



Tiger Tales

ELIZABETH ZIEGLER
PUBLIC SCHOOL

May 2013

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From the Principal:

As many of you already know, I will be leaving Elizabeth Ziegler Public School at the end of June to take the position of Principal at Empire Public School in Waterloo. I am leaving with an excitement for a new challenge in my career but also with a significant sadness to leave a place that I love and people who have become such a part of my life.

Your support has allowed me to fulfill my desire to build a true learning community. Thank you for being engaged parent partners. Your children are respectful and diligent students that value learning. You have instilled in them such wonderful strength of character that we all enjoy in them every day.

I appreciate the EZ staff. They work so well as a team. I admire this group of collaborative and dedicated professionals.

What an honour it has been for me over these past 7 years to work alongside the students, parents and staff here at Elizabeth Ziegler in the pursuit of quality learning!

K. Wilkinson

Looking Forward to the New School Year

In September, Ms Lynne Green will be our new Principal. Ms Green comes to us from Forest Glen P.S. Ms. Lori Peebles, from Glencairn P.S., will be our Vice Principal. Mr. Scott Weldon, from Central P.S. will join the kindergarten team and Mme J. Struck will return to the classroom from maternity leave.

New communication tools for the Elizabeth Ziegler Community

Please take a moment to visit our new website at <http://elz.wrdsb.ca/> and save it on your 'favourites'. This site features a month-by-month calendar of events and includes lots of information about the school and what's happening.

In September we will invite parents to enroll in *School-Day* an on-line system that will communicate school and class events and allow you to give permission and pay on-line for field trips. Please watch for information in September.

Summer Construction

In September you will see some changes inside the school. In order to accommodate Full Day Kindergarten, construction will take place in the kindergarten wing and in the basement. We expect to have everything ready to go for the first day of school.

Lots of wonderful equipment and materials have been ordered for the kindergarten classrooms and data projectors along with document cameras will be standard equipment in every classroom. Thank you School Council for purchasing IT for EZ.

FDK: Play Based Learning

If you have children attending junior or senior kindergarten in September we encourage you to attend the kindergarten information meeting on June 13 at 6:30 pm in the school library. We hope you have enjoyed the FDK newsletters you recently received.



EQAO Provincial Testing

Each year, Ontario students in grades 3 and 6 write an EQAO test. Each completed test is a 'snapshot' of what students have learned at the time they take the test. The Ministry of Education uses these 'snapshots' to determine the quality of publicly funded education in Ontario and to establish guidelines for improvement.

EQAO data has shown that in elementary schools where a high percentage of students are achieving the provincial standard, principals and teachers apply the following practices:

- They communicate often with parents and give lots of opportunities for parent involvement.
- They use tools that create a learning climate through the development of respect, cooperation and pride.
- They set goals to improve learning opportunities and consistently meet those goals.

At Elizabeth Ziegler School, staff members apply the above practices because we desire to see our students achieve their learning potential.

Our grade three students will write the primary EQAO test on May 28, 29 and 30 and our grade six students will write the junior EQAO test on June 4, 5 and 6.



Skipping - the new EZ Craze!

Friday, May 17 was a great day for EZ students and for the *Heart and Stroke Foundation*.

Students took part in different skipping activities around the school yard, getting their passports stamped at all 16 stations. Thank you Mr. Day and members of the Student Athletic Council for your part in organizing Jump Rope for Heart and for encouraging us all to keep our hearts healthy.

Track and Field

The EZ Track and Field Meet will be held on Friday, May 24. Students 10 and older and anyone who turned nine by May 1, 2013 will participate. It will be a full day of activities, so please remember sunscreen, a hat and send lots of water. The Meet's rain date is Monday, May 27. The County Track Meet will be held at Seagram Stadium, WLU, on Wednesday, June 19.

Science Fair

It's great to see the community come out to support the curious scientists in our school and it is truly amazing to see what questions get asked and answered. 139 students displayed their work. Almost all areas of science were presented, for example: biology, chemistry, physics, and paleontology. Way to go EZ scientists!

Strong Start®

Thanks to the support from community volunteers, we are fortunate to offer the Strong Start® Program for children aged 5 to 7. Each trained volunteer, working with one child at a time, uses activities to help children learn the names of letters, a sound each represents and some initial words in print. It's wonderful to see the gains a child makes in only 10 weeks.

This program is offered to us by the Strong Start® Charitable Foundation which is funded through donations from individuals, businesses, foundations and community groups. You can read more about Strong Start® on its website: <http://www.strongstart.ca/>

School Council Report

We are very pleased to report that we have raised enough money this year to purchase IT equipment for 18 classrooms. Thank you, parents and children for your support and hard work.

At the end of this month, the new playground equipment will be installed.

In celebration of Earth Day, a tree, donated by *Hybrid Hair and Detox Spa*, was planted in the school yard.

We can hardly wait to see *EZ World*, when it comes off the presses. The *Words Out* committee and volunteers are working with student magazine editors to create a product you and your family will treasure. A Ministry of Education grant will help with Publication costs so we can keep the purchase price to a minimum. Please be sure to complete and submit the order form by Tuesday, May 28 so you don't miss out.

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, May 23 at 6:30 p.m. All parents are welcome to attend.

Elizabeth Ziegler Calendar of Events

May 23 9:15 am	Eastwood Drama presentation: <i>Fairytales with a Twist</i>
May 23 6:30 pm	School Council
May 24	School Track and Field (Rain Date: May 27)
May 28, 29, 30	Grade 3 EQAO
May 31	PA Day - no school
June 4, 5, 6	Grade 6 EQAO
June 13 6:30 pm	Full Day Kindergarten Information Session
June 14	All library books must be returned
June 19	County Track Meet
June 21	Used Book Sale. All books under \$1
June 24	Reports sent home
June 26 9:30 am	Grade 6 Graduation
June 27	Last Day Assembly
Sept. 3	First Day of School

What's in my Lunch Bag?

From *Nutrition Tools for Schools*

When you pack your children's lunches, keep the following tips in mind:

- Involve your child in the planning and preparation.
 - Use Canada's Food Guide to discuss 'good' choices
 - shop together
 - bake desserts together
- Avoid pop! Take time to see what healthy juices are available at the grocery store.
- Every day, send water in a refillable container.



Community News

FREE MONEY. FOR YOUR KIDS. YES, REALLY.

The Region of Waterloo is hosting a Canada Learning Bond (CLB) registration event on May 30, 10:30-3 at 99 Regina St. S. The Canada Learning Bond (CLB) is a high impact 'first step' to breaking the cycle of poverty. It is up to \$2,000 from the Government of Canada for any child born on or after January 1, 2004 who is eligible for National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS). All Ontario Works recipients with children born after January 1, 2004 would be eligible for these funds.

For more information, contact: Martha Wolf mwolf@regionofwaterloo.ca or call 519 883-2424.

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

Children's Mental Health - Let's talk about it

It's healthy to reach out to your community resources when you need support for your family. *Parents for Children's Mental Health of Waterloo Region* have created a website with helpful information for parents. <http://kidslinkcares.com/mentalhealth/>

The Laurier String Academy invites you to an Open House on Saturday, June 8 from 10 am to 3 pm at WLU Keffer Chapel. For more information visit <http://www.wlu.ca/music> .

