

WOSS E-News January/February 2009

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

UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR

January

19 Parent Council Meeting
21 Last day of classes, Semester 1
22-28 Final Exams Semester 1
29 Exam Return Day
30 Professional Activity Day – No classes

February

2 First day of classes, Semester 2
2 OCAS Application Deadline
4 Semester 1 Final Reports mailed for Semestered Courses
Letters of Concern mailed for Desemestered Courses
6 Deadline to amend OUAC Applications
9 School Wide Program Assemblies/Workshops
10-20 On Line Course Selection
16 Family Day – no classes
23 Parent Council Meeting
26 Letters of Concern Mailed for Semestered Courses

March 16-20 Spring Break – no classes

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

JOHN STIEVA—CANADA'S OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

Our own principal, John Stieva has been awarded the Outstanding Principal of the Year Award. 30 principals across Canada were selected, 11 in Ontario, 2 in Halton. The award involves a four-day think tank session with fellow winners and some of Canada's business leaders. The award is being officially presented during these sessions at a gala night, February 24. This is a well-earned award after many years of outstanding administration with the Halton Board, and since 2004 with WOSS. Go to the following website for more info:

<http://www.canadasoutstandingprincipals.ca/>

WOSS IS NOW WIRELESS

As part of an ongoing effort to improve technology at WOSS, all teachers now have laptop computers and the school has gone wireless. And, as you probably already noticed, WOSS now has an electronic sign at the corner of Montclair and McCraney. This new sign will make it much easier to keep parents and the community up to date with what is happening at WOSS.

NEW COURSE AT WOSS

WOSS will be piloting a new course next year on Aboriginal Studies. This course is open to all students.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Ski and Snowboard Club trip to Vermont
Robotics Team to Virginia in March

GRADE 8 TRANSITION

375 parents of Grade 8 students turned out to the Grade 8 parent info night, in spite of poor weather conditions.

SCHOOL WEBSITE www.wossweb.com

LOOKING FOR DONATIONS

WOSS School Council is still looking for donations of items that can be auctioned off for fundraising purposes. Items such as theatre and sports tickets, sports memorabilia and equipment, electronics, and so on would be appreciated. Contact wosscouncil@cogeco.ca.

SPORTS NEWS

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

FRIENDSHIP MONTH

WOSS Student Council is declaring February Friendship Month and is planning several spirit events throughout the month. There is also a semi-formal dance planned at the Holiday Inn.

PEOPLE FOR EDUCATION

People for Education is an independent parent-led organization, working to improve public education in Ontario's public schools. They believe public education is the foundation of a civil society and work toward this vision by doing research; providing clear, accessible information to the public; and engaging people to become actively involved in education issues in their own community. You can view their latest newsletter at: <http://www.peopleforeducation.com/newsletter/jan09>

WOSS PARENT COUNCIL MEETINGS (NEXT MEETING is February 23)

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.]

Some of the topics we discussed at January's meeting were: Differentiated Instruction at WOSS, the School Effectiveness Plan, the School Budget, staffing for Semester 2, and an update on what is going on at WOSS from the principal and student representative.

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