



“Get the Scoop”

On Whitecourt Central School

JUNE 2018

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Sports Day

Year End awards

Field Trips

Book Fair

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Principal’s Message

Wow, where has the year gone!!! The time has gone by very quickly and each day we have watched the students grow and achieve success. It will be difficult to say goodbye to our Grade 5’s, who will be moving on to Percy and to our Grade 3’s and 4’s, who we won’t see until late August. We are so proud of all of our students and their accomplishments.

There are still many activities planned for the month of June. Information on specific events will be sent home by classroom teachers. This month is also a time that we reflect upon what we have accomplished and celebrate the journey that we have been on for the last ten-months. Many classes will be having year end celebrations. We will be holding our annual Sports Day on June 22nd. If you are able to volunteer that day, please contact your child’s teacher.

In addition to lots of activities, it is, of course, a very busy month in terms of student learning and assessment. All classes will be celebrating student accomplishments during awards ceremonies that are scheduled in late June. We ask that parents

continue to work with us in ensuring that students are in attendance during this final month and that they are well rested and are able to perform at their very best.

As our school year draws to an end, preparations such as school start and end time, number of classes per grade, staff assignments and purchasing school supplies through Staples are being established for the 2018-2019 school year. Information will be sent home to our families once decisions have been made. Please watch the website and facebook for updates.

On August 30th , 5:30 – 7 pm, we will host our Get the Scoop Night. Parents and students are welcome to come and find their teachers and classroom and enjoy some nice, cold ice cream. There will be information pamphlets available as well with some important information regarding Central. If you are unable to make it that evening, teachers will have student names posted outside their classrooms on the first day of school.

We would like to extend our many thanks and farewell wishes to Mrs. Mary Tarcon and Mrs. Kristine Johnson, who after several years of service to both Whitecourt Central School and

Northern Gateway Public Schools, have decided to retire. They have both had a profound impact on our school and they will be missed terribly. Enjoy your retirement and good luck in your next endeavours.

There are some other changes in staff as well. Ms. Larson will be starting a new adventure with a toddler and newborn come September so will return in the 2019-2020 school year. Miss Kaitlyn Mather will join us for another year as well. We would like to welcome Mrs. Shoshanna Pierce, who has been hired as our new secretary. Her new adventure will begin Monday, June 4th. We are excited to have her join the WCS team.

It has been a wonderful year and we look forward to welcoming everyone back and any new families in August. Congratulations to all of our students. We are so proud of how you have grown and all of your accomplishments and achievements this school year. Enjoy your summer!



After School Plans:

Please ensure that your child(ren) know of all after school plans before they come to school each morning as we are reluctant to interrupt teaching time with messages. Additionally, classes are often outside at this time of year, making it difficult to relay those messages. Thank you!

Year End Awards

Our Year End Awards Ceremonies will take place on the following dates:

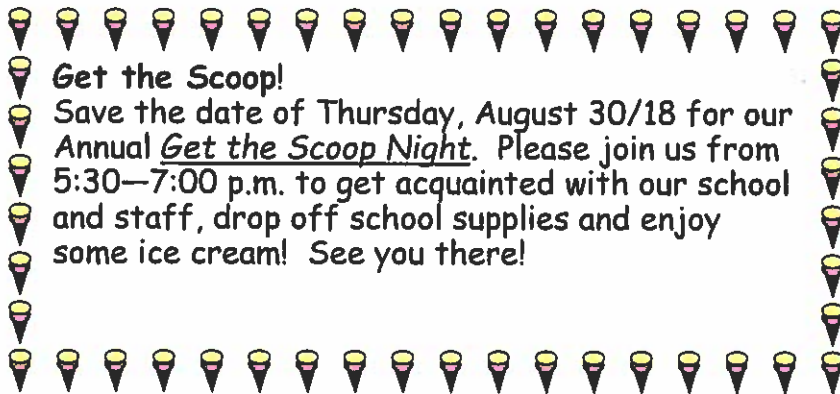
Grade 3 Awards will take place on Tuesday, June 26 at 9:30 a.m.

Grade 4 Awards will take place on Tuesday, June 26 at 1:00 p.m.

Grade 5 Awards will take place on Wednesday, June 27 at 9:30 a.m.

We look forward to seeing you at our Awards Assemblies as we celebrate the achievements of our students!





Get the Scoop!
 Save the date of Thursday, August 30/18 for our Annual Get the Scoop Night. Please join us from 5:30—7:00 p.m. to get acquainted with our school and staff, drop off school supplies and enjoy some ice cream! See you there!

Sports Day:

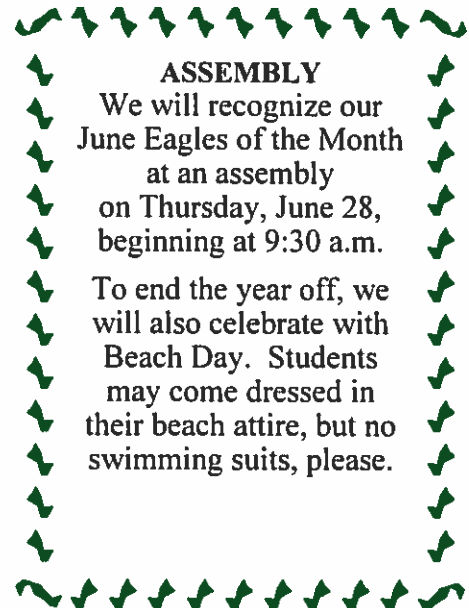
Students will participate in our annual Sports Day on Friday, June 22. Please come out and cheer our students on!

Our rain out day is scheduled for Monday, June 25.

A BBQ Lunch will be held in conjunction with Sports Day. The BBQ lunch will proceed on Friday, June 22 regardless of sports day weather.

We would like to thank Pembina Pipeline for sponsoring this BBQ.





ASSEMBLY
 We will recognize our June Eagles of the Month at an assembly on Thursday, June 28, beginning at 9:30 a.m.
 To end the year off, we will also celebrate with Beach Day. Students may come dressed in their beach attire, but no swimming suits, please.

June 18th is **Orange** Shirt Day at Whitecourt Central School
Everyone is encouraged to wear an **orange** shirt to honour residential school survivors.

We are extremely pleased to welcome 3X World Champion Hoop Dancer/Keynote Speaker Dallas Arcand, for a performance at 9:30 am, June 18, 2018.

Everyone Welcome!!



Scholastic BOGO Book Fair:

We're excited to host the Scholastic BOGO Book Fair on Tuesday, June 6/18 and Wednesday, June 7/18 from 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. each day. The book fair will be held in the library, so if you are attending in the evening please use the entrance on 53 Ave.

Eagles of the Month

Congratulations to our Eagles of the month for May 2018!

Grade 3:

Jordon Garrett
Meagan Marcotte
Spencer Braun
Elianna Dyck
Rose Letendre
Marshall Wright

Grade 4:

Rayne Thomas
Nate Dodman
Kasha Petrinchuk
Emma Gibbons
Lilli Pearce
Chelsea Morrow

Grade 5:

Fallon Styba
Hanna Plamondon
Logan Tyskerud
Brianna Tuts
Nancy Harms



Breakfast Program:

The last day for our Breakfast Program for this school year will be Friday, June 22, 2018. Thank you to each of our Breakfast Volunteers—without you, our Breakfast Program would not be possible!!



Class Lists:

Class lists are in the process of being created by our grade level teams. Each year, teachers spend a significant amount of time creating class lists that will ensure balance within all classrooms. In achieving this balance, teaching staff consider intellectual, social, and emotional needs, as well as classroom dynamics. This is a challenging process, but is essential to ensure that each and every child who attends our school is placed within a classroom that engages them in learning. This being said, we will not be accepting any class requests. If you are not planning to attend Central School next year, or Percy Baxter, for our Grade 5 students, please let us know so we can move forward with our planning.

Upcoming School Year

As we finish the 2017/2018 school year, we begin to look forward to the new school year. Two items to consider for your convenience are: *SchoolCashOnline* and *School Tools Program*.

Both of these programs are designed to save you time and are easily accessed online.

SchoolCash is an easy and effective way to pay for all school related fees. Please visit <https://ngps.schoolcashionline.com> to register.

School Tools Program is offered to you as an option to purchase your child's school supplies for the 2018/2019 school year. Simply visit staplesschooltools.ca before July 8, 2018 and your child's supplies will be shipped directly to the school. Our school reference numbers will be sent home in the school package at the end of the year.

Technology Access and Maintenance Fee - \$30

Equitable access to technology for all students supports the cultivation of social responsibility and the development of critical thinking skills through avenues that are relevant, responsive and meaningful. The technology integration fee levied on behalf of NGPS ensures that students have access to devices that can be used both at school and at home; to software that is connected to and complements curriculum; and to processes that both reinforce and encourage the demonstration of learner competencies.

In moving forward with the ongoing technology evergreen plan, the total anticipated cost is \$108/student/year. Schools will be collecting \$30 technology and maintenance fee to offset the total annual costs of \$108 per pupil held. This fee will be pro-rated to \$15 for each half time Kindergarten student. Families will be able to pay using School Cash come September.

Consistent with Government legislation, a board shall not charge any fees or costs for textbooks, workbooks or photocopying, printing or paper supplies. NGPS students and families will not pay fees for the any of the above.

For additional details please also see:

[Administrative Procedure 505 - Student Fees and Service Charges](#)

[Administrative Procedure 506 - Student Extra-Curricular Fees](#)

[Administrative Procedure 507 - Fee Waiver Program,](#)

Guided by the principle that finances should not be a barrier to a child's education, Northern Gateway Public Schools will waive fees for independent students or parents/guardians if they meet certain income guidelines, are on social services or are facing exceptional circumstances. If you qualify, you may apply using the application form for a waiver of fees – [Administrative Procedure 507 Appendix – Application for Waiver of Fee\(s\) and Instructions.](#)



June 2017



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1 Gum Day—\$1.00 (Relay for Life)	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Gr. 5 Trip to Edmonton 9—7 pm Swimming 4J & 4D	9	
10	11 Gr. 5 Orientation to Percy Baxter	12 Pizza Day	13	14	15 Gr. 5 Talent Show 12:45	16	
17	18 Orange Shirt Day Swimming—3L & 3B Swimming—4M & 4ML Hoop Dancer @ 9:30	19 Pizza Day Swimming—3M & 3D Swimming—4C & 4M	20 Swimming 3P/R & 3S	21 Swimming—4L & 4ML Swimming—3S, 3PR	22 Sports Day BBQ Lunch Day	23	
24	25 Sports Day Rain Out It's Awards Week!	26 Gr. 3 Awards—9:30 Gr. 4 Awards—1:00 Safety Patrol Movie	27 Gr. 5 Awards—9:30	28 Beach Day Parking Lot Dance Party—8:30 a.m. Assembly—9:30 a.m. Last Student Day Gr. 4&5 Glee Performing	29 Staff Planning Day	30	



Team for Success is now on Facebook! Please like and share our page for regular updates and fun pictures! Follow @Team4SuccessWct on Twitter as well!



How to Contact the Team for Success:

Project Coordinator:
E-mail: teagan.arnott@ngps.ca or
Call: (780)262-0466.

Tanya (Pat Hardy):
Call: (780)778-6266 ask for Tanya

Maren (Whitecourt Central):
Call: (780)778-2136 ask for Maren

Stacey (Percy Baxter):
Call: (780)778-3898 ask for Stacey

Transition Camps

Be Kind to Your Mind
registration is open!!!
Registration for this
camp must be done by
June 22nd!!! Give your
child some peace of
mind by sending them to
this back-to-school day
camp!

June Mental Health Tip

Three ways to help your child develop personal power:

1. Encourage your child to serve others. Believing you can make a difference in the world gives an enormous sense of personal power.
2. Advocate that family members form healthy lifestyle habits. People with personal power are less likely to be tired, stressed, and abuse mood-altering substances than people who feel helpless and victimized.
3. Teach your child practical skills such as how to change a tire, cook a couple of meals, and sew on a button. Well-prepared young people are more likely to feel a sense of personal power.

SUMMER SURVIVAL GUIDE

If you are like me, you may be viewing the approaching summer with a mixture of excitement and dread. Depending on parents' work schedule it could be a mad scramble trying to find childcare and summer camps or you may be dreading the long days of keeping your child entertained, stimulated and out of trouble for eight weeks!

Many parents think that keeping their child occupied 24-7 will be beneficial for them. Have you heard of the term *"White Space?"* In the visual arts world, it is a term often referred to as a negative space; a portion in art or designs that is left unmarked, empty, and blank. Just like white space is important in the art world by giving balance and defining boundaries, white space in a child's life is important because it gives them a chance to stop, pause and breathe.

This summer, I am giving parents of Northern Gateway Public School students a terrifying suggestion (or a double dog dare, if you will): Give your child a full 24 hours with no internet, no video games, no phone, and yes, no chores. After an initial mental break down from you and your child, surprising things will happen...they (and you) will discover imagination, innovation, adventure and natural curiosity.

Why do we fear "unplanned time" or "white space"?

In today's generation it's almost the norm to keep our children occupied at all times. Whether it's scheduled play dates, school, sports, video games or electronics. Some of us see unplanned time as a waste or fear that it could lead to our child getting into trouble. Or the darlings drive us a little crazy with their constant complaints on "being bored" or fighting among themselves.

At the risk of aging myself, I challenge parents this summer to go back to a few of parenting styles of the 1970's and '80's. Okay, I am not saying to ditch the bicycle helmets and car seats and have your precious angels roll around the back of a station wagon, but I think we can all lighten up on the expectations to provide constant entertainment for our children over the summer months. Crack open a Tab, spray some "Sun-in" on your hair and relax.

For those of you younger than me and may not know what a '70's and '80's summer looks like, here a few ideas:

1. *They can play outside. All Day.*

*If they're thirsty, drink from the hose

*Run through the sprinklers

- *Swim in a kiddie pool
- *Spray each other with water guns
- *Search for ladybugs
- *Play hide and seek between houses
- *Run down the street gutters after a rain storm
- *Read under a tree
- *Catch butterflies
- *Put a spider in a jar
- *Camp in the back yard or on the trampoline.
- *Build a fort out of whatever they can find. Their creativity will be in full swing by this time, and they will readily seek out unique materials.
- * "Home Free", "Kick the Can" or "Man Tracker" with neighborhood kids, siblings, cousins, or even mom and dad! It is even more exciting in the dark!

1 ***They can make stuff from whatever they can find.***

No trips to Michaels or Dollarama for pre-cut, pre-stuck, pre-fabricated crafts. Find stuff in the garage or shed or under the deck and assemble it into something they can play with. No, they can't Google how to do it, there's no internet, remember?

2 ***They can put on a talent show.*** A real, genuine, sing and dance and entertaining talent show. No theme, no requirements, no directions, no anything. There is no right way to do it, and no you can't go on Pinterest for ideas. Children have an imagination will learn how to use it.

3 ***They can set up a stand,*** sell lemonade, freezies, popsicles, juice, Kool-Aid (yup, the kind with red food dye), Tang (is this even a thing anymore?), whatever you have on hand. The bonus is they will have extra cash for when the ice cream truck drives by! My dad always told me, never drive past a lemonade stand, even if you're not thirsty. Leave a generous tip, and tell the kids it is the best lemonade you have ever tasted.

4 ***Send them on a scavenger hunt*** that takes them (safely through the neighborhood) for an extended period of time. Think four leaf clover, a dead beetle, bottle cap, magpie feather or other weird, hard to find objects.

5 *They can play on a rainy day.*

*Pull out the good old board games. Don't have any? Your local second hand store will have plenty. Leave a game on the table for a couple days, guaranteed your children will start playing them.

*Have a picnic on the kitchen floor

*Build a puzzle.

Great memories happen when we lower our expectations, turn off the screens, and harness the freedom of no school schedules. In our part of the country, the sunny, hot days of summer do not last long, so let's enjoy them while we can!

"Some old-fashioned things like fresh air and sunshine are hard to beat." ~ Laura Ingalls Wilder

This article was submitted by Tammy Charko BA, BSW, RSW. Tammy is Northern Gateway Public School's Division Social Worker. She is a support for schools, students, parents and caregivers to encourage success in school. Tammy advocates for students and provides a link between the student and other supports within the community. Tammy has been a social worker for nearly 20 years and is a mother to 4 children, 3 of which are teenagers.