

WALTER GRETZKY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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Principal

Clara Anderson

Vice-Principal

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December 2015 - Newsletter



Character attribute for December is "*Compassion*"



Message from the Principal

Students at Walter Gretzky School are rising to the challenge of being positive leaders and making a difference in their school community. Many students have received Caught-Ya's for helping others, being respectful, and working hard. Many students have shown good sportsmanship on our recent volleyball teams. Next week, we are kicking off the "fill-a-bus" campaign. Students are eager to help others in need. Thank you to the parents who have been supportive from home, by calling the school, and volunteering. We greatly appreciate the family connections here at WGES. You will be seeing your child's progress report card coming home on December 10th. Please note how your child is doing in all areas and have a conversation about their strengths and next steps. Be sure to spend time talking about the important learning skills. Thanks again for your involvement.

Clara Anderson

Caught 'Ya Winners – November

-Sukhamani -Jason -Dylen
-Divjot -Isla

Tassimo Discs

As of December 31st we will no longer be doing T-Disc recycling. The company that has been receiving the discs has notified us that they no longer are recycling this product.

Growing Excellence... Inspiring Success

Dates to Remember

December 2nd & 9th – Zumba
December 3rd & 10th – CrossFit
December 8th – School Council at 6:00PM
December 10 - Progress Reports
December 11 - Christmas Craft and Activities
December 11 - Christmas Lunch (Swiss Chalet)
December 16th - Christmas Concert @ 6:00p.m.
December 19 – January 3 – Christmas Break

Report Card

Progress Report Cards will be sent home December 10, 2015. Please review with your child and add your comments and signature on the last page. Report Card Envelope and last page of report to be returned to the school by December 16, 2015.



Stay Connected with WGES on Social Media

Stay in touch with WGES by following us on Twitter @wggriffins and on Facebook on the WGES School Council page.

Now you can also get news updates on the WGES blog at www.gretzkygriffins.wordpress.com.

See updates and the monthly newsletter on our website at

<http://www.granderie.ca/schools/waltergretzky>

We hope to reduce our use of paper by offering all newsletters electronically.

FILL A BUS – Food Bank Drive

We have many people in our community who struggle with trying to have enough food for their family. We are challenging our school families to fill a bus with food to support our local area during this holiday season. When visiting the school for any reason please bring a non-perishable food item and also when paying for a class trip or lunch and milk program, please send in a food item. If we all work together we can meet the goal to **FILL A BUS**.



Future Aces

The Future Aces is a new leadership group at Walter Gretzky School. We started with 8 students who attended a leadership conference with Mrs. Anderson in November. The focus of the conference was to build leadership skills, teamwork, and provide resources and plans to build character attributes back at the schools. Our team represented Walter Gretzky very well. Now they are ready to promote more leaders in the school and work on projects to build character education with our students. They will be starting by taking on a big role in the Fill-a-Bus campaign. You will be hearing more about Future Aces in the coming months.



Celebrations

A big thank you to all of the parents and staff who contributed their time, talents, and donations to making the Diwali festival a big success. We enjoyed the great food, the songs, and of course the story of Diwali, acted out by the play group. Thank you to Komal Soni for putting the event together. Coming up we have our Christmas celebrations. School Council, parent volunteers, and staff are planning this together to make a memorable Christmas event for students. We will be having a craft and Santa day on December 11th. On December 16th, at 6:00PM, we will have a Christmas Concert in the gym. We will wrap up the events on Friday, December 18th with a hot lunch in the gym. As a school community, we are looking forward to celebrating together. Thanks again for all of the support from our families.

CASH ON-LINE

We are moving forward towards cashless accounting within the Grand Erie District School Board. We have sent home instructions on how to get started so that you can sign up. It is easy and very convenient and you don't need to send cash in to school for items that are listed online. Thanks for your support.

Drinking Water

We are now able to use the drinking water in the filtered filling stations at Walter Gretzky and St. Basil's. The school board has received communication from the Health Unit and the Ministry of the Environment that the testing is complete. The water coolers have been removed and all staff and students are using the filling stations.



Volunteers Wanted!

We would love to have parents and grandparents come out to volunteer in the school. The following opportunities are available.

Library helpers- shelving books, putting books in order
Hot Lunch helpers- handing out pizza and other hot lunches

Reading program- listening to students read, teaching students reading strategies

Volunteering in the school is a great way to get to know students and staff and help your child. A valid, current police check with vulnerable sector is required.

Kelso's Choices

Students in Grades 1-4 are learning about and practising Kelso's Choices over the next few months.

Through class meetings, announcements, posters, and the playground Kelso Wheel, students are being reminded to use one of the choices to solve small problems. For big problems, students are always encouraged to talk to a teacher. Students have been

using this strategy this week and it is helping them to avoid big problems. Thanks for following up by discussing Kelso's Choices at home.



Talk to a teacher.



M.A.D. Award Assemblies

This is to let you know that beginning January we will be having our M.A.D. Assembly at the end of each month. Caught 'Ya lunches resumed in November and the students were very excited to have lunch with Mrs. Anderson.

Poinsettia Sales

Thank you to all who support our poinsettia campaign. Plants will be available for pick up on Wednesday, December 2 from 2 – 4 p.m.

Volunteers needed for December 11th and 18th – If



you are available to help with Christmas Crafts on December 11 and/or on December 18th serving the

Holiday lunch, please send a note with contact information to the school by December 4th so we can make arrangements for both days.

NUT ALERT – MAY CONTAIN

Please be aware of treats that are brought into the school as lunches or to be shared with other students such as birthday cakes, **NO PRODUCT CONTAINING NUTS OR MAY NUTS IS ALLOWED IN THE SCHOOL.** We have many students that have life threatening allergies and for their safety, please refrain from such food items. Thank you for your cooperation for the safety of our students.

Peanut-Free Classroom



Please do not bring any peanuts or products containing peanuts into classroom.



