




Thursday January 8.....	French Immersion Registration begins
Friday, January 23.....	Dental Screening
Friday, January 23.....	Hot Dog Day - Build-a-School Fundraiser
Friday, January 23.....	Rock Star/Celebrity Day
Friday, January 30.....	PD Day (school closed)
Saturday, January 31.....	French Immersion Registration closes
Monday, February 2.....	Junior Kindergarten Registration begins
Monday, February 2.....	Sandhills School Council 6:30 in the Library
Tuesday, February 3.....	Indiana Basketball Tournament (3 – 5 p.m.)
Thursday, February 5.....	Indiana Basketball Tournament (3 – 5 p.m.)
Monday, February 16.....	Family Day (school closed)
Friday, February 20.....	Report Cards go home

### Principal's Message

Happy New Year and welcome back to all of our families in the Sandhills School community!

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and let you know how much I have enjoyed my first two weeks as Principal at Sandhills! I have been an administrator in the Waterloo Region District School Board for the last 5 years as Vice-Principal at Baden P.S. and Westheights P.S. Prior to that, I was a teacher in the Halton Board for 5 years and in the Waterloo Board for 8 years.

I already feel very much at home in the Sandhills community, as I have enjoyed a very warm welcome from staff, students and parents. It has been a pleasure beginning to get to know our amazing Sandhills Suns students and meeting many parents; I invite you to stop in and say hello when you visit the school and encourage you to attend upcoming School Council meetings.

Please continue to check the website for regular updates, or you may choose to subscribe to the website and receive regular emails whenever the website is updated. We will also be using

Twitter as a communication and engagement tool, tweeting out important information, events, and photos via our new Twitter feed found on our website, using the handle @shlwrdsb.

I'm looking forward to an exciting year at Sandhills - learning alongside staff and students and developing a collaborative partnership between the school and its families.

Sincerely,  
Silvana Hoxha, Principal

### Sandhills Hours for 2015

**Playground Supervision 8:20 – 8:35 a.m.**

**School Day Begins: 8:35 a.m.**

**First Nutrition Break: 10:35 – 11:15 a.m.**

**Second Nutrition Break: 1:15– 1:55 p.m.**

**School Day Ends: 2:55 p.m.**



## Thank You!

As always, our Sandhills School Council is busy working their magic! Students and staff would like to send out a giant THANK YOU for all they do! Your School Council has assisted in subsidizing off campus costs. Students have enjoyed field trips to sites such as Crawford Lake Conservation Area. Thank you Sandhills School Council for your ongoing generosity!



## Strong Start Volunteers Needed

The strength of our school relies on the cooperative efforts of many. There are many ways in which parents can support students within the classroom and at home.



Sandhills runs a very effective and very helpful program for our youngest readers called Strong Start. Funded by the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation, Strong Start consists of 4 strands of reading for a child to work through. We have recruited a dedicated team of parent volunteers who work with students on a regular basis giving them that extra help they need to reach their reading potential. This is a rewarding experience for those who volunteer as they can quickly see how their time and commitment truly make a difference a child's life. If you are interested, please contact Amber Artinger at [artinger@live.ca](mailto:artinger@live.ca)

## French Immersion Registration

This is a reminder that registration for the Grade 1 French Immersion program for the 2015 - 2016 school year began on **Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup>** and will continue until **Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>**. Registrations received by January 31st will be used to create the Grade 1 classes for the French Immersion program for 2015-2016.

Interested families may register for the program at the Waterloo Region District School Board website: [www.wrdsb.ca/french](http://www.wrdsb.ca/french).

Students who register after January 31, 2015 will be placed in classes where space is available or be placed on a waiting list.

For the 2015-2016 school year, students will be placed in classes through the following process:

- Registrants who have a sibling registered in the French Immersion program will be given preference until **Saturday, January 31, 2015**.
- Registrants who live within the geographical boundary of the school, and have been registered prior to **January 31, 2015**, will be placed next. If the number of residential boundary registrants exceeds the number of spaces available in the program (20 per class), and all students with older siblings currently enrolled in the French Immersion program are placed, a lottery system will be used to determine acceptance into the program.
- If space is available, students registered by **January 31, 2015** from out of boundary will be placed in the program via lottery.
- Any registrations received after **January 31, 2015** will be placed in available classes or on waiting lists in the order they register, regardless of residency.
- Efforts will be made to accommodate as many waiting list students as possible.

A letter from the French Immersion school will be sent in **March, 2015** to inform all families of children who registered for the program about the status of their enrollment.

If you have any additional questions or require more information about the French Immersion program or the registration process, please call 519-570-0003 extension 4277.

## Calling All 3 Year Olds



If you have a 3 year old at home who was born in 2011, this child is eligible to attend Junior

Kindergarten at Sandhills Public School in September 2015.

If your child was born in 2010 and is **NOT** currently attending school, you may also register your child.

Registration will take place during the week of Monday February 2 to 6<sup>th</sup>.

**You are invited to the school to fill out the forms or you may visit the Sandhills website to download the Kindergarten Information Package and complete the forms at home.**

You will need to provide your child's Proof of Birth such as a Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Statement of Live Birth or Canadian Passport.

If your child was born outside of Canada, you are required to bring one of following documents: Canadian Passport, Certificate of Canadian Citizenship, Confirmation of Permanent Residence, Certificate of Indian Status Card or Letter of Admission assigned by the WRDSB enrolment officer.

You will also need to provide a Proof of Address such as Lease/Rental agreement, Real Estate document, or Utility bill.

Health and Immunization information may be forwarded to Waterloo Region Public Health website at:

<https://e-immunization.regionofwaterloo.ca/>.

If you have any questions, please call the school at 519-744-4430.

## In the Library

The most wonderful time of the year is here...the new Blue Spruce and Silver Birch books have arrived! Registration for the Forest of Reading program is about to begin and your children will be lined up for a chance to be the first to crack open these very popular books!



Over the next 3 and a half months, your child will join thousands of kids throughout the province read select stories written for them by Canadian authors. Then in



April, they will get the chance to vote for their favourite and help choose the winners from one of the following categories: Blue Spruce, Silver Birch Express, Silver Birch Fiction and Silver Birch Non-Fiction. A minimum of 5 books must be read to qualify for voting.

Blue Spruce books are beautiful pictures books that will be read to primary students by their teachers. Children in grades 4 to 6 will register to read Silver Birch books. Look for the flyer coming home soon with your child.

## Keep in Touch

Be sure you keep in touch with Sandhills. From club activities to special presentations to science experiments...there's always something going on and you don't want to miss it!

Follow us on twitter: @shlwrdsb and on Instagram: @sandhillsp.



And don't forget to register for School-Day. School-Day can be accessed from any web browser/smartphone/tablet and gives you real-time access to up-to-date school and classroom information. School-Day uses include:

- complete instant online payments
- approve permission forms instantly online
- register your child for extracurricular events, and sign up for parent/teacher interviews.

In addition, consider subscribing to our website [shl.wrdsb.ca](http://shl.wrdsb.ca) to receive regular updates.

