

WOSS E-News September/October 2008

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

UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 17 – Results of EQAO (provincial) testing in Mathematics released and WOSS shows its strength. **See more at *the end of this newsletter.***

Sept. 25 - Letters of concern home to Parents

Sept. 25 - WOSS College and University Information Session. 7:30 to 8:30. **See below.**

Sept 26 - Terry Fox Run

Sept 26 - Fundraiser for Crime Stoppers

Sept 26 - WOSS Football game vs. Iroquois Ridge under the lights at Nelson High School in Burlington, 7 pm

Sept 26–28 - Ontario University Fair, Metro Convention Centre

OCTOBER

Oct. 3–4 - Junior/Senior Girls Basketball Tournament, Oct. 3, 1 pm–9 pm and Oct 4, 8 am–6 pm

Oct. 8 - Awards Night

Oct. 9 - Commencement

Oct. 10 - PD Day

Oct. 16 - Letters of Concern sent home to parents

Oct. 20 - Colleges/Universities at WOSS, South Cafeteria, 8:15 am–2:30 pm

Oct. 22 - M&M Meats Fundraiser. **See below.**

Oct. 21 - Jostens are selling grad rings for students that will graduate at the end of this school year.

Oct. 25 - Parent Involvement Conference. **See below.**

Oct. 27 - Ontario College Information - Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place, Toronto, all day

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

WOSS COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION SESSION, September 25

Join us at White Oaks for a post-secondary information session for parents of graduating students. This session will provide information with respect to college and university applications for September 2009. We will focus on selecting the right program and school, admission requirements, timelines, processes and financial planning. It will be in the South Campus Cafeteria. Please contact Ryan Ibbott (ibbottr@hdsb.ca) with any questions, comments or concerns.

M&M MEATS FUNDRAISER FOR WOSS OCTOBER 22

If you shop at any of the four M&M Meats locations in Oakville, 10% of your purchase will go towards WOSS. Just make sure you indicate what school you are supporting, as this fundraiser is for all schools in Orville.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT CONFERENCE at WOSS, October 25, 8 am to 3 pm

This conference is open to all parents of elementary and secondary students. There will be guest speakers and seminars. For example, Barry Finlay (former superintendent) will talk about gender issues with respect to education and how we can better meet the needs of boys. Chris Vollum will talk about Facebook, how it works, how your child is using it, and how you can understand it better and even take part. There is no cost but there will be pre-registration. Lots more info to come!

CONTACTING YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

More and more parents are using e-mail to communicate with their child's teachers. Both parents and teachers are finding it effective and practical. Each teacher's e-mail address is the last name and first initial and then @hdsb.ca (e.g., John Smith's e-mail is smithj@hdsb.ca). Keep a copy your child's Semester 1 schedule so you have your child's teachers' names handy. Consider making contact early in the semester to introduce yourself.

A staff directory is available on the school web site, www.wossweb.com. Go to **Parents** and click on **Staff Directory**. Each teacher's voice mail extension is also listed.

CHECKING YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE

HDSB has an Internet attendance system for parents where they can access their children's attendance record (for students under 18 years of age). If your child is late for a class, you may still get a phone or e-mail message saying that your child was away. This is a great way to check to see if, in fact, your child was absent or late. It is updated daily. You can also access your child's credit status.

Parents need their child's student number, which is on their child's schedule and student card.

Go to www.wossweb.com, select **Parent Attendance Portal** under Quicklinks. Enter the student number and date of birth. A schedule will be displayed and then you can choose which class you want to check attendance for. At the top of the display will also be a link to your child's credit summary.

WOSS LOTTERY IS STILL ON!

Lottery fundraising calendars are still available. For more information, contact wosscouncil@cogeco.ca or wosscouncil@gmail.com.

SPORTS NEWS

All Halton school sports stats and schedules are posted on the following website: www.hssaa.org

CHANGES TO WOSS THIS YEAR

- Over the summer, we got a new roof, and there have been extensive renovations to the north campus kitchen, parking lots (north and south).
- New computers have been purchased while half of the existing computers have been refurbished. Also 2 new SMART boards have been purchased.
- And, WOSS is going wireless this year!

MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ever wonder what is happening at the school on a day to day basis? Now you can read the same morning announcements that you son or daughter get on the school website (www.wossweb.com).

WOSS SCHOOL/PARENT COUNCIL MEETINGS (NEXT MEETING is October 20)

Meetings start at 7 p.m. and refreshments are provided. Contact wosscouncil@cogeco.ca or wosscouncil@gmail.com if you would like an agenda to be sent prior to the meeting. [Enter through the South Campus main doors (off Montclair), turn right, keep to the left of the stairwell, and enter the first door on your left after the double doors.]

Why attend a WOSS School Council meeting? Our meetings involve input from parents, the principal, and student council and cover curriculum and extra-curricular activities. Please come with suggestions, questions, or concerns that you have about our school. Your input contributes to making WOSS the best it can be.

WOSS School Council has a webpage – go to www.wossweb.com and select **School Council Website** under Quicklinks. You will find information on school councils in general, past meeting minutes, meeting dates for this year, and more.

EQAO GRADE 9 MATHEMATICS RESULTS ARE ON THE NEXT PAGE

If you would like more info on this, contact:

Ruth Peden, Associate Director

Halton District School Board

(905) 335-3663, (905) 842-3014, (905) 878-8451

EQAO Grade 9 Mathematics Program Results by School, 2007-08: Halton DSB		
	Applied Math	Academic Math
Province	34	75
HDSB	46	82
School	Applied Math	Academic Math
Abbey Park HS	43	89
Acton DHS	49	81
Aldershot HS	68	84
Burlington Central HS	38	77
E.C. Drury HS	48	73
Georgetown DHS	23	68
Iroquois Ridge HS	34	89
Lester B. Pearson HS	62	82
M.M. Robinson HS	54	80
Milton DHS	40	77
Nelson HS	54	89
Oakville Trafalgar HS	45	82
Robert Bateman HS	45	84
Thomas A. Blakelock HS	51	84
White Oaks SS	55	87

Notice that the results for both the applied and the academic math programs at WOSS exceed both the Halton District School Board (HDSB) and provincial results. Congratulations to John Stieva and all the staff at WOSS. It looks like the strategies they are using are working!

If you would like your name removed from our mailing list or you are receiving duplicates, e-mail wosscouncil@cogeco.ca.