

Principal's Message

Welcome to December and to a month of Kindness and Caring! As we approach the holidays and time with family, we are reminded of how far we have come with our Winchester Family. In the last three months we have focused on reading achievement by using programs in Primary and Junior classes such as Daily 5, Raconte Moi Les Sons and Je Lis Je Lis, and the Independent Reading Program in our Intermediate Grades -- the idea is for our students to be interested and engaged in reading. In Math we have focused on developing Math Vocabulary, and understanding Math Word Problems across the grades. Way to Go Winchester! Looking forward to the New Year, as the staff continue with monthly check-ins to ensure our students are progress. Have a look through the December Newsletter and learn more about what Winchester is Working on! Happy Holidays -- See you in 2020!

Family Event

Warm-up with Books! A special guest ... an author will be sharing her book!

December 12th 3:15-5pm in the library

- scholastics book fair
- Children's French Bookshop fair
- Toronto public library card sign-up
- MLSE info and sign-up
- Hot chocolate booth
- Music, book readings, book talks

Sports at Winchester

Basketball

The intermediate girls basketball team basketball started out their season strong winning their exhibition game against Spruce Court 49-11. In the tournament they placed first, beating George Webster, Jesse Ketchum and Spruce Court once again. Good luck in the quarter finals girls!

Junior Girls Basketball

The junior team played in a half day tournament, November 19th. They played a strong game against Church Street, winning 22-14. Unfortunately, they lost their second game, which was against Orde Street, ending their season. For more than half the team it was their first time playing basketball. They showed a great attitude and sportsmanship. Well done, Wolverines!

Volleyball

The intermediate boys volleyball team placed 2nd in their rankings tournament losing to Queen Victoria in a nail-biter match. They will be advancing to the quarter-finals.

The grade 5 boys volleyball team has been practicing hard to prepare for their rankings tournament against Palmerston, Oriole Park, and OOOPS on November 27th. Good luck, boys!

EcoClub News

EcoClubbers continue to meet Wednesdays at lunch in room 106 for our working and brainstorming sessions. New this year - Paper-free waste audits! Instead of assessing our fellow Winchester classrooms on paper, you will now see EcoClubbers visiting classrooms with an iPad in hand, logging how successfully classes are sorting their garbage electronically. GOOOO ECO!

Winchester Musical

The Second Annual Winchester Musical is well on its way! Mme Iantomasi and Ms Penman have worked with over 30 Grade 4-6 students over the past several weeks to support the kids in writing their very own musical! The play is now written, casted and ready to rehearse starting next week! Stay tuned for more updates but get excited for the show coming to the Winchester Gym in the New Year!

Winchester Field Trips

MLSE

Room 207 has had the pleasure of attending four MLSE sessions where they took part in activities which related Science, Technology, Math and Engineering to sports. We learned about ecosystems through soccer, coding through football and the design process through basketball. Thanks for being a wonderful community partner MLSE!

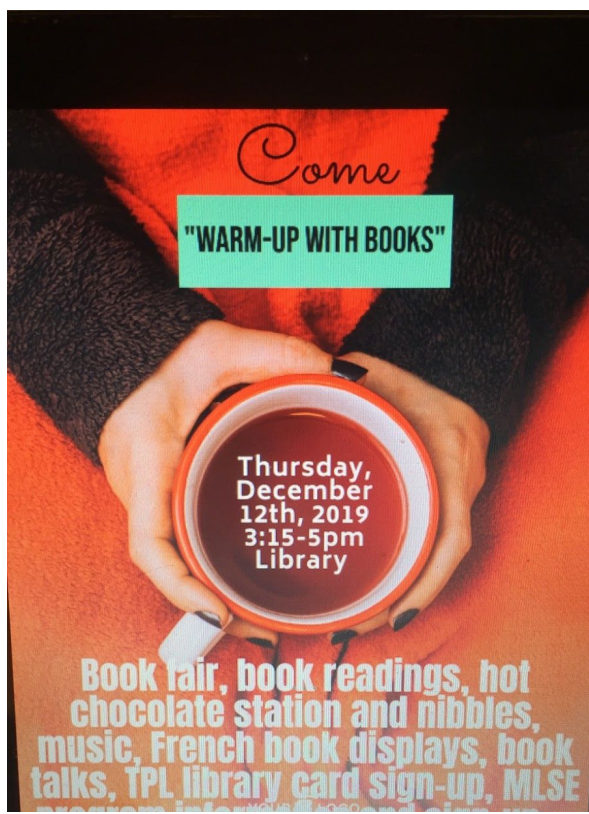
Swim to Survive

Mme. Iantomasi and Mr. Norman's Grade 8 classes are participating in a 3-lesson program at Pam McConnell Aquatic Centre. Students are learning essential swimming and survival skills in the pool with certified lifeguard instructors. So far they've had a blast!

Regent Park Film Festival

Many Winchester classrooms have attended this annual, local event. The films are age-appropriate, community-based and locally made and produced. They also spread very meaningful and positive messages for our students. Thanks, RPFF organizers and parent volunteers for coming along!

Library Corner



Guidance Corner

Dear Gr. 8 families, I would like to remind you that we are still in the exploring stage of the high school selection process. High School Open Houses continue into December and dates have been posted on the Guidance Bulletin Board at school, and there is a link to the dates (plus a whole lot more) on Mr. Long's Guidance Corner: <https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/mr-longs-guidance-corner/home>.

Please remember, students do not need to apply to Home Schools; they are automatically accepted to Regular Program. Should your child wish to attend a Specialized Program or a school that is not a Home School, they will need to apply through Optional Attendance. Students are allowed to apply to a maximum of two Specialized Schools/Programs and two Regular Programs. Optional Attendance forms can be downloaded and printed from Mr. Long's Guidance Corner and they need to be signed by Ms. Tsiotsikas before being delivered to the secondary school. Students are asked to bring their completed Optional Attendance forms to the office and handing

them to Grace. Students can then return to the office the following day to pick up their signed form(s). If you have any questions about the Optional Attendance policy/process, please email me at chris.long@tdsb.on.ca.

Staff Professional Development

Winchester has started off the year with numerous professional development sessions for our staff. We had the pleasure of our Inclusion Coach Robyn Young- Guneratna and French as a Second Language, Program Coordinator, Kirsten Johnston do a session on Inclusive Design and Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Inclusive Design is an anti-oppressive framework. In the TDSB it is an approach to looking at classrooms, schools, and systems by putting students at the centre, with specific attention to marginalized students, to improve access and success. Universal Design for Learning is using teaching and learning strategies that meet the needs of all students. It is designed to help teachers develop curricula that is accessible to all students regardless of ability. This helps teachers consider individual learning needs in a way that allows them to plan one lesson, one curriculum that every student can access at their own level. We are looking forward to continual work with Robyn and Kirsten and implementing these frameworks as part of our school improvement plan.

Student Council News

Student council is back up and running! We are meeting in Room 202 on Thursdays at lunch! Ms. Kopun and Ms. Penman will be helping the students organize a Winter Dance for the Intermediate students and think of activities/bake sales/ school events that will engage ALL of Winchester!

New Ukuleles in the Music Room

Thank you so much to the SAC for their generous support to our Music Program! After ordering 30 soprano ukuleles 2 years ago, we now have added 30 more concert Ukuleles to the program in order to share the Ukulele love between the HB and NB! Thank you for making our dreams come true SAC!

School Advisory Council (SAC)

The SAC is hosting the first movie night of the school year on December 5th at 5:00pm in the school gym. The feature film will be ToyStory4. Admission is \$2 and there will be popcorn, pizza, cookies and baked goods as well as 3 raffle prizes. All proceeds raised will support the SAC and be put directly back into the school. Bring your friends and family for a fun night at the movies!

Interested in joining the SAC? There are lots of committees that can use your help! There are many ways to get involved, from fundraising/event planning to school safety and so much more. Or just sign up to be a voting member of the SAC. All you have to do is come to a meeting and let us know how you'd like to get involved!

The next SAC meeting will take place on January 22, 2020 at 6:30pm in the library.

If you would like to sign up to receive SAC communications, you can do so here <http://eepurl.com/bNqEcr>

Kindness and Caring is the Character Trait for December