



365 Blackburn Drive,  
Brantford, ON  
N3T 0G5  
519-770-1288

**Principal**

Clara Anderson

**Office Coordinator**

Marilyn Genery

**Secretary**

Julie Knight

## January 2016 - Newsletter

**Kindergarten Registration** begins January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Grand Erie schools are exciting, enriching places for young learners to receive an education. They learn to explore the world around them, solve problems, and make new friends.

Our Kindergarten programs help students get off to the best possible start. Your child will be challenged and encouraged to do his or her very best.

Our caring teachers are with them every step of the way!

Children eligible for Junior Kindergarten must be 4 years old by December 31, 2016 to enroll.

Contact Walter Gretzky Elementary School at 519-770-1288 or Email: [S-WGES@granderie.ca](mailto:S-WGES@granderie.ca) to arrange a visit to the school and to learn more about what you need to register.

To order your copy of Grand Erie District School Board's *Welcome to Kindergarten Guide*, contact the Principal or visit [granderie.ca](http://granderie.ca) to order a copy or view online.



Thanks to everyone who supported the **food drive** that was organized during the month of December to help those less fortunate in our community. We partnered with the Brantford Food Bank to help donate non-perishable food items to prepare food baskets to families in need. As a school we were able to collect over 600 items. **"Way to Go Griffins!"**



## A Note From Your School's Public Health Nurse...

### Take Small Steps to Better Health

Each New Year brings with it New Year's resolutions and an opportunity to make positive changes in our lives. This year, think about how you can be a positive role model for your child and help them develop healthy attitudes and habits that will last a lifetime.

Focus on being active, eating well and reducing stress.

\* Add physical activity into your daily plans. Make it a family event and let your children choose the activities that they would like to try.

\* Encourage your children to turn off the TV and to head outdoors to play instead.

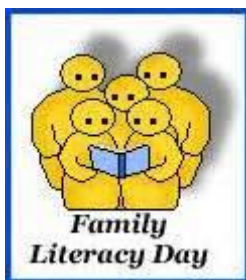
\* Include your kids in planning, shopping for, preparing and serving meals; visit [www.familykitchen.ca](http://www.familykitchen.ca) for tips.

\* Role model positive eating habits by eating meals together as a family. Visit [www.eatrightontario.ca](http://www.eatrightontario.ca) for more tips on creating a positive home eating environment.

\* Learn to recognize your own stress symptoms and find ways to cope with them. Have a positive attitude and it will rub off on those around you.

### Caught'ya Winners – December

- Prabhsidak
- Jenna
- Danika
- Jagjeet
- Ethaniel



**FAMILY LITERACY DAY...**  
JANUARY 27<sup>th</sup>  
More information to follow.

**Volunteers Needed** – We are looking for parents to volunteer one to two hours per week to read with Primary students. If you are able to support our school in this learning opportunity for our students please contact Ms. Laura Dawson at the school.



### Dates to Remember -

- Future Aces Presentation – January 7 – 11:30
- Subway Lunch Order Forms – Due January 8th
- PA Day – January 18
- BCI Grade 8 – January 14
- Tollgate Grade 8 – January 21
- Milk Order Forms for February – Due January 25
- Family Literacy Day – January 27
- Caught'ya Lunch with the Principal – January 27
- M.A.D. Assembly – January 29
- Pizza Day – January 29
- Chinese New Year – February 5
- Pancake Tuesday – February 9 (\$2 donation)
- Family Day – February 16



### Grade 8 Information Nights

Brantford Collegiate Institute and Tollgate Technological Skills Centre are both having information nights for all grade 8 students graduating this year. Please mark this information on your calendar and take advantage of this opportunity to introduce your child to the next level of his/her education.

BCI – January 14<sup>th</sup> (6:15 – 8:30 p.m.)

Tollgate - January 21<sup>st</sup> (6:00 – 7:30 p.m.)

## Chinese New Year



“Year of the Monkey” – We are celebrating this event on February 5<sup>th</sup>. More information to follow as the date approaches.

## Pink Shirt Day

### What is pink shirt day?

In September 2007, a grade nine student in Nova Scotia was bullied on his first day of high school for wearing a pink polo. Two grade twelve students, David Shepherd and Travis Price, heard about the bullying and decided to take action. They went to a nearby discount store and bought 50 pink shirts, including tank tops, to wear to school the next day.



After e-mailing fellow classmates and bringing them on board with their anti-bullying cause, it was dubbed the “sea of pink” campaign. Hundreds of students showed up to school wearing their own pink clothes, and support

began pouring in from around the world, as people took notice of the students’ activism.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>, please wear PINK!!!**

**JOIN US in the anti-bullying campaign.**

Attached you will find an order form to be completed and returned to school no later than January 27<sup>th</sup> if you wish to participate.

## Inclement Weather

Please watch the Board Website if you have questions about a possible school closure. The transportation department will post all delays and school closures by 6:30 a.m. As in all types of weather, please be sure that your child is dressed accordingly.



## Snack Program

In September we began to offer fruit to students that are in need of additional snacks when their tummy’s are still hungry. We are continuing to have this available to all students when needed.

## Reminder from PTA

Due to the time involved in organizing lunch and milk orders we will not be accepting any late orders. Please continue to keep all orders separate when making payments for multiple items. Any over payments will considered a donation to the snack program.

## Electronic Recycling – Grade 8 Yearend Trip

In Spring we will be providing a large bin to collect any electronic items that are no longer of use to you and your family and friends. We will be sending out a notice when this bin becomes available so that you will have a place to dispose of unwanted/broken electronics. We would like to thank you in advance for your support for our grade 8 students and for being responsible in helping keep our landfills free from this waste.





*Supporting Families in Grand Erie*

**We want to know if you're interested in accessing Before- and After-School care at your school.**

*Here's your chance to tell us if a program would meet the needs of your family!*

If enough parents show interest to run a viable program, a third-party provider will coordinate the service at a fee for the 2015-16 school year.

Submit your interest by completing this survey by  
**February 23, 2015.**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GrandErie>

Results for schools will be available after March 30, 2015.

For more information about Before- and After-School Programs and Child Care, visit the Parent Section at [granderie.ca](http://granderie.ca)



