

SWC NEWS

Integrity | Responsibility | Excellence

Speed Dates

Tuesday, November 10
5:30pm Parent Council
Meeting SWC staff room.

Thursday, October 22, 7pm
EFI Feedback meeting at
Fallingbrook community E.S.

Thursday, October 29, 7pm
Understanding concussions at
Nepean H.S. Auditorium.

SWC Movie Night October 30,
6pm Hotel Transylvania will be
playing.

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

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

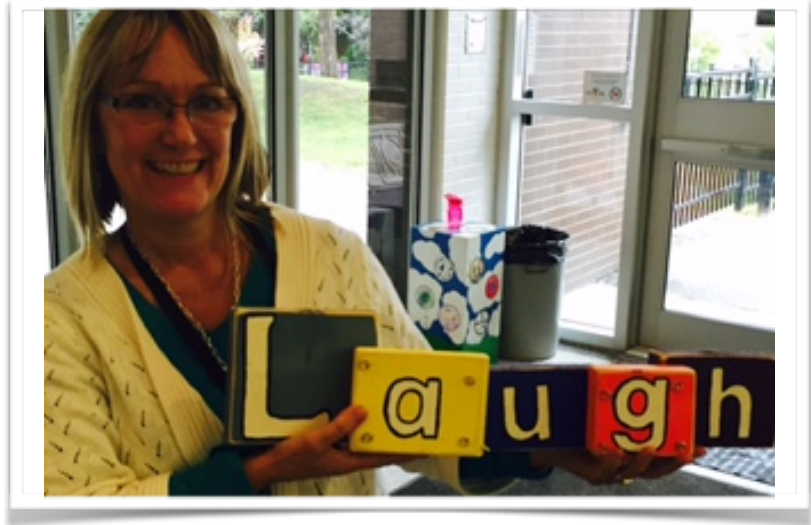
Thursday, January 7, 7pm
Merivale High School Grade 8
information night.

Our Digits

613-224-2336

sirwinstonchurchillps.ocdsb.ca

twitter: @ocdsbswcps



A Message from our VP Gaynor Kondric

SWC is a terrific place to spend my days! A very exciting part of being in education is that you have multiple opportunities to try different things throughout your career. Switch grades, divisions, programs, move schools, join clubs, teams and communities. Every year is different than the last and with each change comes the opportunity to work with new people and continue on your learning journey. Coming to SWC as Vice Principal has been spectacular from the first day - being welcomed so warmly by our staff of educators, support staff and families, having the opportunity to greet and chat with our talented students in the yard, hallways, and classrooms, and learning new things every day. Reaching out to different people and asking lots of questions has really helped me understand how SWC 'works' so that I can better support others. I am grateful to be part of the SWC family and look forward to the start of every day.



Reminders

- We have many new teachers this year, visit our school website for a complete list of the 2015-16 SWC Dream Team!
- In October our newest JK class opened it's doors to 22 students, welcome Mrs. Rae to SWC!
- Volunteers are still needed to help with snack and milk programs. Please email our VP gaynor.kondric@ocdsb.ca for more details.
- Parents are reminded that traffic is one-way on Walgate Ave during drop off and pick up; and no turning around in the staff lot. Parents should also avoid parking in the no parking zones so buses and navigate safely. Thank-you for your co-operation.
- Intermediate students will be voting on the federal election on October 16th! We'll be sure to let you know the results of their votes!

Labour Negotiations

Beginning Monday, October 5th the OSSTF announced new strike sanctions. These sanctions affect the educational support workers. The OSCDB has five OSSTF bargaining units which represent elementary and secondary educational support workers. This includes:

- Educational support professionals such as office administrators, office assistants, guidance services assistants and staff in central departments;
- custodial and maintenance staff;
- psychologists, social workers, speech and language pathologists;
- educational assistants and early childhood educators;
- Language Instructors for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) and Adult English as a Second Language (ESL) instructors and childcare staff.



Since the announcement of the sanctions, the district met with union representatives to seek clarification about the anticipated impact on our schools and administrative buildings.

This is legal strike action and the union has directed employees to withdraw certain services. However the union has also indicated that student safety remains a priority and members will be advised of this.

The sanctions may affect the following school functions:

Entry to school buildings - The sanctions direct staff not to use controlled entry systems, the front doors will be unlocked rather than using the buzzer systems.

Calling students to the office - The sanctions direct staff not to call students to the office. A parent coming to pick up a child should allow for extra time as the Principals are managing a number of responsibilities and may not be immediately available.



Transportation

The walking to school distance is 800 meters for JK and SK, 1.6km for Gr 1-8 students who reside outside the urban transit area. If your child is not eligible for bussing, please check the OSTA website:

www.ottawaschoolbus.ca

for more information. Empty seat applications can be downloaded there or picked up at the main office. Each application will be reviewed by the Principal and empty seats assigned after October 1.

Accident Insurance

Creating a caring and safe environment for students is a top priority, unfortunately, despite all reasonable precautions being taken, accidents can still happen. As a parent/guardian you're responsible for these expenses. Student Accident Insurance is available for purchase (voluntarily) through Reliable Life Insurance Company. Visit www.insuremykids.com to apply online.

Labour Negotiations Continued

School Websites and Newsletters - The sanctions direct staff not to assist with school websites or newsletters. We will continue to use Synervoice regularly. Parents are encouraged to ensure the school has an up-to-date email address.

School or Special Events in Schools - The sanctions direct staff not to provide set up/tear down of community functions outside of the regular school day. This may affect some planned events. Further clarification is being sought.

At this time we are continuing to work with our unions to better understand how the sanctions will be implemented. We know that student safety is a top priority for every one of our employees. Our staff will continue with student supervision, safe arrivals, and the monitoring of visitors to the school. We ask for your continued support and patience as we work through this legal strike action. We will continue to keep our school communities up to date via our website and social media channels. Please be informed that contacting your teacher through email is still an option for all parents/guardians.

Proposed Changes to French Instruction

The OCDSB is considering changes to the delivery of French language instruction. These changes include:

- Adding English as a subject for 60 minutes per day in Gr. 1 EFI classes.
- Moving to a 50/50 English/French delivery for JK and SK
- Changing math instruction from French to English in Gr. 1, 2, 3.

Feedback may be provided at the scheduled public meetings (Oct. 22, 7pm at Fallingbrook Community E. S. 679 Deancourt cres. Orleans) or by email to chat@ocdsb.ca

OCDSB Speaker Series

The OCDSB speaker series offers free presentations to the community and provides parents and educators access to leading ideas in education. The series is sponsored by the Parent Involvement Committee, and supported through grant funding from the Ministry of Education. There are many exciting and interesting topics being offered this year, please visit the OCDSB website for details about the following presentations:

Parenting your Adolescent and Staying Sane

Understanding Concussions - Recognizing Signs and Symptoms

Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds - Let's Get Physical

LAST WORDS

MY FAVOURITE COLOUR IS OCTOBER

My second favourite colour is **BLUE!** Go! Jays! Go! Way to show your Jays spirit SWC students and staff!

Mark your calendars for our first movie night of the year, Hotel Transylvania will be screaming into the gym on Friday, October 30th at 6pm. Wear your costumes and come have a scare with us!

Visit www.thelunchlady.ca to order from the **Halloweenie** menu served October 28th. Orders will be taken until three days prior to the serving date!

Don't forget to order your **family colour t-shirts and milk program** by going to swc.hotlunches.net (access code WCHL) Don't forget to make your Friday selection.

Did you know we've got a **lice** problem? Be a part of the solution by checking your child's head at a minimum weekly (even if you haven't gotten a letter!) for nits and bugs. Not sure how to do that, contact the school office or visit the Ottawa public health webpage for tips: <http://ottawa.ca/en/residents/public-health>

Do you run a home based business? Sell crafts/art/sewing??? The **SWC Spectacular Spectaculaire** is a craft sale for you! Tables for this December 5th (8:30-12:30) event are for sale for \$25. Please email Naomi for more information or to book a table. elias.naomi@gmail.com

Our **QSP Family Reading Fundraiser** is launching soon! Not only does this campaign help raise much needed funds but it also promotes literacy. It really is a great message to all of our families. Why don't you set aside some time each week and make it your family's Time For Reading (click this [link!](#)).

We know that sometimes it can be difficult to fill your child's lunch bag with healthy and filling snacks, so the **SWC snack program** is back. If you need help with snacks for your child's lunch then please let us know. If you are able to donate to this program so no child goes hungry at SWC then please contact the office.

Do you want to help out? We are still looking for **volunteers** to help out with many different tasks around the schools. Parent involvement in education is one of the biggest predictors of student success. Contact gaynor.kondric@ocdsb.ca to see how you can help out, or email swccouncil@gmail.com.

Congratulations to the new executive office of the **SWC Parent Council**

Chair: Phillip Mansfield

Vice Chair: Naomi Elias

Treasurer Katherine Percival

Secretary: Margaret Sambol

Go Bulldogs!