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June Newsletter

EQAO TESTING

This week students in Grade 6 are working on EQAO assessments. For an hour each day students are working on reading and writing activities which allow them to expand their learning and also demonstrate the depth of their learning.

They are also spending an hour on three of those days working on the mathematics assessment as well.

Students are provided with nutritious snacks and water to assist them in maintaining their energy levels and clear thinking. All of our students are given extra time to complete the assessments as required. They are all handling this week's activities very well.

Well done boys and girls!



Important Dates:

- ☺ EQAO Testing May 31—June 8
- ☺ Queen's Sports Day June 9th—Kingston
- ☺ Science Centre—Elementary students June 14th—Toronto
- ☺ Air Force Museum—Grade 6 June 15th—Trenton
- ☺ Leaver's Party June 17—RES BBQ
- ☺ Grade 9 Exams June 21- 24
- ☺ Kiwanis Club ice cream June 21st
- ☺ Recognition Day June 24th

Secondary Students Exams

Students in Grade 9 will be completing exams during the week of June 21—June 24, which means that they should be studying for these exams the week before and in the evening during exam week. We are ask-

ing that after school and weekend activities be limited so that students can focus on preparing for these exams. It is important that students learn and be able to demonstrate their learning for these

year end assessments so that an accurate picture of their levels of learning will be given to the receiving schools. We thank you in advance for your cooperation with this request.

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Recognition Day

Our annual recognition Day celebration will take place on June 24th at 1:00 pm in the Sir James Whitney gym/auditorium.

The theme for this year is Hawaiian, so students may wish to dress accordingly. (Please avoid coconuts and grass skirts). Bright colours and flowers, leis, etc. will be the theme for the day.

We will begin with a procession of guests and students, have a few comments from invited guests and present awards to our all our students recognizing their many achievements and

accomplishments.

Afterwards, there will be a refreshment reception outside (weather permitting) on the newly created patio garden on the west side of the Scout Hall. Following the reception, students are free to go back to the Residence, collect their things to send home with parents, leaving only what they will need for the following week.

Students will be traveling home as usual on Friday unless parents make other arrangements.

Parents are welcome to invite as many guests as they like, since the gym is large and accommodating. We will send home forms so that you can advise us about the number of guests attending. We look forward to seeing you all at this very happy occasion.



Homemade Ice Cream



Each month representatives from the Kiwanis Club of Belleville come to Sagonaska to present awards to our students through their Terrific Kids Program.

One of the Kiwanians (Mr. Foster) enjoys making homemade ice-cream and has offered to bring his ice-cream machine to school. He plans to have the students participate in making ice cream using his restored old-fashioned ice cream maker. It promises to be an interesting experience for all our students and speaks again to the close connections we have with

our community partners.

The Kiwanians enjoy their visits with our students and are looking forward to this experience with them. The date for event will be June 21st.

Leavers Party

The students who have been with us for two years will not be returning to Sagonaska next year. We will be recognizing them in a special celebration on June 17.

At this party, we remember their contribution to Sagonaska over the last two years and present them with tokens of our affection. It is a bittersweet celebration, since we are

happy that they have been so successful with us but also we are sad that they are leaving us. We celebrate with them at our Leavers Party as we send them off to their new challenges at their Home Schools with memories of Sagonaska held in their hearts and ours. Students are always welcome to return for a visit or to share their stories with us. Par-

ents also are welcome to call us back with stories to share, questions to ask, or requests for help.

Later on in the afternoon, the Residence has planned a year end BBQ to which everyone is invited.



Science Centre Fieldtrip



On June 14th our Elementary students are heading to Toronto for the Science Fair Excursion. This trip promises to be a very exciting event since the students will be exploring the scientific facts behind the Harry Potter Wizardry special effects in the movies. The Harry Potter exhibit provides an excellent cross curricular experience combining literacy and science in one activity.

There are several exhibits available which will be self directed exploration. Students may choose from a variety of experiences to explore.



Step into a world of magic and wizardry. Try on the Sorting Hat and compete for the house cup as you immerse yourself in the world of Harry Potter and experience this exciting, interactive exhibition.

Trenton Air Force Base Museum

Our Grade 6 students have been studying the principles of flight with Mr. Cox in their Science Classes. As a culminating activity, they have a chance to go the Base Museum at 8 Wing Trenton to extend their learning in the real world. There will be a tour guide who will take them through the history of aviation and explain some of the finer points of real world

flying! It is a great opportunity for students to see history come alive in a very concrete way. "The Halifax" will be a high point on the tour. The Halifax has a broad military and civilian role in search and rescue, fire-fighting, etc.

We are all very excited about this experience, especially since it connects so well with what students have

been learning in class.

Wrap-up

This has been an exciting and eventful year for your students and for our staff at Sagonaska. We have shared many experiences together and have learned many new things. We are happy with the progress that we have seen from our students and look forward to another great year next year. On behalf of all our Staff, may I extend to your our deepest gratitude

for your trust in us as we worked with your children this year. We truly appreciate the tremendous amount of co-operation we have received from you throughout the year. Thanks you from all the "Dragon Warriors" at Sagonaska!

We have listed on the back page some suggestions for encouraging summer reading with your children.



















Summer Suggestions for Promoting Family Literacy

By Brenda Boreham

From the *Canadian Teacher Magazine*, May 2010.

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-  Provide a quiet place in your home with reading and writing supplies (paper, felt pens, crayons, scissors, glue, etc).
 -  Buy used books at second hand stores and garage sales.
 -  Reading material comes in many different forms: books, magazines, letters, Internet sites, newspapers, etc. Try them all!
 -  Visit the public library every week.
 -  Be a reading model. Children learn by example. Let them see you reading in your spare time.
 -  Read aloud to your children—20 minutes a day adds up over the course of the summer
 -  Read in the car. Road signs, billboards and licence plates are all sources of reading material while you are in transit. Why not teach your children to read a road map?
 -  Daily household routines allow for many reading opportunities—recipes, phone books, the TV guide are all excellent sources of informational text.
 -  Try a family board game night. Encourage your children to read the instructions and follow the directions.
 -  When you are watching TV reduce the volume and turn on the closed captioning feature. Encourage your children to read the words on the screen.
 -  Listen to your child read to you. Ask questions (e.g., What do you think will happen next? What is the problem in the story?).
 -  Sing with your children. Singing helps them to develop an early awareness of rhyme, rhythm and words.
 -  Ask for your children's help with household chores: printing grocery lists, marking events on the calendar, writing postcards and letters to family members and friends, etc.
 -  Challenge your children with word games such as word searches, crossword puzzles, Scrabble, Upwords, etc.
 -  On family trips to museums, science centres, parks and galleries make sure that you read the information on the displays.
 -  Have fun!
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