

Willow Road Public School

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JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you have enjoyed the month of May and the wonderful weather this month. It is difficult to believe that we have one last month of school before we break for summer holidays. The school will be extremely busy this summer as we will be undergoing a number of construction projects. The two most significant projects include the rebuilding of our library to a more modern learning commons and the installation of a new creative playground and the replacement of the asphalt play areas surrounding the school. These projects are exciting and we look forward to using these new areas in the fall.

Over the next 4-5 weeks we will continue to finalizing programming for our students and help them to reach their goals. At the same time we will be planning for next year and implementing successful transition strategies for our current students and the students transferring from other schools. If there is anything we can do to help with your child's transition, please reach out to the school so we can help.

Have a wonderful month of June!

Mr. S. Viveiros
Principal



GRADE 8 GRADUATION

The date of the Grade 8 Graduation is Tuesday June 26th. The ceremony begins at 7:00 pm and will finish approximately 8:30 pm. The formal event will be followed by a dance for the graduates, ending at 10:00 pm.



Planning to wear heels? Are you practicing? The sooner you start practicing the easier it will be and your feet will be much happier!



Kindergarten Graduation/Celebration



Kindergarten families are invited to join our year end celebration on June 21st at 11:30am in Room 175. The Senior Kindergarten students are graduating and getting ready to move on to Grade 1. The Junior Kindergarten students are celebrating the end of their first year at school.



Diversity Day

Please Join US & celebrate Diversity day!

When: Wed. Jun. 06/18, 5:30 – 7:30

Where: Willow Public School grounds -bring a chair or picnic blanket!

What: Cultural performance, crafts, displays, food & fun!

Why: Celebrate summer, our school & community diversity!

Food items will be for sale. **Please bring a water bottle for free refills.**



The Annual Willow Road Primary/Junior (K-6) Awards Assembly!

Date: Friday, June 22nd

Time: 10:30 a.m. (come early to get a good seat!)

Location: Willow Road School gym!

Your child's teacher will let you know before the assembly if your child is receiving individual recognition on this day.

Following the Awards Assembly, you are invited to the annual...

Willow Road Primary/Junior Family Picnic!



Date: Friday, June 22nd

Time: 11:45 - 12:45 (following the assembly)

Location: Primary/Junior yard

Please join us for a family picnic to celebrate the fabulous 2016/2017 school year!

Please bring:

- a blanket to sit on with your family
- a picnic lunch for your family

***** Please insure that all food items are nut free**

** **NOTES:** You may drop off food/coolers in your child's classroom before the awards assembly. Please carefully label all items! Also, in case of rain, we will be eating in the gym. Please let your child's teacher know if you plan on taking your child home from the picnic before the end of the school day.



Volunteer Tea

To thank and show our appreciation for our amazing volunteers we will be having our Annual Volunteer Tea on June 20 from 8:45-9:45 AM. We look forward to seeing you there! Please RSVP to Ms. Pitman at Susan.Pitman@ugdsb.on.ca or call the main office.

Monthly Environmental Activities to help celebrate our planet

June 5th is World Environment Day!



It is vital to teach our children to respect and take care of the environment.

Celebrate World Environment Day on June 5th 2018!

A Platform for Action- *World Environment Day is the most important day for encouraging worldwide awareness the protection of our environment and is widely celebrated in countries.*



United Nations' and action for over 100

<http://worldenvironmentday.global/en>

This year's theme - Take action to #BeatPlasticPollution

On 5 June, spread the message: "If you can't reuse it, refuse it!" Download the informative poster: ["9 Tips for Living with Less Plastic"](#) Make sure you are up-to-date on what can be recycled your local community's blue bin. Better yet, don't use single-use plastics!

Ideas for your family to celebrate World Environment Day!

- **Create an event for family, friends and neighbours** -There is no end of ideas that you could take forward for World Environment Day. Surprise yourself! Think about ideas that we can do to help the planet like fixing a problem in your community.
- **Get out into nature** - World Environment Day is all about appreciating the beautiful planet we inhabit. Why not spend a day in a park, hiking a trail or appreciating a forest on the weekend before World Environment Day.
- **Inspire others** – A great idea will naturally attract others who can take a small idea and make it extraordinary. So, with your powers of persuasion, bring on board the people you think can make your idea awesome. Or ask everyone to make their own personal pledge to change one wasteful or harmful habit for the better. Share what you're doing using the hashtag: #WorldEnvironmentDay
- **Have fun:** Make your event for World Environment Day fun, inspiring and interesting. For example, Google events happening locally that you can attend, or check out Pinterest for fun, recycled crafts ideas.

<http://worldenvironmentday.global/en/toolkits#event-kits>

Math on the Go!

Card Games to Develop Math Skills For All Ages

Are you looking to help your child to develop his or her math skills at home in a meaningful and engaging way, while spending quality family time together? Why not try some card games! Playing a card game can take as little as 5-10 minutes. Next time you find yourself trying to entertain your child while waiting at the dentist office or at a sports practice, why not bring along a deck of cards and play a couple of card games with your child. This is a great way to connect socially with your child, while practicing math skills. As author Marilyn Burns says in her book, Win-Win Math Games: "Games help to lift math off the textbook pages, and they support students' learning about numbers and operations."

(Retrieved on May 1, 2018 "Acing Math One Deck At A Time, The Positive Engagement Project"

http://www.pepnonprofit.org/uploads/2/7/7/2/2772238/acing_math.pdf)

Card Sort (Grades K - 3)

Players: Individual or groups of two

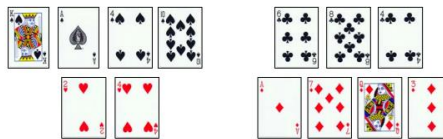
Materials: Deck of cards

Skill: Number recognition and group, sort, or categorize by attribute

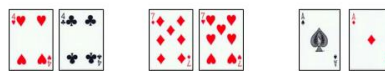
How to Play: As a group, or individually, have students use the full deck of cards to sort and create groups by attribute. Some sorting possibilities are by color, suit, or number.



Students can sort by color.



Students can sort by suit.



Students can sort by number.

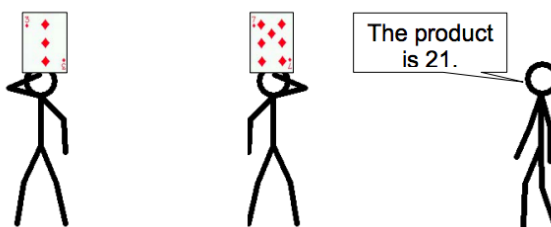
Reading Multiplication Minds (Grades 3 - 6)

Players: Groups of three (groups of four or five for more advanced)

Materials: Deck of cards

Skill: Multiplication, product

How to Play: In this game for three players, one student is the leader and the other two are the “mind readers”.



The two players each draw a card and, without looking at it, hold it up to their foreheads so that everyone else can see it, but themselves. The leader announces the products of the two cards. Each “mind reader” must figure out which card is on his or her own forehead and say it aloud. When both “mind readers” have figured out their cards, a new leader is chosen and the game continues. With Reading Multiplication Minds, all players get practice with products and factors in every round.

Integer Addition Number Battle (Grades 5 - 8)

Players: Groups of two

Materials: Deck of cards, Ace worth 11, Jack worth 12, Queen worth 13, King worth 14, scratch paper

Skill: Number recognition, positive integers, negative integers, and addition

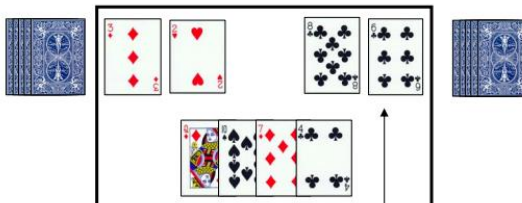
How to Play: Black cards are positive numbers; red cards are negative numbers. Players split a deck of cards and simultaneously flip over their top two cards.



Player 1: sum is 7

Player 2: sum is -5

The highest sum wins all four cards.



Player 1: sum is -5

Player 2: sum is 14

If the cards sums have the same value, the cards are placed in a center pile. The next hand is played normally and the winner of the

Remember -2 is greater than -7.

next addition number battle takes the center pile as well.

Talking About Mental Health June 2018– Successfully Shifting from School to Summer

The weather is getting warmer, days are getting longer and summer is just around the corner. It is an exciting time of the year but it can also be a struggle. There is often an increasing restlessness, distractability and anticipation as the end of the school year approaches. School is wrapping up and it is time to think about how to have a good transition from school routines to summer vacation.

The shift from school year to summer break is easy for some, but more challenging for others, particularly those children and youth who experience anxiety or have difficulty with transitions.

A good transition to summer is important and can lead to a more positive, fun summer experience.

Here are some practical tips to make a smooth transition from school to summer:

Post the summer schedule. Have your child or youth contribute to a family calendar. Be sure to note blocks of unscheduled time as well.

Make a list of places and people to visit when time permits and the mood strikes. Summer is a good time to stop by the library, bike trail, or concert-in-the-park that you can't seem to get to during the school year.

Prepare your child for their scheduled activities. If possible, visit the locations where they will be during day camp or day care in advance. Have your child talk to counselors, caregivers, as well as other kids who have enjoyed those same situations and settings.

Get outside and enjoy the summer. Try to limit the amount of time online, watching TV, or playing video games. Be active and get plenty of sleep and exercise. Being outside, such as going for a walk or playing in the park elevates our mood and makes us feel less anxious.

Looking for Activities To Do:

<http://www.orangeville.ca/parks-and-recreation>

<http://guelph.ca/living/recreation/recreation-programs/>

<https://www.centrewellington.ca/beactive/Pages/Recreation,%20Parks%20and%20Facilities/Community-Guide.aspx>

<http://wellington-north.com/government/departments/recreation>

Hope you have a wonderful, relaxing, fun summer. However, if you find mental health challenges to be increasing or causing more difficulties over the summer, seek out mental health or addiction supports for your child/youth, you and your family.

Medication / Epi-pens / Puffers

If your child keeps any medications including epi pens, puffers, daily or occasional medications in the office they must be picked up by 4pm on Thursday, June 28th. Any remaining medications will be destroyed. New medical consent forms and items will be accepted at the office in September.

Lost and Found

Don't forget to stop in or have your child check the lost and found bin for any items they may have lost throughout the year. Any items remaining at 4pm on Thursday, June 28th will be donated to charity.