



WILLIAM GRAYSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

823 Caribou St. W., Moose Jaw, SK S6H 2L2

<http://www.prairiesouth.ca/williamgrayson>

“Supporting our students in achieving their greatest individual potential....”

Mr. B. Fritzler, B.Ed., M.Ed. Principal

Ms. R. Heshka, B.Ed., M.Ed. Vice-Principal

SEPTEMBER 3rd, 2019

Start of the year Words from the WG Admin Team....

This past summer we both enjoyed reading, travelling, visiting friends & family, and just relaxing! It seems summer is often about rejuvenating one’s mind, body & soul....but it is also about preparing for what comes next. And for us, it is the 2019-2020 school year that comes next & being ready to support our William Grayson Wolfpack community of learners.... which includes staff, students and all families!

Last year we developed our *10 themed months of school* with challenges to staff & students on the *WG Covenant* that now brings in ideas of supports that include academic AND belonging goals for everyone. Also, we know that we have done some other changes that will see you feel more welcomed as families and see we have become even more of an “inclusive place” to all of our learners! For example, you’ll see the Circle of Courage Pillars on the main floor, and the inviting new work areas added to many classrooms over the summer. Stop by and check it out! We can’t wait to get started!!

“Create the life you can’t wait to wake up to....” –Josie Spinardi

Introducing the William Grayson Staff for 2019-2020

We are truly excited about and confident in our teaching staff and support staff for our school year at WG!! Listed below are all staff’s main assignments (although most all have secondary assignments too).

Teaching Staff

Mrs. K. Munro - Pre-Kindergarten PM
Mrs. S. Taylor – Kindergarten Days 2, 4 & 6
Mrs. C. Berenyi – Grade 1
Mrs. N. Elder – Grade 2/3
Ms. L. Tschetter – Grade 3/4
Mr. L. McKay – Grade 4/5
Ms. R. Blatz – Grade 5/6
Mr. B. Mihalicz – Grade 7/8
Ms. T. Gardner – Student Support Teacher
Mrs. A. Panko – Student Support Teacher
Mrs. P. Elliott – Student Support Teacher
Ms. A. Tran – PM Prep coverage (3/4’s & 4/5’s)
Mr. K. Gillett- Music K-5 & Band 6-8 Days 2 & 4

Library Associate

Mrs. S. Firth -- AM’s

Educational Assistant Staff

Ms. Z. Zivkovic – Pre-K in PM (1/2 time)
Ms. P. Lys – K’s days 2-4-6 & 3/4’s days 1-3-5
Ms. K. Silvester-Reid – 1’s & 2/3’s
Mrs. M. Evans – breakfast program & 4/5’s
Mrs. H. Waud – 5/6’s
Ms. C. Grigg– 7/8’s

Building Operators

Mr. L. Nestor – Head Facility Operator
Ms. M. Fehr -- Evening Facility Operator

Office

Mrs. S. Kouri – Administrative Assistant
Ms. R. Heshka – Vice-Principal
Mr. B. Fritzler – Principal

Student Safety

At PSS 210 we want our schools to be a welcoming and safe environment for all of our students. To ensure the safety of our students, staff supervision is provided 15 minutes prior to school’s start-up 8:55 AM bell in the morning, and 15 minutes following afternoon dismissal at William Grayson School. *We appreciate your support in ensuring that students arrive within and depart within these time frames and we ask for extra caution in all parking areas. Thank you!!*

FIRST EARLY DISMISSAL DATE

Monday, September 30th @ 2:20 PM (a day 2 so this is for Pre-K to gr. 8). Not every month has an early dismissal date for LITS so check the calendars. This year 5 of the 10 LIT meetings are embedded into teacher Prep Days....

School Hours

Classes at William Grayson School start at
8:55 a.m., & afternoon dismissal is now 3:20 p.m.
8:50 AM – Entrance bell
8:55 – Classes start
10:28 – 10:43 – Recess
11:45 – Lunch Dismissal
12:25 PM – Entrance Bell
12:30 – Classes start
2:03 – 2:18 – Recess
3:20 – Dismissal --except LIT days @ 2:20
NOTE: Kindergarten attend Days 2, 4 & 6
& Pre-K Program runs from 12:20-3:20 PM

Attendance & late procedures

Parents are asked to please call in to the office @ 692-4659 and let us know when your son/daughter is going to be away from school for whatever reason. Attendance is taken first thing in the morning and first thing in the afternoon. We have an answering machine and you may leave a message at any time of the day. Also, if your son or daughter is going to be late for school, please notify the office. We will contact you via a PSS 210 letter and let you know if your child has excessive lates or concerning attendance to see how we can help minimize this barrier to learning.

Family BBQ Night

A family night/welcome back BBQ is scheduled for Thursday, September 12th @ 5 PM. It will be hosted by WG's Staff & WG's SCC. This is an opportunity for parents and teachers/staff to come together as our Wolfpack Community of learners. An open house of classrooms is set for 6-6:25 PM. The SCC is covering all expenses of the catering this year for all families (includes food and drinks). BUT an estimate of attendees is needed so please look for a note by Friday, September 6th!!



Breakfast Program @ WG

The breakfast program operates from 8:25 to 8:50 AM on school days. Please arrive at 8:25 NOT earlier. The program is located in the lower hall of the school & is run by Mrs Evans, a WG EA. Students who wish to take part in this program need to have their parent's consent, and these forms are available in the office. The program will start Monday, September 9th.

Hunger in Moose Jaw Lunches

If you would like your child to receive a lunch from the Child Nutrition Program, registration forms are available in the office. Lunches will be provided starting Monday, September 9th.

PSS 210 Lunch Policy & Procedures

In all PSS 210 Schools all students have the option of staying for lunch. Supervision is provided in accordance to PSS 210 supervision guidelines and dependant on numbers staying at each school. We will send home a note if requested by families and plan to start our Lunch room (s) on Wednesday, Sept. 4th. We still strongly encourage all students to



go home for lunch, as going home or out with parents for lunch has benefits for refreshing students for the afternoon and for promoting family bonds. And if you'd like your child to stay for only certain days and go home some days, please indicate this on the form. We realize there is a need to have some students stay if the parents/guardians are in need of such support for work or other commitments. Please note that eating lunch at school is a privilege that carries with it the responsibility to behave in an appropriate manner during lunch. Any student who behaves in a manner contrary to our school expectations will have his/her lunch privileges removed, for possibly a week, month or the year.

NOTE: WG's SCC Meeting # 1 is set for Wednesday, September 4th @ 5:30 PM in the WG Library--- all parents welcome to attend!! Please call Mrs. Kouri @ WG's office if you are.

SCC

COOKIES??

It is that time of year again, where Tim Hortons will be selling *Smile Cookies* to raise funds for charity. Wanting one? Then look for a note soon on how to pay online via School Cash by Friday, Sept. 13th & cookies will be delivered on Wednesday, Sept. 18th to WG. They will be sold for \$2 each, so check it out and support the chosen charity of Tim Hortons....

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



Transportation & Safety

*No Stopping – School Bus Zone

Only: No stopping signs on Caribou

Street and also a bus stopping only zone in front of the school need to be adhered to. *When picking up your children, please stop east on Caribou St. past 8th Ave. to the north or on 8th Ave. to the south and your child can meet you there after exiting the south doors.*

*the School Loading Zone:

Please be reminded that the loading zone on the front property of WG is for picking up/dropping off parcels and equipment by courier companies and PSS 210 staff only.... and that the accessible parking area is for those with authorization permits only. Please see the signage reminders and help us tell others to respect this and not park there.... **THANKS!!**

*our Safety Patrols:

Please be aware that there will be no safety patrol to help children cross at Caribou Street at the Elgin crossing. *Students and adults can continue to cross Caribou at the crosswalk on 8th Avenue (North of the School) and 9th Avenue (West of the School).* Staff will be positioned at the Elgin location this week reminding people to cross at the other locations. Students in Grade 6, 7 & 8 who are interested in becoming a Safety Patrol member will be bringing a permission form home soon.

School photos – Monday, October 7th for Pre-K & 1-8's & Tuesday the 8th for our K's. Wednesday, November 6th is our retakes- *all with Lifetouch.*

School Forms coming home

Forms that need to be filled out if new to WG and others annually are being sent home over the next two days.

Please return to school by **Fri., Sept 6.**

1. Responsible Use Policy (yellow) form if new to WG/PSS 210.
2. Media release (white) form if new to WG/PSS 210.
3. WG's away from school permission form for all students (white).
4. PSS 210 Fair Notice Brochure.



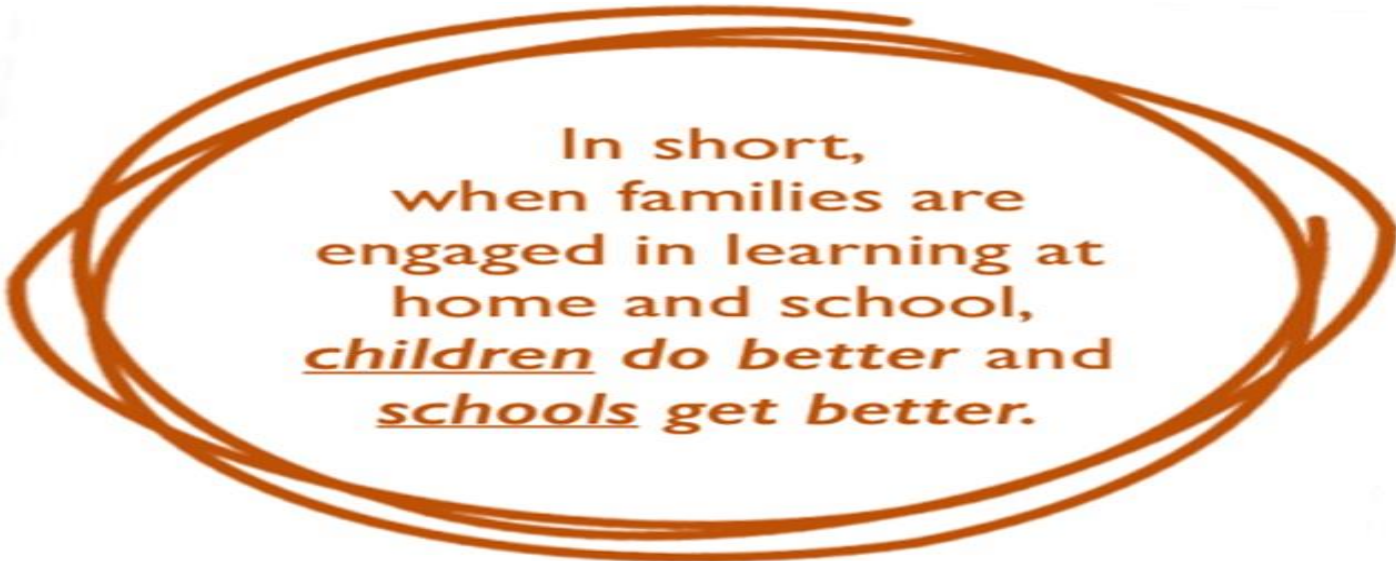
Reminder - Doors/Student sign out procedure & Office check in @ WG

Please be reminded when dropping off students at William Grayson School that all of our doors are locked during the day *except* our front entry. This helps ensure the safety of students and staff at the school throughout the day. The front door remains open from 8 AM- 4:15 PM on school days, so at any time students and families can access this door. *We also ask parents/guardians to come into the school office via the front door and sign out any student whom they are picking up because of illness or appointments, etc. and to check in at the office if coming to the school to drop off something for their child or to speak to them. We will call them to the office then.* This ensures our staff that all students & your children are safe if needing to leave the building during the school day & not walking home alone, etc. and safe when here in the building busy with their studies. Thanks for your support!!

Band Message for Grade 6 students and their families

All Grade 6 and other beginner Band students must come to the **Headstart Beginner Band Clinic** to receive their instruments and learn how to care for and play them.

The clinics are **free** and will be at **King George School** from **6:00-8:30pm** on **Wednesday, September 11th.** If your child is unable to attend, please let **Mr. Gillett** know ASAP to arrange for an alternate clinic.



In short,
when families are
engaged in learning at
home and school,
children do better and
schools get better.

Parent engagement matters. Study after study has shown us that student achievement improves when parents play an active role in their children's education, and that good schools become even better schools when parents are involved..."

We have five decades of such research that shows students do better academically, socially and behaviorally when parents are engaged in their children's learning.

Studies show parent engagement has a positive effect on student attendance and student performance on in-class tests and standardized tests. Students also take higher level and more challenging course later on when they are in high school or at tech schools, colleges & universities, and both their on-time completion of courses and on-time graduation rates also go up, starting in high school.

It's estimated that children spend only 17 per cent of their time in school and 83 per cent of their time with parents. This out-of-school time is a huge opportunity to have parents collaborate to enhance the educational outcomes for their children.

At WG we recognize that parent engagement is qualitatively different from parent involvement, where a parent helps with fundraising or a school trip, and the teacher sets the agenda and makes all the decisions. We plan to look for opportunities this school year where our parents have "parent knowledge" that's specific to their child and family that they can contribute to help our school staff work even better to help every child/student have success at our school. Look for these notices!!

"When we can engage with a parent, we can ask for their knowledge to be laid alongside our own as school staffs. Now, when we are making programming decisions or talking about a child's schooling, parents need to have a voice as a decision-maker...." *U of S curriculum studies professor Dr. Debbie Pushor*

NOTE: Please bring us (to the office or Home Room Teacher) a photo of your family for our front entry board display of our Wolfpack Family of Learners!! It can be a picture you posed for, a camping trip photo, out biking together, walking the dog, at a BBQ, etc.-etc.-etc.!! We plan to post all ASAP!!