From the Desk of Mrs. Golding

We have only 3 months of school left and I anticipate that it will go by very quickly! As we enter April and anticipate the return of more temperate weather, we look forward to our preparation for next year. We are excited to be one of ten host schools in Simcoe County for the new French Immersion program. W.H. Day was granted two grade one classes as the Board phases in the program to all grades. We will continue to run the extended French program from grades 5-8 and are looking forward to the addition of French Immersion to our school community.

Despite the temporary hold on extra-curricular activities, staff and students at W.H Day have been busy working and learning. Over the past month, many of our staff have been involved in professional learning opportunities and collaborative groups. As Mr. Peck and I walk through classrooms, it is obvious that there are many exciting learning activities taking place and the students appear to be highly engaged in this excitement.

We appreciate your patience this year and it appears that things will resume to “normal” in the very near future.

Lastly, I would just like to provide a reminder of the procedures that are in place for student entry and dismissal. Although it is sometimes unavoidable, please make every effort to maintain a schedule where you drop off and pick up your child during our regular entry and dismissal times (8:55 and 3:15). Frequent late arrivals and early picks-ups can be disruptive to classroom activities. Yard supervision occurs between 8:40 and 8:55 am.

Any time you are visiting the school, it is a requirement that you stop into the office to indicate the purpose of your visit, sign in and get a visitor’s tag. Parents are often in the school to volunteer, pick up a child for an appointment or meet with staff. It is important that we are aware of who is in the school in case of emergency procedures (such as fire or lockdown) as well as to maintain general school order and safety. Although we welcome parents to our school and they are an integral part of our school community, it is also important that parents do not spend unnecessary time in the school hallways during entrance or dismissal times. Our teachers do not wish to appear rude; however, they don’t really have time to talk to parents when supervising students during entrance and dismissal. School procedures for entry and dismissal are in place, not only to minimize classroom disruptions, but also for the safety of all of our students. We are constantly striving to work with families to make our school a safe and exciting learning environment and we appreciate your support in this area.
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.

EQAO Testing

Grade 3 and Grade 6 students across Ontario, and specifically at W. H. Day, will be writing EQAO tests from May 27 to June 6. If your child is in grade 3 or 6, please plan ahead if possible and be sure your child is present at school each day. There are five one hour tests focused on literacy and numeracy. We want the good teaching that is happening here to be reflected in our test results. Students need to be present and alert, well-fed and ready to shine.

Extra-curricular Activities at W. H. Day and at all Ontario Public Schools

The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario recently announced they would suspend their advice regarding voluntary and extra-curricular activities. This may change the landscape with regards to extra-curricular activities at W. H. Day. However, changes may be slow and, at the present time in Ontario, voluntary activities are voluntary, and by definition, not mandated. Each teacher’s response to this change will be different.

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.

School Council Meeting

We are meeting for our regularly scheduled School Council Meeting on Wednesday, April 3rd at 7:00 pm in our library. All parents are welcome to attend.

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.

Important Upcoming Dates

April 3  School Council Meeting in the Library at 7:00 PM
April 12 Movie Night in our Gym – stay posted for the flyer coming home soon
April 16  Lockdown Practice with Police