

Principal's Report for School Council

(Wednesday, November 28th, 2018)

Territorial acknowledgement – Jodie 2 min

Reminder Ongoing Fundraisers (no cost to you but still benefits the school)

Cobs Bread

When making any purchase at Cobs Bread at the boardwalk, tell them that you're a westvale school parent or student and **10%** of your purchase will be donated to the school. This is only available to Westvale School families. Please do not share this promotion

Gift Card Sales

Purchase your holidays through www.fundscript.com using our school code B96PEC and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to the school. You pay face value for the gift cards, but the school still benefits! Amazing! Tell your friends!

Mabel's Labels

Order custom labels from mabelslabels.com and select Westvale Public School from the "support a fundraiser menu and the school will receive **20%** of your sale. Tell your friends!

Wellness Workshops – Kristy 15 min

- School council has an interest in providing free seminars to our parents, snacks and childcare will be provided.
- Kristy works for Carizon family and community services geared to promoting family's overall wellness.
- Carizon Community team would be available to come **free of charge** and offer the following service
 - 1-2 hours in length
 - Suggested topics, building resiliency, mindfulness, supporting kids with anxiety, screen time and social media, bullying, saying no with confidence, sleep and morning routines, self-care... see www.carizon.ca
 - Other suggestions are welcome
- KW counselling has 2 options they can offer:
 - Parenting Now – online resource which connects people with experienced parents who will respond to questions and provide advise free of charge. www.parentingnow.ca
 - Onsite Workshop – condensed workshops on the Parenting with passion series (free of charge). Full workshops in the same series would be \$430 for course

materials and complete workshop (2-4 hours). Perhaps Parent Involvement Grant could cover this cost? What are your thoughts?

- For a list of workshops, we could bring to Westvale see:
<https://www.kwcounselling.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Fall-2018-Parenting-With-Passion-Schedule.pdf>
- Elizabeth will review the parent survey as there were many suggestions on topics parents asked Council to explore.
- Kristy will ask KW Counselling how other communities have advertised for these events to ensure that we're giving everyone the opportunity to be involved.
- We'd love to hear which courses you would be interested in. Please contact us at westvaleschoolcouncil@gmail.com

Family Fun Night Update – Tanya and Krista 10 min

- November 16th family fun night was a success (despite the weather).
- \$2173.75 was earned to support the purchase of spirit wear for all the students. Thank you to **Bobbie Joe** for gathering most of the auction items and **Naeem** for organizing everything.
- Thanks to **Complex Rooms** (www.complexrooms.com) for donating their interactive game and time.
- Thanks to **Michelle P-W** for volunteering her DJ Services and endless enthusiasm.
- Thank you to everyone who donated snacks.
- And a BIG **THANK YOU to everyone** who participated and made the night a success!

School council would love to extend an invitation for staff and faculty to attend school events as valued members of the community. We'll ensure to communicate with staff and faculty prior to future events.

Fundraising initiative (Spirit Wear) – Tonya 10 min

- M-W Wear is a local company who was able to fill our order at a discounted rate. (\$3535.76). Stephanie sized every child in the school on her own! Thank you, Stephanie! She tried to ensure to go a size up where it was reasonable, and to ensure that if there were multiple kids in the family that they had varied sizes where possible.
- The children are very excited and are asking daily when the t-shirts are available, and they were delivered to the school TODAY!
- T-Shirts will be handed out next Spirit assembly (December 7th).
- We'll send out reminders before all school assemblies, so children can wear them again.

Parent Involvement Grant – Jodie 10 min

- School council has received a grant of \$500 from the board to apply towards parent involvement. We'd love to hear your ideas on how best to spend these funds! Contact westvaleschoolcouncil@gmail.com

Principal's Report – Jodie 10 min

Our November "Month of Giving" has been well supported by the school community. We've collected many items for the Bridges Shelter in Cambridge and even got a "shout out" on their Facebook page. Many non-perishable food items have also been brought in for the Food Bank. This has been a great initiative for our students as it aligns with our monthly theme of Empathy, which was highlighted at our November 2nd Westvale Way assembly.

Preparations for the musical, Jingle Bell Jukebox Part 2 "The Flipside" are well under way under the direction of Mrs. Morley. The musical is going to be performed on December 12th during 2 showings (one in the morning and one midday). More information will be sent out around showtimes on School Day. This a wonderful opportunity for our students!

We did some neat staff learning on our November 16th PD Day to continue our staff and student learning journey around Indigenous culture and history. We are now reading a territorial acknowledgement every morning and we even have some new versions of O Canada that we're playing, one of which is sung in a variety of Indigenous languages. On November 16th our staff was fortunate to be able to welcome our Equity and Inclusion office with an Indigenous focus and 2 consultants from the Board to come and do a "blanket exercise" with us. In a nutshell, this was an interactive intellectual and emotional activity that walked us through the history that doesn't tend to get taught. Blankets on the floor represented North America and we were Indigenous peoples. We were walked through pre-contact, initial contact, treaty formation, colonization and resistance. It was an eye-opening way to learn about aspects of our shared history and was a huge learning opportunity for most of us. Following the "walk through" exercise, we did a circle "de-brief" where we each had a turn to talk about how we were impacted and what our thoughts and feelings were. I am positive that this learning will trickle from staff into our classrooms, where we can continue to raise student awareness of Indigenous history.

Students and staff alike are very excited about the School Council supported "t-shirt" initiative. The plan is to have the entire school wear their school t-shirt for the first time at our Dec. 7th Westvale Way Assembly. I truly believe this will be an initiative that will help to reinforce and encourage a keen sense of community and belonging at our school. Hats off and thank you to Council for this idea. And a special thank you to Stephanie Evans who spent an entire day with us last week sizing every student in the school and to Tonya Veltman and Krista Luft who have invested a lot of time into getting quotes, meeting with sales people and finalizing the deal!

Our creative playgrounds (both new and old) have been closed for student use during our school day. This happens every winter (at all schools) and is rooted in keeping students safe (when ground freezes, falls become even more dangerous, students start to wear “clunky” winter boots which are slippery for climbing when wet with snow. Students are used to the winter routine of the playgrounds being closed and are generally very good at finding other things to do out on the yard for fun. Also, there was a moving “gizmo” piece on one of the accessible pieces of equipment on the new playground which was vandalized and broken (warranty only covers the playground for the first year). The school ordered and paid for a replacement piece but we’re going to wait until spring to install it.

Teacher’s Report

- Oct. 31 – Hallowe’en Spectacularall classes have the opportunity to go to the gym and take part in the activities run by the PALS
- Nov. 2 – Westvale Way Assembly – Theme of the month Empathy
- Nov. 8 – Bus Evacuation Training
- Nov. 13 – Picture Re-take Day
- Nov. 15 – Caribou Math Contest #2
- Nov. 15/16 – Teacher/parent interviews
- Nov 15 -21 - Book Fair, brought in \$969.44 with the \$440 that was brought in during our June 2018 Book Fair, we will be using the money to purchase a projector for the library and more books
- Nov. 27 - Rm 18 to Camp Heidelberg
- Dec. 4 - JK and SK Vision Screening
- Dec. 5 - Students vs. Teachers Volleyball Game
- Dec. 6 - Grade 6’s to the Warplane Museum
- Dec. 10 – 12 -- Musical Rehearsal and Performance
- Dec. 17 - Grade 6 Fl’s at Toronto Science Center

Treasurer’s Report

- \$99.78 for turkey trot \$99.44 for spring bulbs for the front garden has come out of the account. Spirit Wear will leave the account shortly.
- Available funds are \$1691.40 after previous commitments are withdrawn.

Fundraising opportunities - Suggestions:

- **Cook Book** with recipes submitted by the fundraising community. Printed by a professional company. Elizabeth will investigate printing cost and profit.
- **Big Box of Cards**. Boxes has 33 high quality cards with no repeats. Decision required by Feb 14. Cost per box is \$33 and we would earn \$11. Each child would be sent home with a demo box, but the family is not required to purchase them (when you see them you’ll want them). We had

a look at the demo box we have at the school. Will vote on the January 23rd Meeting. Ruth is very enthusiastic about this idea!

- **Chocolates for Easter (Rheo Thompson)**. Stephanie will investigate for January 23rd Meeting.
- **Stemmlers pepperettes** (Laura will investigate for January 23rd meeting)
- **Boston Pizza Night** – although it's a fun night we generally only bring in only \$100/\$200, and therefore we will not explore this option.

Next Meeting Dates – 6:30-8:00 (Childcare is always provided)

January 23rd Snacks – Corinna, Kristy

February 27th Snacks – Laura G

April 24th - Snacks - Bobbie Joe

June 12th Snacks - Tammy H