



Tiger Tales

ELIZABETH ZIEGLER
PUBLIC SCHOOL

April 2013

**Miss Wilkinson: Principal
Office: 519 742-4402**

**Mrs. Cochrane: Secretary
Mrs. Wilson: Secretary**

Attendance: 519 570-8077 ext.3246

Website: <http://elz.wrdsb.on.ca/>

Planning for September 2013

April is the month school staff begin planning for next year. In a few weeks we will begin organizing classes for September based on our best estimate of the enrolment for the coming year. It is important for us to know the accurate number of students in all grades. If you will be moving or plan to move prior to the start of the next school year please call the office to let us know.

Already, lots of eager 3 and 4 year olds have been registered to start kindergarten in September. Children born in 2009 are eligible for JK and those born in 2008 for SK. Please encourage your neighbours to call the school for information if they have not yet done so.

Elizabeth Ziegler School has limited options for each grade and to add to this complex task, we are bound by hard class caps in the primary division. In order to create heterogeneous classes, we consider the following factors:

- The academic level and learning style of each student;
- The social/emotional level of each student;
- How the child's leadership potential will have an opportunity to develop in the class.

While we attempt to place children with at least one of his/her current friends, we find that children are adaptable and will make friends wherever they are placed. **Our guiding principle is to group children for instructional purposes.** We aim to include positive role models as well as children with special learning needs in each class, while also striving for gender balance. We do our best to ensure that your child's placement will best serve his/her learning needs.

This is not an opportunity to request a specific teacher for your child(ren). Since the staffing process occurs into June, with staff possibly choosing to transfer, we cannot guarantee that specific teachers will be here in September or that they will be teaching the same grade level as this year.

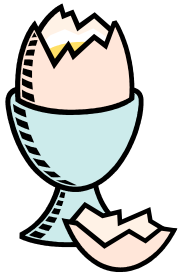
Please trust that we will do the best job of placement we can, because it is important to us that every child has a good chance for success.

Safe, Caring and Inclusive School (SCIS) Survey

Each year, WRDSB students, staff and parents/guardians are asked to complete a survey on their school's climate, i.e. the relationships between students, and between students and staff; teaching and learning environment; school safety and the physical school environment. The purpose of the survey is to determine what can be done to further develop a positive learning environment.

The student survey is for Grade 5 children who will complete it at school.

You are invited to complete the parent survey. A link can be found on the EZ website, <http://elz.wrdsb.on.ca/>. Please note that all responses are confidential.



Healthy Living

Blast Off With Breakfast!

All parents know that breakfast is important, but did you know that kids who eat breakfast:

- may be better able to concentrate and be more creative,
- are less likely to be absent or late,
- tend to be more cooperative,
- get along better with classmates than kids who skip breakfast.

Adapted from *Nutrition Tools for Schools, 2007*. <http://nutritiontoolsforschools.ca>

Healthy Students, Engaged Learners

Saturday, April 13, 2013

Galt Collegiate

200 Water, N. Cambridge

Keynote Speaker: Ronald Morrish - Understanding the Teenage Brain

Register on the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) website: <http://pic.wrdsb.ca>

The workshop and childcare are free of charge!

Treats at School

Birthdays are special at Elizabeth Ziegler. Students have their names read on the announcements, they choose a special pencil at the office and are wished happy birthday by classmates and teachers. If you would like to 'treat' the class, ask your children to help you think of something to share other than food, for example a sticker or a pencil or donate a book to the classroom.

Please refrain from sending food treats at any time for the class unless invited to do so by your child's teacher.



Lessons in Citizenship

Responsible citizenship includes respecting differences in people, and in their ideas and opinions and treating others fairly regardless of differences. The diversity in the Elizabeth Ziegler School community gives lots of opportunities to practice responsible citizenship. As an example, school staff do not bring attention to Mother's Day and Father's Day in order to respect differences in families. We appreciate your partnership in modeling responsible citizenship to EZ students.

School Council Report

Council hosted an event called "Growing Bodies, Open Minds" with Carol Miller (public health nurse). Approximately 20 parents participated in this very informative workshop on talking with your children about sex and sexuality. Handout materials are available in the office if you are interested.

If you have any questions or comments about School Council activities, please contact the chair, Rebecca Guzar at rguzar@yahoo.ca. The next School Council meeting will be held on Thursday, April 25 at 6:30 p.m. All parents are welcome to attend.

Fundraising

The **Dance-a-thon** will be held on April 12. For every \$10 raised students will get a ballot for a bike draw. Students received their pledge collection envelopes last week. Funds from this year's Dance-a-thon will be directed toward the purchase of data projectors and document cameras which we would like to set up in every classroom. Some have been supplied by the School Board, however more are needed.

\$2332 was raised from the sale of **Veseys bulbs**. Thanks to the parent volunteers who organized this event.

Does your child sometimes lose clothing, water bottles and other items? The School Council has an idea that can help! **Mabel's Labels** will customize labels with your child's name. These labels are colourful, indestructible, easy-to-use and fun! Your label purchase raises funds to support Elizabeth Ziegler School.

All labels are dishwasher, microwave, laundry and kid tested, and dispatched directly to you within 24 hours. Visit <http://www.ezps.mabelslabels.com/> to see this great product and to place your order!

In the meantime, ask your children to check the lost and found for items that belong to them.

Words Out

Thank you Faith from 310, and Zoe from 304 for the magazine name *EZ World*. The winning cover was drawn by Hannah from 304. Magazine staff have edited the submitted materials and production will begin this week. We are looking forward to a beautiful finished product.

Internet Safety

Your child's personal information is valuable. Children need to know how to protect themselves when they are using the Internet. Ms Wilkinson met with our grade 5s and 6s to discuss this issue.

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada suggests the following 12 Quick Privacy Tips for Parents:

1. **Talk to your kids** - find out what they are doing on-line
2. **Try it out** - experience the sites they are using
3. **Keep up with the technology** - know how your kids are using mobile and other electronic devices
4. **Make restricting privacy settings a habit** - sit with your kids and review and modify privacy settings on the sites they use
5. **Make password protection a priority** - teach your kids to use passwords and to change them regularly
6. **Emphasize the importance of protecting mobile devices** - have your kids set up password protection
7. **Remind your kids that what they post on the Internet is NOT always private**
8. **Teach your kids to think before they click**
9. **Stress the importance of knowing your real friends** - only 'friend' people you know in real life
10. **Teach your kids that their personal information is valuable**
11. **Let your kids know that you are there if they make a privacy mistake**
12. **Set a good example** - Post only what you would allow your kids to post

For more information: <http://www.youthprivacy.ca/en/teachers.html>

French Exchange Students Visit EZ

In February, 29 high school students on exchange from France spent a day at with Elizabeth Ziegler's French Immersion students. Following a pancake breakfast that featured maple syrup, our visitors were given a whirlwind tour of Canada - presentations on the provinces, the Calgary Stampede, the Quebec Winter Carnival and First Nations culture. Later, they played hockey in the gym.

Presentation on Space

Andrew Rader, aerospace engineer and recent winner of Discovery Channel's 'Canada's Greatest Know-it-all', was at EZ to talk about the Solar System and the possibility of life on other planets. There were lots of great questions from the student audience, such as 'What are aliens made of?' 'How would humans colonize Mars?'



Science Fair Coming Soon!

The Science Fair will be held at Elizabeth Ziegler all day and the evening of Thursday, May 16. This non-competitive event is an opportunity for students to pose a scientific question, explore answers and share information with fellow students and parents. This 'at-home' project is open to all students and can be a 'family' project, where everyone helps. Permission forms will be available soon.

Brain Day

On April 5, a representative from the KW Brain Association will talk to students about brain injury and concussion. Brain Day is sponsored by Parachute (formerly Safe Communities Canada, Safe Kids Canada, SMARTRISK, and ThinkFirst Canada.)

Elizabeth Ziegler Calendar of Events

Apr. 12	Dance-a-thon
Apr. 19	PD Day - no school
Apr. 22	Earth Day
Apr. 25 6:30 pm	School Council
May 2, 3	Spring photos
May 6	Music Monday
May 9	Jump Rope Demonstration
May 16	Science Fair
May 17	Jump Rope for Heart
May 23 6:30 pm	School Council
May 31	PD Day - no school

Community News

Financial Assistance for Waterloo and Kitchener Programs

Fee assistance is available for local children and adults who would like to participate in City programmes but who may not have the financial means to do so. For information and an application form check the following websites:

http://www.waterloo.ca/en/contentresources/resources/gettingactive/fee_assistance_2012.pdf

http://www.kitchener.ca/en/livinginkitchener/resources/LAC_ApplicationBrochure_2013_lo.pdf

The Canadian Mental Health Association Presents:

Valerie Pringle, media icon and a mother supporting her daughter who lives with mental health challenges.

May 8, 7 pm at Bingeman Park Ballroom. For more information please call: 1 866-448-1603 x 371.

Waterloo Region Family Network wants you to know you don't have to navigate the world of disability alone.

For information see www.wrfn.info or call 519 804-1786.

You're Invited...Foster Parent Information Night!

There are children in your community who need a safe home. Find out how you can help a child.

To register: 519.576.0540 or www.fosteringkids.ca



Waterloo Region
District School Board