

# WBES Newsletter

September 30, 2019



## Dates to Remember

Oct. 3 – Orange Shirt Day  
Oct. 9 – Soccer @ WBES  
Oct. 8 – Park Day  
Oct. 10 – Harvest Lunch  
Oct. 15 – Cultural Event  
Oct. 30 – Pumpkin Run Practice  
Oct. 31 – Hallowe'en Dance, Book Fair, & Pumpkin Run

## Please Note...

**If you have any Lego laying around the house that you can part with, we would be happy to take it off your hands for the new Lego wall coming soon.**

## Grade 4/5 Ms. Bragg

Follow the link below for the Grade 4/5 Newsletter

[https://www.smores.com/app/pages/show\\_print/5d787b343386df28aac2d096](https://www.smores.com/app/pages/show_print/5d787b343386df28aac2d096)

## Grade K/1 Mrs. MacDonald & Mrs. Mader

Well hello there! We are doing great in the K/1 class. We are learning routines and rules as well as each other's names. We were a class of 16 but our friend Kendall is heading off to another town and another school. It looks like we may be getting 2 new friends next week though! Happy Birthday to Serena (Sept 11) and to Maddie (Sept 21).

They are still working on our drinking water and so we need water bottles brought to school each Monday. We will send them home before the weekend so that they get a good cleaning.

Thanks to parents that have sent extra clothing. Some of us have been playing hard outside and have needed extra pants or extra socks to put on.

Pre-ordered Hot Lunches are served on Tuesdays and containers with lids really help out our little ones as they often have leftovers. We encourage everyone to keep their leftover food for snacks later or to share with someone at home rather than throw away the food.

There are hot dogs and smokies for sale on Thursdays for \$4 each. Darla comes 1<sup>st</sup> thing after the morning bell to collect \$ and orders. If your child would like one then please have \$ in a labelled baggie or envelope.

Our Terry Fox Run was held today. The K/1 class ran the entire field!

Please return pledge sheets and \$ on Monday September 30. Thank you!

At Home Reading sheets are due October 1<sup>st</sup>.

October 8 is Park Day. Families are welcome to join us at Kettle River Provincial Park for a day of outside activities rain or shine.



## **Grade 2/3**

### **Mrs. Fraser**

In the 2/3 class we are blessed to have a small, caring and energetic learning community. So far, we have focussed on our skills as learners - making wise choices about where to sit to concentrate and accomplish tasks throughout the day. When asked to listen, we know we have to use our whole body. When it is time to listen, we use our minds, hearts and bodies to do our best to take in all that we can. We sit with our core muscles engaged so we can get stronger. When it's work time, we have been working on making good decisions. We are given flexible seating choices in the classroom. Children are gathered on the carpet to be given instruction, but when it is time to work, they can sit wherever they want with whomever they want – unless they show they need my guidance and support. Learning how to find an optimal place to work in is critical for the development of self. Another focus in this class is having time to play. When work is done, children have time to play and work with friends in a hands on way. Bringing the outdoors in and connecting with nature is critical to learning and a sense of happiness, so we have a variety of natural materials to play with plus we have a new mud kitchen outside our door we can play in.

We have been working on improving as writers every day. Each day we have a different writing topic with picture and key word supports. We complete a daily message as a group where we talk about the topic of the day and work to read and edit a group message. Looking to improve our writing with sight words spelled correctly, proper periods and capitals is a goal of this year.

This year, we plan to follow the interests of the students while understanding the importance of the place in which we learn. We will be engaged in different inquiries as the year progresses, where your child will be able to question and explore a variety of topics. If you ever have books, ideas and knowledge to share with us on any of these inquiries, please share them with us. The classroom door is always open for parent involvement and support because your involvement in your child's learning is so critical for their love of learning and progress at school. I will keep you informed of these topics in our planners and in these newsletters.

I plan to be able to screen everyone at each term to see their reading level and mark their progress and I will share that growth with you in report cards. Sometimes, we will read in groups and sometimes it will be more personalized so that I can give individual feedback and support with literacy development. Each day I encourage kids to take home a class book at their level for home and school practice, so I appreciate how sending the book bag each day has already become routine for most of you. I expect every child to bring in a reading log at the end of each month with 20 days of reading with stories that are reading to you.

Learning is fun, this group is creative and I am really loving how positive our start to the school year has been so far, and hope your child has been enjoying it too! Please never hesitate to contact me if you have questions, comments or concerns.

## **Grade 6/7**

### **Mr. Smythe & Mr. Bond**

And we're off! September has blown by us this year in the 6/7 classroom and it's been a busy one. A far chunk of our focus has been on getting students learning gears going, establishing regular routines, expectations and strong work habits – all the while trying to have some fun along the way.

In Science, Mr. Bond has the students exploring the Scientific Method and the many dynamics of movement and force. I'll regularly stop by the class during his Science lessons to see students well engaged in any number of cool, collaborative and action-packed building and exploration activities. In a recent highlight, students created their own version of a remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV) which we subsequently followed up with a live video call with Oceans Networks Canada – a leader in deep sea ROV research off the coast of Vancouver Island. Connecting our class to real world science has been engaging and inspiring for all of us.

Social Studies. We've been learning a lot about each other this past month which has been a lesson in social dynamics itself. The 6/7 age-group presents us with a lot of personal-social change. Our focus in the coming weeks will shift more from Us to the greater world as we begin to look more closely at Current Events. We recently delved into the politics and social circumstances related to climate change by watching a speech delivered by 16-year-old Greta Thunberg to the United Nations. An equally inspiring focus has been on the heroic efforts of Terry Fox and his legacy to support cancer research. Our young students have so much to share with the world and my hopes are that we can offer them some inspiring young role models that might compel them in sharing their own passions and voices.

Math. We've been in full on review mode this month, making sure everyone has kept up on their multiplicative thinking over the summer. We're headed towards more focus on patterns and equations with an eventual small dive into some light algebra. Our class has a strong appetite for Math and we're planning on complementing our hands-on lessons with a healthy dose of old and new math approaches to give our kids a balanced mathematical mindset.

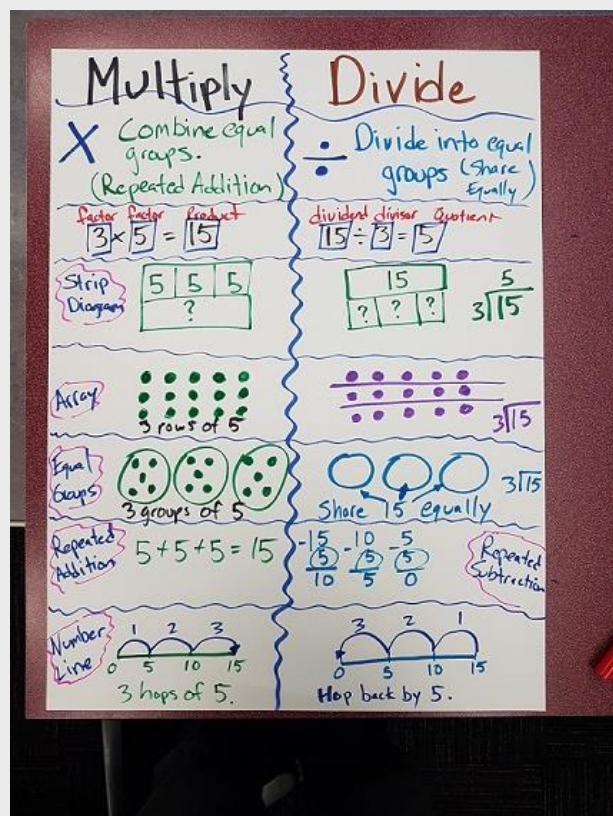
In Language Arts, we're focusing on grammar, summary writing, short answer responses, reading goals/stamina and attentive listening. We've a lot on the go in setting some foundations for the rest of the year. Our current Read-aloud book is entitled Rules, by Cynthia Lord. Check it out - this book is charming and compels students to discover that friendship is found in embracing one another through inclusion, generosity and kind curiosity.

In P.E. and the District, it's soccer season. We've been exploring the fundamentals of passing and dribbling while hoping to complement the efforts of Ms. Braggs' team soccer program. Occasionally we play non-soccer games meant to encourage greater collaboration and strategy. I'm impressed by the level of athleticism, enthusiasm and energy of our class. Though we have P.E. daily, it seems the 6/7s have a ton of energy to burn! Let there be some outdoor educational hikes!

That's all for now though there's is certainly more to tell. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me this year so we can work together to best support your child's learning and social journey.

Kindly,

Mr. Smythe  
Grade 6/7



## PAC News

Welcome back from the WBES PAC!

We hope everyone has transitioned smoothly into our exciting new school year. A special welcome to our new families! If you are interested in learning more about our fabulous Parent Advisory Committee, please don't hesitate to reach out.

The very best way to learn more about us is to join us at our next meeting! We would love to see you in the school library on **Tuesday, October 8th at 4:30**. Children are welcome.

The next best resource for updated PAC information can be found on our facebook page, "West Boundary Elementary School & PAC". We can also be reached by email at [WBESPAC@hotmail.com](mailto:WBESPAC@hotmail.com), or via a message through the school office.

