



Walden Public School

Acting Today, Shaping Tomorrow

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December 1, 2011

Christmas Concerts

Primary Concert (Grades 1–3)

Two students quickly learn that the role of ‘Props People’ in the annual Christmas concert is not as easy as you would think ... especially if you have forgotten to pick up a very important prop, the Christmas Star! Please join the primary students as they present ‘The Christmas Star,’ on Monday, December 19th at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Everyone’s welcome on the Sudbury city bus as we learn about the Christmas events that make our community special, during the holidays.



Junior Concert (Grades 4–6, including Mme Groom’s Grade 3/4 class)

The Junior Grades will be putting on a performance entitled "The XMAS Factor" which is a spoof of the new show The X Factor. Each grade will be performing a Christmas Parody and will be judged similar to the show. The entire Junior Division will perform a finale song together at the end of the performance. Performances are scheduled for December 20th at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.



Kindergarten Concert

The JK/SK classes invite their families and friends to join them for a traditional Christmas concert on December 14th at 11:30 a.m. and at 6:00 p.m. The children are excited to have their families hear them sing their favourite Christmas carols.



A Message from Our Chair....

The re-greening efforts and further beautification of the school yard continues with grant proposals and applications for funding. Right now I think a snow-covered yard is what we are all hoping for, not just for the children to play in but to get us into the holiday spirit. As we embark on a very busy season, let’s take time to remember the simpler and most important things in our lives. It is so easy to stress out about what gifts to buy, the baking that still has to be done and decorating the house just right before the entertaining begins. But in the midst of all that, we should pause just for a moment, be thankful for what we have and see the big picture. Getting together with our loved ones and celebrating that togetherness is what makes the holidays so special. I am the guiltiest of all for secretly adjusting the ornaments after the kids go to bed so that our tree will look just right. This season I am definitely making the effort to put less focus on the superficial aspect of the holidays and to relish in the not-so-perfectly decorated tree and letting some of the self-induced stress go away. Before we know it, these precious years will be gone and don’t we all want to remember them fondly?



Enjoy your children’s Christmas concert and make some beautiful memories this holiday season.

Jodie Larsen

School Council Chair

Inclement Weather

Students are reminded to dress according to the weather and to assume they will be outdoors at recesses, unless the temperature becomes unreasonable. If the weather is stormy prior to the start of the school day, please listen to the radio. Every attempt will be made to announce class cancellations on the various radio stations by 7:00 a.m. This information will also be found at www.sssc.ca (the Sudbury Student Services Consortium website). If classes are cancelled please do not bring your child to school. *If the schools are open but buses are cancelled and you drop your child off, please remember that you must pick up your child at the end of the day.*



Remembrance Day Ceremony



Thank you to all parents and community members who attended our Remembrance Day Ceremony. The students were exceptionally well-behaved and engaged in all of the presentations. The performances by the students were beautiful and the artwork was very much appreciated. Thank you to Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Foy, Ms. McAfee, Ms. Stinson and Ms. Kiviaho and everyone else who made the ceremony so meaningful.

Kids Helping Kids

The canned food drive is going even better than anticipated! Each class is busy counting, sorting and making tallies of all the non-perishable food items. The staff is looking forward to seeing all the structures that are created with the items. We will be collecting food donations until December 15! Thank you again to all the families who have been adding a few items to their grocery carts.



Christmas Gift Card Program

Often, at this time of year, families like to show appreciation to school staff. Parents who otherwise purchase a gift for their child's teacher may want to consider participating in the Food Bank Christmas Gift Program instead. In lieu of a gift, parents are encouraged to support the campaign with the purchase of a \$5 Food Bank Gift Card. One card provides a holiday meal for a needy person in our community. Please place your order by December 16, 2011.



Our Mitten Tree

The Short Life of a Mitten

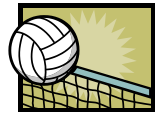
I'm sliding on the driveway,
I'm falling off my sled,
I'm rolling down the hillside,
I'm standing on my head.
When playing in a snowbank
It's hard to have control.
I wonder how my mittens
got such a large hole.



Thank you to all the parents who have donated mittens to our tree. It certainly goes to show you that Walden's students have warm hearts. We will be collecting mittens until December 21, 2011. Mittens should be brought to the home room teacher.

Volleyball Teams

The junior volleyball teams have now been picked and will spend the next few weeks honing their skills for tournaments beginning in January. Congratulations to the following players who are members of this year's teams and a special thank you to all students who tried out for the teams.



Boys: Andy B, Josh B, Logan C, Jacxsen C, Kiel C, Noah F, Andrew G, Hayden P, Ben P, Liam P, Nicholas R, and Nicholas W.

Girls: Samantha B, Ella R, Taylor V, Kate D, Ashley V, Jaclyn G, Becca H, Brooke S, Clairece M, Sydnie S, Morgan M, and Cassy W.

The junior volleyball teams played their first exhibition games on Tuesday, November 29th. The players were divided into three separate teams and enjoyed an hour of fun as they played their first games of the year against a visiting school. We are looking forward to more exhibition games in December before heading into our tournaments after Christmas.

Gr. 4 Readers Rock!



Students in Mrs. McLaughlin's grade four English class certainly earned their reading celebration for October! They read almost three times as many minutes at home as in September. The students earned a pajama day and spent the literacy block lounging, snacking, and reading. We are looking forward to tabulating our November totals! There have been many rumblings about monthly goals being met very early. Keep up the awesome reading, Gr. 4!

Walden Winter Carnival

It is button design time again for the Walden Winter Carnival. In an effort to stay "green" students interested in entering the contest may pick up an entry form at the office or on the website at www.waldenwintercarnival.ca and print an entry form. The number of forms at the office is limited. Entries must be returned to the school by December 7th.



Students in Grades 6 to 8 and parents/guardians

invited to French Immersion Transition Evening on January 18th

French Immersion students in Grades 6 to 8 and their parents/guardians are invited to an interactive information session about French Immersion in Rainbow Secondary Schools and the benefits of continued studies in a second language. Everyone in Greater Sudbury is welcome, regardless of which elementary school students currently attend.

Rainbow District School Board will present the French Immersion Transition Evening on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm at the Laurentian University West Residence Building, 935 Ramsey Lake Road. Parking on site is free.

Rick Hansen Relay

Walden P.S. has been selected as a featured stop for the Rick Hansen Relay. The relay is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the original "Man In Motion" relay. Jaclyn Groom in Grade 6 and Kyle LeBlanc in Grade 5 will be the Walden P.S. ambassadors for the event which will take place Dec. 15th at 1:10 p.m. They will each complete 250 metres of the relay starting in the parking lot of the school and ending at Lively High. Our students will line the route and will be provided with little Canadian flags to show our pride in this event. Students are also encouraged to wear red and white that day. Please feel free to join us that day and be a part of this big event!



Rocks and Rings

Various classes from grades 1-6 enjoyed curling in our school gym on November 23rd. We learned how to sweep with two hands on the broom and now know how to score based on where the rocks are in the "house". Students enjoyed trying to knock one another's rocks out of the house to show who was the best curler!

New Faces At Walden

Please welcome Mrs. Borota who will be teaching Grade 5 in the afternoon for Mrs. Lammi and Educational Assistant Ms. Chipp who has joined our staff to provide some additional student support. Also, we welcome back Mlle Valade and Mrs. Sobiera who are replacing Mme Gibeault and Mrs. Mulligan respectively until their anticipated return in January.

Police Check

A current police check is required to volunteer at the school or go on class trips. A police check is valid for one year from date of issue and can be obtained from the main Police Station in Sudbury. They take about one week to process.

Electronic Newsletter



Effective this month we are sending an electronic version of the newsletter to all parents/guardians whose e-mail address is on file. Throughout the year we will be sending other information electronically. We are a green school and are trying to cut down on the amount of paper we use. If you are still receiving a paper copy and would like to be on the electronic list, please e-mail Mrs. Heikkila - heikkita@rainbowschools.ca. The newsletter and calendar is also available on our website. Website: www.rainbowschools.ca/elementary/walden. Thank you for your assistance in this endeavour.

Happy Holidays from Staff and Students!



The Anderson Farm Museum Heritage Society

Councilor Jacques Barbeau

Tim Hortons Lively

The Sudbury Credit Union

...Invite you to join us

5th Annual Christmas Tree-Lighting Celebration

Saturday, December 10th 6-8pm

Anderson Farm Museum

***A magical Christmas community celebration
...With Indoor & Outdoor activities for everyone!***

School Choirs+ Jessica Lopatka, Student-LDSS
Greater Sudbury Firefighters Choir + Christmas Float
Official Tree-Lighting Ceremony
FREE Hot Chocolate, Coffee, Apple Cider, Christmas Cookies & Candy!
Santa Claus + Santa's Helpers + Vintage Toy Display
Volunteer Firefighters Crew & Fire Trucks
FREE Rides in Horse-Drawn Wagon
Sliding & winter fun for kids!

Everyone is welcome!

...Thanks to our Volunteers who make everything happen!

Walden Seniors Woodworkers

Walden Lions Club

Alek Luopa, Student, LDSS [Graphic design]

Student Council, LDSS

AFMHS Friends & Family

Contact: Gwen Doyle, CIO AFM Heritage Society
705-692-3021

AFM Page www.Walden-CAN.com

Premier AT Home.

In order to assist students in accessing Assistive Technology on computers within their homes, Rainbow has purchased access to the Premier AT Home. Families of any student registered in a Rainbow District School Board school may download these Assistive Technology tools without cost!

The various tools available on the Premier AT Home website are being introduced and used by students in Rainbow schools. As a result, your children will be able to access the same tools at home as they use on computers in their schools.

Your home computer must have the following minimum system requirements.

- Microsoft Windows XP, Vista
- 512 MB of RAM
- 200 MB of free disc space
- Mouse, keyboard, speakers
- SVGA Monitor with a minimum 800 x 600 DPI resolution
- Scanner (optional)

Your family may go to www.premierathome.com and download as many of the tools as needed. However, they may only be installed on computers owned by your family.

Once your family enters the website, they will need to use the following username and password to Log In.

Username: rainbow

Password: success

If your family encounters any technical difficulties while downloading or using the program, help is available directly from Premier Literacy.

Rainbow staff would like to hear from your family once they have started to use Premier AT Home. Please email comments to: hamilll@rainbowschools.ca.



DECEMBER 2011

Walden Public School

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Primary 1-3 (not 2/3 FI) Beauty and the Beast STC 2/3FI & 3/4FI Science North | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 Junior 3/4, 4-6 Beauty and the Beast STC | 14  JK/SK Christmas Concert 11:30 am/6:00 pm | 15  Rick Hansen Relay 1:10 p.m.  | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19  Grades 1-3 Christmas Concert 9:30 am/6:30 pm | 20 Grades 3/4, 4-6 Christmas Concert 9:30 am/6:30 pm  | 21 First Day of  | 22 | 23 <i>Last Day Before Christmas Holidays—No Early Dismissal</i> | 24  |
| 25  | Christmas | | | Break | | |
| | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 <i>First day back after holidays January 9—no early dismissal.</i> |