

WOSS E-News February/March 2006

Welcome to *WOSS E-News*, a monthly e-mail message to WOSS parents and community members.

UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR

For the full year schedule, visit www.wossweb.com (Choose Students and then Important Dates).

February

February 1 Final Exams end

February 2 Exam Return Day (see the schedule on-line)

February 3 PD Day (no school)

February 6 Semester 2 begins

February 7 Deadline to amend university applications

February 8 Semester 1 report cards mailed; for grade 9 de-semestered classes, mid-term reports mailed

February 21 Early dismissal/Staff Learning Day

February 27 First letters of concern mailed to all grades except Grade 9 desemestered (math and English)

February 27 to March 5 The WOSS Robotics Team travels to Richmond, Virginia to compete in the FIRST Robotics Competition. Go to <http://www.usfirst.org/robotics> to find out more about this exciting event.

March

March 9 to 18 22 students go on a field trip to France and Belgium to visit WWI and WWII sites

March 10 Board designated holiday

March 13 to 17 Spring Break – no classes

March 29 Grade 10 Literacy Test

March 31 Second letters of concern mailed to all grades except Grade 9 desemestered (math and English)

April 6, 7:30 to 9 pm South Campus Cafeteria Brain-based learning -- implications for parents (see below for more details)

Call the school, 905-845-5200 X227, if you have any queries about the above events.

BRAIN-BASED LEARNING AND YOUR CHILD, APRIL 6th at WOSS

Garfield Gini-Newman from OISE-University of Toronto will speak to parents about the latest research on brain-based learning and help parents understand its implications for learning and parenting. WOSS School Council is sponsoring this event, which is open to the public. *Please help us promote this evening by spreading the word!*

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP THEIR TEENAGERS GRADUATE

The new high school curriculum has a confusing menu of options for students. The Ontario Parent Inclusion Project offers a "HIGH SCHOOL COURSES AND CHOICES" tip sheet to help parents make sense of it all. The tip sheet provides answers to commonly-asked questions like

- * Which courses does my child have to take?
- * What's the difference between the Applied and Academic Streams?
- * How can I make choices that that won't close doors for my child?

The tip sheet is posted to www.peopleforeducation.com. Have a look!

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM UPDATE

On February 2 to 6, 2006, WOSS staff are off to Vancouver to receive training for the International Baccalaureate Program, which should be up and running for the fall 2007.

HALTON EXCHANGE TRIP TO THE FRENCH ALPS 2006-2007

Is your child interested in participating? Students must be:

- taking French either Semester I or II in the 2006-2007 school year

- willing to host a student from France in October of 2006 for 2 weeks
- able to go to France for 2 weeks in March 2007 (the one week of March Break and 5 schools days).

Approximate cost: \$1700.00

Look for news of an information meeting in mid-April, 2006

SPORTS RELATED

WOSS Swim Team: Swim Meet February 9 at Notre Dame and February 16 at Guelph Uni.

Girls Volleyball Games: Feb 7 (home), Feb 9 (KCC); Playoffs begin February 13 with finals on February 20

Boys Basketball Games: Feb 7 (OT), Feb 9 (home); Play offs begin February 14 with finals on February 22

Most secondary school schedules and standings are posted on the HSAA site: www.hssaa.org (the *Halton Secondary School Athletic Association*).

VISIT THE WOSS SCHOOL COUNCIL WEB SITE

Visit www.wossweb.com and select Parents and then WOSS School Council and look for the link at the bottom of the page. You will find past minutes, information about school councils, and links of interest to parents.

Please forward this e-mail to other parents who might be interested in receiving the WOSS E-News. If you would like your name removed from our mailing list, e-mail wossCouncil@cogeco.ca.