

September 2015

Pontiac School

Our school, our community, our responsibility

<https://wbe-education.ca/schools/pontiac/> T: 705-859-3133

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Aanii, and welcome to the 2015/2016 school year! My name is Mackenzie Sayers and once again will be acting principal here at Pontiac. We look forward to another great school year at Pontiac filled with hands on learning and experiences our students will find meaningful. We welcome Mr. Nelson Wood to our staff as the new grade seven teacher. We have a few reminders to ensure that we have a safe and successful school year.

Scheduling

School begins at 8:50 a.m. with the following times for nutrition breaks:

10:40 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. – Recess

11:00 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. – Nutrition Break

1:00 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. – Nutrition Break

1:20 p.m. to 1:40 p.m. – Recess

If deliveries of food are made during the day they must be dropped off at the main office. Please ensure that food dropped off at the office is labeled with your child's name. This procedure is necessary to minimize disruptions to the classroom and to ensure your child's security during the day; **all visitors are to report to the office upon entering the school.**

There remains an early dismissal on the first Wednesday of every month. On this day the nutrition break is from 12:00 to 12:20 p.m. Classes are done at 2:00 p.m. every first Wednesday of the month.



Upcoming Events

September 11

Be Safe App presentation for 7/8 students with CAMH

September 11

Wikwemikong Fall Fair Exhibitions due

September 22

Meet & Greet Teachers

October 5

Parent Council Meeting

MEET & GREET THE TEACHERS

WHERE: PONTIAC SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

WHEN: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 @ 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

WHO: Students bring your parents to meet your teachers!

Join us on Twitter @pontiacschool

Dismissal for the bus students is 3:35 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with the walking students to follow. Dismissal on Wednesday is 3:00 p.m.

Food Allergies

Anaphylaxis: Means a student has a potentially life-threatening allergy. We currently have students who have food allergies. Therefore all schools are “**nut free zones**” (i.e. peanut butter, Nutella, etc.).

Please inform the school if your child has any allergies and complete an allergy information form.

There will be **NO PIZZA DAYS** this year so please ensure your child has a nutritious lunch every day of the week.

Attendance

Please call the school (705) 859-3133 if your child is going to be absent or late. Wasse Abin Pontiac School follows guidelines from the Wikwemikong Board of Education on “Safe Arrivals”, “Attendance Policy”. Please contact the school if your child will be absent from school by 9:30 a.m. To confirm safe arrival the school will be contacting parents if the school has not been informed of an absence.

Being late for school seems harmless enough, but if it happens often, it can become a serious problem. Being late for school can become a habit. Any habit is very difficult to break. The mornings are the most important part of the day at both schools and it is vital that students are in class on time and ready to learn.

Unexcused and prolonged absences are of great concern to us. Should we not be able to contact you if your child misses school for more than five days in a row – a home visit will be made by our School Social Counselor. Should we still not hear from you or continued prolonged absences occur, we are legally obligated to contact Child Welfare officials.

MIIGWECH TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE KAREN MANITOWABI WHO SUPPORTED OUR 2014/2015 GRADUATING CLASS WITH A PRIZE BINGO TO OFFSET GRADUATION COSTS.



More important information

Registration Information

Please keep the school up to date on custody orders, change of addresses and phone numbers by handing in your Student Registration Forms (distributed to all students).

Jump Start

Jump Start will commence on the first day of the second week, Monday, September 14, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. Students participating in this program must be at the school no later than 8:30 a.m.

Bussing

For our bus students, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure your child safely waits for the bus. In the afternoon, once off the bus, it is once again the responsibility of the parent to ensure the student safely arrives at home.

Circles and Restorative Practices

At Pontiac School we are continually learning of practices to support our students. Recently, the staff of Wasse Abin Pontiac school took part in a two day professional development session on restorative practices.

Restorative practices evolved from restorative justice that has the "potential to positively influence human behavior and strengthen civil society" (www.iirp.edu). It is our school's hope to ensure all are responsible for creating a safe environment and bringing school community members together to resolve issues that may create a hostile environment.

Students may take part in "circles" within the classroom or during various activities that are occurring in the school. These may take the format of learning circles, check in/out circles (where we see how our students are doing), etc.

Parent Council Invite

Parents are encouraged to become a part of the 2015/2016 Parent Council. Meetings will occur on Monday evenings with the first occurring **Monday, October 5, 2015 @ 4:30 p.m.**

Parent council members will assist in creating learning opportunities for the school community (lunch and learns on important topics that support our families), fundraising initiatives (annual golf tournament) for school wide activities and create goals for the 2015/2016 school year.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please do not hesitate to contact the school for further information or attend our first meeting (as indicated above).

Centre for Addition and Mental Health (CAMH) along with the staff of Naadmadwin Mental Health Clinic will be visiting with our grade seven and eight students to introduce resources that support mental health. They will be introduced to the Be Safe App which provides support for youth in crisis. The presentation will occur Friday, September 11, 2015.

Miigwech,

Ms. Mackenzie Sayers, A.Principal

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Non-Educational Items

As stated in our Parent/Student handbook these types of items can be distracting to students. We are asking parents to assist in ensuring these items are not taken to school. Any or all items will be confiscated and returned only to the parent/guardian. The school will not assume responsibility should items be lost and/or damaged. Personal electronic devices are the responsibility of the student and if brought to school, students must adhere to individual classroom rules regarding electronics.

Agendas

Agendas are given to each student and are a valuable asset to their success. Teachers utilize it to communicate to parents/guardians. They also hold a copy of the Parent/Student handbook and other useful information. Please check their agendas daily!

WIKWEMIKONG FALL FAIR COMMITTEE PRESENTS

2015 Wiky Fall Fair

Friday September 11 - Saturday September 12

WIKWEMIKONG FALL FAIR INFORMATION

All events take place at Thunderbird Park, rain or shine!!

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11TH

Exhibit Entries, Wiky Arena Displays
All Entries are due before 5pm for Judging

Family Dance
Arena 7pm-10pm
\$5 Family Rate or \$2 each

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH

Breakfast - 8am to sellout
Contact Community Living

Exhibits - Open 9am-2pm
Contact Yvette Manitowabi, Colleen Manitowabi

Exhibit Viewing-Free!!

Parade
Starting at Band Office @ 10am

Lil' Farmer's Pageant
Contact Children's Services
John, Amanda or Judy (705-859-3164)

Truck Pull 12 Noon
Contact Randy Manitowabi

Horse Pull 4pm
Contact Peggy Manitowabi, Marilyn Kimewon

Open Mic 12 Noon-4pm
MainStage - Contact Lyle Peltier

Apple Harvest Tasting 12pm-3pm
Contact Wikwemikong Health Centre, 859-3164 ext 294

Texas Horseshoes for Kids
Contact Mark Peltier

Pig Roast
Sponsored by Department of Lands & Natural Resources

Licensed Dance 9pm-1am
Live Band-Sweet Nectar Band

Growing
at
Home

It's Not a Party Without Us!

KID'S INFLATABLES

Kicking Mule Ranch
Saturday 12pm-4pm

FREE!! FREE!! FREE!!

GATES OPEN AT NOON!

Admission to Grounds:
Adults \$5 Children \$3
Children 0-3 years and
Elders FREE!

VENDORS WELCOME!

Food Vendors Fee \$75
Crafters Fee \$25
Contact
Marlene Kimewon
(705) 210-0897

ALL OTHER INQUIRIES

Contact Jacqueline & Lyle
(705) 859-3138