about the vote. Here's what they had to say:

Q: Why do you think there are student votes?

A: "I think there are student votes because the kids will be ready for when they will be voting in the actual election at the legal age."

"I think there are student votes to show us how you vote later in your life."

Q: Were you influenced to vote in any way?

A: "My Dad is a Conservative supporter, so that influenced me to vote."

"Yeah, my Mom was a nurse so she liked the healthcare of the Conservatives."



Note About the Work Action

We had good news on the labour front this week. A tentative central agreement has been reached between elementary teachers (ETFO) and public schools boards (OPSBA) and the province. The agreement still requires ratification by the parties which should be complete by November 13th. The terms of the tentative agreement remain confidential until ratification is complete.

Many questions have been put forward by staff and parents about the resumption of school activities which were affected by sanctions. There are a few

things parents should note:

Extra-curricular activities - some have already resumed, however it will take a couple of weeks to establish activities, ensure appropriate planning/scheduling, ensure that permission forms where required are complete, etcetera. Watch for more information from your child's school;

Ongoing OSSTF strike sanctions - while the sanctions related to the ETFO strike action have been lifted, elementary and secondary educational support workers represented by the Ontario Secondary School Teacher the OCDSB website.

Go Bulldogs!!!

Highlights from the October Parent Council Meeting

Principal's report included information about proposed changes to how the OCDSB teaches french, highlights include fifty percent french for JK and SK in all schools. Also Ms. Rodgers opened her third kindergarten class in a converted computer lab, and it is looking great!

Vice Principals report mentions several in school initiatives including the Gr. 7 mock election, fire truck visits, SRO and Rideauwood addiction counselling visiting with students.

SWC successfully applied for a Parents Reaching out Grant to be used to offer three workshops to offer parents (The first of which is on December 1, Anger Management for Parents.)

Elections were held and a new office was established, welcome to all our new faces.

All of this and more was discussed at the meeting, everyone is invited to attend the parent council meeting held on the second Tuesday of the month from 5:30-7pm. If you would like to take advantage of the free babysitting just email swccouncil@gmail.com.

For more information on council news visit: swccouncil.com

LAST WORDS

"Life, with its rules, its obligations, and its freedoms, is like a sonnet: You're given the form, but you have to write the sonnet yourself." - Mrs. Whatsit

— Madeleine L'Engle, A Wrinkle in Time, whose birthday is on November 29th, 1918

Student Success at SWC last month took many forms:

- successful lockdown and fire drills
- Roots of Empathy program beginning with baby Hunter in JK
- Clean Up the Capital
- Movie Night for our K-6 students
- Silver medal for our Intermediate Boys Soccer Team.
- Volleyball Teams starting to practice
- Jazz and Concert Bands back in action
- Student Council about to launch the Annual Food Drive
- Halloween Dancing
- Student Vote in the Federal Election



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