

Dear Smithson Parents and Guardians:

Here we are in the final weeks of the 2012/13 School Year. It has been quite an interesting year for sure but with the current labour calm in the province we are getting back to near "business as usual," in our schools. I am pleased to announce that with our Full Day every day Kindergarten program beginning in the fall we will have two Kindergarten classes and an extended day before and after school program. Parents with children in grades JK-2 (inclusive) can enroll their child in board run daycare beginning at 7 a.m. and ending at 6 p.m. daily with flexible options for part time attendance. The program is staffed by Early Childhood Educators. If you are interested in enrolling or would like more information please go to https://beforeafter.wrdsb.ca/

We have a new website at Smithson School. In order to maintain similar appearance and user friendly features between all board websites we have an updated site. Please go to <u>http://smi.wrdsb.ca</u> for all Smithson updates and news.

Students in grades three and six and have just completed the Spring EQAO assessment. Results will be sent to the school in the fall and a copy of these results will be sent home for parents at that time as well. The Board has made some significant changes to our Hearing Services Program at Smithson. Junior Hearing students will be integrated into regular classes for most of the day with support from an Itinerant Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for part of the day. Meanwhile our Primary Hearing Services students will be part of a multi-grade JK-3 class.

The last day of the regular school year will be Thursday June 27. Friday June 28th is a PD Day. Report cards will go home Monday June 24.

A huge thank you to the Tim Horton's on Weber Street who recently donated two IPAD's to the school. Lidia and Michael, owners of the store were former Smithson students and have been wonderful partners of our school. I encourage you to stop by and support them as they continue to support us!

In staffing news, I'm thrilled to announce that Mrs. Mousseau has safely delivered her baby. Little Elijah was born on Sunday May 26. Mrs. Jennifer Jager will be in for Mrs. Mousseau for the remainder of the school year. Due to a decrease in our Special Education teacher compliment we will sadly be losing Mrs. Vander-

kaden this year. We wish her the best as she moves to Empire School in the fall. Mrs. Sue Rose, one of our beloved hearing Services teachers is retiring this year after more than 30 years of teaching service as is Mrs. Rochell Schafer one of dear Smithson EA's. We wish them the best and thank them for all of their years of supporting students. Mrs. Haskins, one of dedicated EA's is moving to Linwood School in the fall and with the changes to our Hearing Services Program Mrs. Angela Dunn, a terrific Hearing Services teacher will be returning to an Itinerant position.

We will be looking for School Council members in September. Please consider standing for election and coming out to support our great school.

Best wishes for a wonderful summer-looking forward to seeing you back in September.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Graham Principal

Junior News

Junior students will be participating in Junior Track and Field at the school and county level. Grade 4's are off to Medieval Times at the end of June, Grade 5's off to the Leadership camp at Chicopee and the grade 6's will be going to the Science Centre the last week of June. Grade 6 graduation is Thursday June 27 at 9:30 a.m.



Developmental Education Classes

It's been an exciting year in all of our Dev Ed Congregated Classes (Rooms 12, 13, & 21). We've enjoyed lots of opportunities to explore our community on our weekly fieldtrips. We've seen lots of growth in learning this year.

Graduating this year are Ian, Alex W, Hunter, Kira and Timmy. We wish them well at their new schools. We hope everyone has a safe and happy summer.

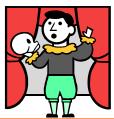
Primary Classes

We have had a very busy term learning new skills and concepts. In kindergarten we have been exploring and investigating changes in our environment. We enjoyed our trips to the Butterfly Museum and to the Fire Station.

Grades 1 & 2 have been continuing to develop mental math strategies, skip counting, and addition and subtraction skills of one and two digit numbers. We are also studying patterning and algebra and creating balanced number sentences.

In Science, the grade 1'as have begun an investigation of the 5 senses and how they can be used to explore and gather information. The grade 2's are finishing a unit on Simple Machines and have begun a study on the properties and characteristics of air and water, and how all living tings need clean air and water to survive.

The grade threes are practicing for their big performance of "A Midsummer's Night Dream!"



Bus Transportation Information for September

All bus transportation students may go to the student transportation website to check their bussing information for 2013-2014, after August 23, 2013.

Visit the site <u>www.stswr.ca</u> and click on student login

To login you will have to enter the following information Ontario education number (from report card) Students Birth date (month, day, year) Street Number (street # from student's home address) School (select school from the drop down)



The student login instructions will also be on our website once summer school is finished in mid-July.

Kindie students (JK & SK) will continue to receive letters regarding their bussing information in August.

Family and friends are invited to our First Annual Smithson Summer Celebration Tuesday June 25 11:30 live entertainment in the gym 12:30-1:30 free lunch



Family and friends are welcome to watch

the entertaining Tim Holland The Puppet Tamer then mix and mingle with fellow classmates, parents and teachers while enjoying a free lunch with the kids. Tables will be set up outside near the soccer field, weather permitting.

Smithson Spirit Wear will be available for purchase. Limited quantities and sizes available.

Cash and carry only please. We will have order forms if we run out for pick up in the fall.

Boys tshirts \$10 Girls tshirts \$15 Baseball style shirts \$15 Baseball hats \$15 Silicon water bottles – fun, funky colours \$15



French News

We have had a great year in the French classroom. All the classes have learned their classroom play from Histoire En Action. This term the students have been busy working in their booklets working with words and reading and writing about the play. My junior students learned adjective writing through a Robot unit and then made a model of their own at home to present to the class. We saw some great creativity! We have tried new things with technology in the classroom on the iPads. Some students used the iPads to take photos of a Mr. Potato Head they made and then they recorded their voices describing their model using the App Educreations. All my classes had the opportunity to use TOONTASTIC on the iPads to make a summary of their play and record themselves speaking about their play. What fun we had! It was a great learning opportunity. We will be busy putting on our drama of our plays in June. The students enjoy bringing in props and costumes to use in their presentations. Thank you for helping out with this at home.

I look forward to an exciting year next year.

Happenings in Grade $\frac{1}{2}$ in Room 4

We have had an exciting term full of lots of learning and new activities! In Language we have studied "Fables" and discovered the kinds of things that are common in each one. As well, we had some great conversations about the "morals" in each fable, making connections to our own lives and talking about "character, setting and plot". As well, the students did some very fine writing on the subject of "Friendship", answering questions such as "What makes a good friend?", "Is it best to have one good friend or many different friends?, "What is the best thing about friendship", "What would a 'great day' look like with a good friend", etc. In math we have been studying 3-D shapes, measurement and math problems involving addition, subtraction and division. The students continue to work hard on place value games in math. We have embarked on paper mache in art and will soon make some pottery creations. At last but not least, in drama class we are working on a short skit based on the African fable, "The Name of the Tree". It is a work-inprogress but we hope to have it ready to show Ms. Kelly's class in the future. Everyone is doing a super job with their Home Reading books! Sincerely,

Ms. Sauder

Library News

The end of the school year is fast approaching and it will soon be time for students to return all library books to the library for the end of the year inventory. The FINAL DUE DATE is FRI-



DAY, JUNE 14, 2013. It is important that students return all books to the library by JUNE 14TH to ensure that all books are ready for use by students in September. Thank you for your co-operation.

The Ontario Library Association's Silver Birch/ Silver Birch Express and Blue Spruce voluntary reading programs took place in the library from mid-January to April. Many students participated in these programs. Voting for students' favourite book took place in the library in April. A celebration party for all participants was held in the library at the end of May. At this celebration the titles of the winning books were announced.

Eric Walters, a popular Canadian children's author, visited our school in late January. Mr. Walters had a book in this year's Silver Birch Express program and has had winning books in past OLA programs. Students assembled in the library and listened to an informative and interesting presentation from Mr. Walters.

Thank you to all parent volunteers and student library helpers who assisted in the library this year.

Mrs. Collie

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We are excited to announce that for the upcoming school year, we will be using School-Day, an online portal that lets us instantly share school news and events with parents. With School-Day, you will be able to receive school news and announcements, complete permission forms, and pay for any school service, product or event, all online. We are sure that you will find School-Day easy to use, and we appreciate your help in improving our communications and significantly reducing the amount of paper our school consumes. To register or learn more about School-Day, we urge you to visit the School-Day website at www.school-day.com or contact School-Day by email at info@school-day.com. For any support or technical help, please visit the School-Day support site at www.school-day.com/support. We look forward to using this new system with you, and we are certain that you will find the School-Day portal very useful.



How can you help? It's easy! Please think of our school when those magazine renewal notices start to arrive in the mail and

Save Our Subscriptions!

Save your renewals for our CCRP magazine subscription fundraiser this fall. You will be helping to raise money for programs and activities to benefit all our students.

> Remember - Magazines make great gifts. Kids love to get their own subscriptions in the mail! It's the gift that keeps giving year round! HELP US PROMOTE LITERACY!

Let your friends and family know about our fundraiser and ask them to save their subscriptions too. Looking to order magazines now? You can by going to <u>www.ccrp.ca</u> and using our school code -

ON327

Renewal orders will simply extend current subscriptions, unless the renewal(s) has expired.

The success of this fundraiser depends on your participation. So, please do what you can to help our school!

Thank you in advance for your support!



Get summer fun with the **Fun Pass** and save at **20** attractions and **100+** parks!

English:

Get Out and Have Fun this Summer!

The Fun Pass is back! And it's packed with money-saving coupons. Kids can get in free at 20 Ontario attractions when accompanied by a paying adult. Families also receive \$2 dollars off a daily parking permit at participating Ontario Parks locations.

Starting in June, you can access your Fun Pass coupons at <u>www.ontariofunpass.com</u>. Simply type in the name of the school board, print the coupons and redeem them at any of the participating Ontario attractions. It's that easy!

The Ontario Fun Pass – your ticket to the world of history and science, art and nature.

