

January Message

Hello John Wilson Families,

Welcome Back!! Our return to school has brought some warmer weather our way which we are grateful for! The students were so excited to get outside for recess with their friends! On that note, we do enjoy heading outside to play as much as we can. We often have outdoor P.E. classes, which the students love! Thank-you for helping your child(ren) dress appropriately so they are ready for these opportunities!

January is often a time of reflection on health and wellness. For us, this includes a student's physical, social and emotional well-being. Our focus on this is accomplished through many layers of school programming and culture. Student physical fitness and a focus on healthy social/emotional lifestyles is achieved through a school-wide daily physical education program, swimming, sport days, etc. As well, direct teaching in classes, such as Health, provides students with the information to better understand the variety of ways to achieve healthy lifestyles. Our classrooms engage in daily conversations and activities that focus on health and wellness and we are fortunate to have the YES! Program on Innisfail Campus. This program provides targeted sessions in classes to promote wellness- you may have heard your child come home and talk about Mr. G. (Mr. George) after he has been in the classroom!

We also have our Family School Wellness Worker, Mrs. TaShawna Roberts, available to support student and families experiencing changes or difficulties. Please feel free to reach out to connect directly with TaShawna if you have any questions via the school phone number 403-227-3292.

As we begin 2023 and the second half of our school year, it is a perfect time to take a moment and reflect on the importance of daily attendance. Did you know, just a few missed days here and there, even if they're excused absences, can add up quickly with lost learning and cause your child to become behind in school? This is as true in kindergarten as it is in high school. Our teachers plan valuable lessons each day and children will miss out on important learning if they are not at school. While asking for homework allows for a quick review of the work missed, it does not take the place of classroom learning and interaction. Please click [here](#) to view an informational poster on the importance of daily attendance in the early grades (shared with permission from Attendance Works). There are some interesting facts related to how absences can affect student performance and some suggestions on building good attendance habits early. We review individual attendance regularly as it is critical to student success. If you are experiencing concerns around absenteeism, please connect with your child's teacher to discuss how we can support one another to help improve daily attendance. We want each child to have the opportunity to succeed in his/her learning journey at John Wilson!

As always, we hope you are doing well! If you need anything or have any questions please do not hesitate to give us a phone call at 403-227-3292. We are a collective community supporting one another as we continue to provide the best educational experience for our little learners. On behalf of all of us at École John Wilson Elementary, we would like to wish you a year filled with health, happiness, laughter and family fun!

Respectfully,
Angela Warke, Principal

