From the Desk of Mr. Peck

The days are getting longer, and the average daily temperatures are slowly rising. We could certainly use a little more sun, but Spring is definitely on its way. Although the weather may be improving, the political climate with respect to teachers and the Ontario government is not. Even though extra-curricular activities will not be resuming at this time, teachers are effectively working their way through the curriculum, teaching your child, and available and willing to discuss your child’s progress. As a principal, I do feel caught in the middle. I know Mrs. Golding feels the same way. We appreciate your patience and support this year. Our goal is to help teachers teach with excellence, despite the political climate. We believe they are doing just that.

If you have a chance to get away for the March Break, I wish you a safe and relaxing time. If not, I hope you can enjoy a few days of slightly more relaxed morning schedules, and evenings without homework. We’ll see everyone on Monday, March 18th.

Parking and Drop Off

Please remember to not park anywhere in the drop off zone. Please pull up as far as possible to avoid creating a backup into the street. The by-law enforcement officers are visiting our school regularly. Tickets for parking in the fire route areas are in excess of $300. Please follow all signage and instructions to help keep our school as safe as possible. If you have suggestions to improve the parking and drop off procedures, please drop by the office and speak to the principal or vice-principal.

Magazine Fundraiser

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR QSP MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER!**

Even though our main fundraising campaign is over, you can still support our school by purchasing or renewing magazine subscriptions on line at [www.QSP.ca](http://www.QSP.ca)

Each subscription that we sell continues to bring profit to our school. This can be done all year long, so if you have any additional magazines expiring soon or just forgot to order a favorite one, you may still do so and support our school! Remember if you renew with the publishers directly, the school does NOT receive profits. Please DO NOT renew with the publishers. Thank you.

If you ever have any questions about your subscriptions, please call QSP Customer Service at 1-800-667-2536
Extra-curricular Activities at W. H. Day and at all Ontario Public Schools

With respect to extra-curricular activities, Ontario remains status quo. The Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario gave that direction to its members last week. This means that the Grade 8 trip to Quebec City is cancelled. Parents of grade 8 students will have already received information about that. Although the principal and the vice principal are not in the teachers’ union, it is not possible for them to take over the many extra activities which normally occur. Thank you for your patience.

Kindergarten Registration

If you have a child who will be 4 years old by December 31, 2013, then they are eligible to register for their first year of kindergarten. Please call the school to arrange an appointment for registration. Remember: W. H. Day is a Full Day Kindergarten site.

Information for Grade 8 Parents Regarding High School

As students progress from elementary school to secondary school, important personal student information is shared which eases each student’s transition to secondary school. Sharing this information also improves our ability to program effectively to benefit all students. Select student information will be shared at different times as appropriate. The collection and use of personal student information for such purposes is authorized under sections 170, 171, 190 Part X and Part XIII of the Education Act. Please note that all information used for the transition process is limited, secure and protected at all times. Please contact Paula Murphy, Superintendent of Education for this area, if you would like more information about the transition process at W. H. Day Elementary School.

YMCA Childcare

The YMCA Childcare Centre connected to our school has space for your child if you are looking for before and after school care, or care throughout the day. Please contact them at 905 778 2072 if you are interested.

“Snow Days”

When school busing is cancelled due to weather, most bussed students do not attend, and some other parents elect to keep their children at home too. Attendance can vary significantly. Please understand that although “schools remain open for learning”, when only a few students are present, or if half a class is missing, learning will occur, but the day may not be a “normal” school day. Thank you for your understanding.

Important Upcoming Dates

March 11 to 15    March Break
March 18 to 22    Off-ice curling lessons in our gym for grade 1 to 6
March 20 to 22    Dental Clinic for JK, SK, grade 2 and grade 8 students
April 3           School Council Meeting at 7:00 pm in our library