



**Beach Grove Elementary School**  
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# In the Grove

The Newsletter of Beach Grove Elementary School

October 14, 2016

## Events Calendar

### October:

19/20- Parent /Teacher Interviews - student dismissal at 1:58 p.m.  
18- Bookaneer Day- dress as a pirate  
17- Photo Orders Due  
18, 19, 20- Book Fair  
21- Non-Instructional Day  
24- Non-Instructional Day  
25- Photo Retakes  
26- Fast Eddie Presentation 11a.m.

### November:

10- Remembrance Day Assembly 11 a.m.  
November 11 - No school

## Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book fair is coming next week and the theme is 'Bookaneers' with the first day being 'Pirate Day'. Students are encouraged to dress up as a pirate to help kick off the book fair.

Dates / Times as follows:

- Tuesday, October 18 - 3 - 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 19 - 2 - 7 p.m.
- Thursday, October 20 - 2 - 4 p.m.

## Dogs on the Playground

Thank you to those of you who have responded to my concern regarding dogs on the playground by keeping your pet at home or away from the crowds during drop off and pickup times. We all need to be aware and it is appreciated that the dogs stay off the playground and away from the crowds in order to be sure our children feel safe.

We hope you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving Holiday. We hope that you all had an opportunity to visit with family and friends and to reflect on the positives in each of your lives.

*Happy  
Thanksgiving*



## Parents in the building

During the first weeks back at school, we expect an increase in the number of parents entering the building first thing in the morning to speak with teachers, help young children with coats and boots, and generally hanging around outside of classrooms. While we understand your desire to make sure your child is organized we need to acknowledge that, as we move further into the term, children need to be self sufficient in getting organized and ready to start their day. Students are able to be ready on their own after recess and lunch and, if needed, teachers are there to help out. To this end, it would be appreciated if parents would leave their children at the door of the school to enter with classmates. This will allow teachers to be able to move quickly into morning routines and also help us ensure our hallways are safe. Obviously if there are immediate concerns that need to be dealt with then we understand; however, this should be a rare occurrence. **If you need to be in the building, please come in the front door and sign in at the office.** Please feel free to contact your child's teacher via email or phone or stop by the office and speak me for anything I might be able to help out with. Thank you for your understanding with this.

## **Parents as Partners Anti-bullying Tips for Parents**

### **What is bullying?**

We say that a student is being bullied when a student, or group of students, tease another student repeatedly in a negative way. It is also bullying when a student is hit, kicked or threatened. It is difficult for the student being bullied to defend him or herself as there is an imbalance of power between the bully and the target. It is not bullying when two students of about the same strength quarrel or fight. (Olweus 1993)

### **How do I know if my child is being bullied?**

A child who is being bullied may display some of the following signs:

- feeling afraid to go to school
- feeling ill in the morning

### **What can I do if my child is the target of bullying?**

Ask your child directly. Probing a seemingly minor incident may uncover something more serious.

Children are often afraid or ashamed to tell anyone that they have been bullied. Listen. Encourage your children to talk about school, social events, other kids in class, and the trip to and from school so you can identify any problems they may be having. Tell the school immediately. If you think that your child is being bullied speak with his/her teacher. We will do our best to investigate the problem and work with you to make your child feel safer at school.

### **How do I know if my child is bullying other kids?**

A child who is bullying others may display the following signs:

- exhibiting aggressive and manipulative behaviour with siblings or parents
- coming home with items which do not belong to them

### **What can I do if I suspect my child may be bullying others?**

Take the problem seriously. Children who continue to bully others often get into serious trouble in later life. They may also have continuing trouble in their relationships with others. Talk to your child. Keep in mind that a child who is bullying will often try to place the blame on others. Tell your child that you will not tolerate this kind of behaviour. Discuss with your child the negative impact bullying has on the victims. Praise kindness toward others. Show your child that you value kindness.

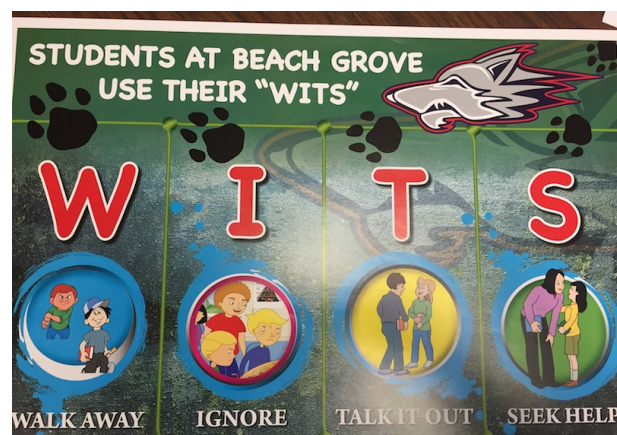
### **What is a bystander?**

Bystanders are the third group of players. They are the supporting cast who aid the bully through acts of omission and commission. They can stand by or look away, or they can actively encourage the bully or join in. Whatever the choice there is a price to pay. Standing by or turning away have their own costs. The self-confidence and self-respect of the bystanders are eroded as they wrestle with their fears about getting involved and with the knowledge that to do nothing is to abdicate their moral responsibility to their peer who is the target.

## **Student Allergies**

Just a reminder to parents that when planning lunches or treats for school we ask that you keep in mind that we have several students with life threatening allergies to any nut products. Due to the highly sensitive nature of these students to nut products as well as the concern around cross contamination we ask that wherever possible you plan an alternate food choice. Classrooms that these students are in have been specifically asked but as a school we need to work together to keep all of our students safe. Thank you for your efforts.

## **Using Our 'WITS'**



At Beach Grove we are learning to use our 'WITS' when confronted with a difficult social situation. This is an evidence-based program that can help our students navigate the sometimes challenging social issues that can occur in a multitude of settings. Although WITS is being taught at school, parents play a crucial role, teaching children to use WITS beyond the school walls. To find out more about the WITS program, and access materials on such things as peer conflict, how to talk to your child about it and how to support WITS at home and at school go to [www.witsprogram.ca](http://www.witsprogram.ca) Please consider using the above language with your younger children at home as an early start to developing conflict resolution.

**Sincerely,**

**Rick Hall, Principal**

**And the staff at Beach Grove**