

From the Principal's Desk:

The next two months have the potential to be fast and furious, perhaps often in a blur, as we quickly move toward the finish line the 2018-2019 school year! We still have several activities planned including: Education Week (early May), and Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO Testing (late May), monthly assemblies, the Kindergarten Graduation and our Grade 6 just to name a few. Please see the attached list of Education Week events that are planned.

As we head into the "home stretch", parents are encouraged to connect with your child's teachers to follow-up on any goals that were set to help your child be successful during our final reporting term. As always, our staff or myself are pleased to meet with parents who wish to discuss their child's academic, social, or emotional progress, or to speak further about plans for next year's programming.

With spring attempting to surface, as warmer temperatures are being felt in the air, keeping students focused can be challenging. Ways that parents can help support us in our work include: contacting teachers as necessary, reviewing the blog weekly, monitoring any classroom websites that your teacher has active, reading the agenda or teacher notes on a nightly basis, and perhaps most important, asking your child about assignments and topics that are being covered making sure your child is dedicating some time each evening for homework.

We continue to encourage parents to ensure that their son or daughter are attending every day as every day counts.

Mr. Mineault Principal

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

We continue to accept new registrants for September 2019. To be eligible for Junior Kindergarten, a child must be four years old by December 31, 2019. Proof of age and address are required as part of the registration process.

EQAO DATES

If your child is in Grade 3 or 6, please avoid making any appointments or booking any trips on May 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th for our grade 3 students and May 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th for our grade 6 students. This year's EQAO will take place during this time and students' attendance is necessary. If your child will be away on one of these dates, please let the school know as soon as possible.

PICTURE DAY

Thursday, May 2nd, 2019

Spring Picture Day and Family / Sibling Picture Day

Please send your child in appropriate attire if you wish to take advantage of either photo opportunity.



GRADE 4/5/6 CHOIR

Congratulations to our Grade 4/5/6 choir under the direction of Mr. Takayesu for their fine performance at the Lions' Music Festival and the final concert. The choir will be performing again at the IF Community Choir Concert. We thank the Iroquois Falls Lions' Festival Committee for their generous food contribution.

AWARDS ASSEMBLY

The JK-Grade 6 Awards Assembly and Grade 6 Farewell Assembly will be held on Tuesday, June 25th at 11:30 a.m.

Re: Upcoming EQAO Assessments

Between May 21st and June 1st, 2019, students in grades 3 and 6 will be taking part in the provincial Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics. This assessment is administered to all Grade 3 and 6 students in Ontario's publicly funded school system by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), an independent agency of the Government of Ontario.

This assessment consists of two booklets assessing language and a third booklet assessing mathematics. Each booklet is made up of two sections, for a total of six sections. Each section will take about one hour to complete. The administration of the six sections will be spread out across 3 days, but students will be able to write during the two week window for any absences.

EQAO assessment questions are directly based on the expectations set out in *The Ontario Curriculum*, which is what teachers teach in the classroom every day. Therefore, your child does not need to prepare in any special way. Students will write the test in their regular classrooms with their regular teachers and are simply encouraged to do their best and show what they know.

In the fall of 2019, EQAO will send our school a report on your child's achievement on the assessment, and we will send it home at that time. Your child's results are private and will give you an indication of his or her achievement in relation to Ontario's high provincial standard. The standard, or Level 3, represents the range from B- to B+. Meeting the standard means your child has a solid grasp of the required knowledge and skills, which is a good indication that he or she will be ready for Grade 4. The results of the assessment do not affect your child's grades or report card in any way. They do, however, give you information about your child's progress to add to the overall picture.

You can use the information that EQAO assessment results provide about your child's strength's and areas needing improvement to celebrate his or her progress. It can help you in discussions with teachers. We can use it as a school community, along with other information, to guide our school improvement initiatives for reading, writing and mathematics. This benefits not only your child but all the students in our school. The results are also used by our school board and the Ministry of Education to direct attention and resources where they are needed. For more information about EQAO and to view a sample of its assessments, you are encouraged to visit www.eqao.com.

Please visit: <u>www.eqao.com</u> for more information.

Education Quality and Accountability Office



MAY EVENTS

- May 1st 5th Education Week
- May 16th & 17th EQAO Practice
- May Grade 4/5/6 Choir Performing at the IF Community Choir Concert TBA
- May 24th Spirit Assembly 1:30 p.m.

JUNE EVENTS

- June 11 13 Camp Bickell grade 6
- June 25th at 11:30 a.m. Awards Assembly and Farewell Assembly
- June 27th report card day and last day of school

