



# Watt's Happening

**Watt Public School**  
2794 Hwy 141, RR#1  
Utterson, ON P0B 1M0

PHONE: 705-769-3643

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**DECEMBER 2017**

November has been a busy month! Students and staff have been working very hard on learning and achieving goals. Many students visit the office to proudly share their reading, writing and math – challenging us with math games, celebrating “combos” and math facts, sharing their thinking, and conducting surveys. Progress reports have gone home and I hope that everyone was able to meet with teachers to discuss learning progress and next steps for improvement. A strong connection between home and school is an important factor in student success.

In November, our students commemorated Remembrance Day. We were very proud of this student-led ceremony. We were honoured to have a special guest and veteran, Sergeant Burley, join us. We also celebrated a week of kindness in November. You may have noticed a small tree in our front foyer, with paper leaves. Each leaf represents an act of kindness. On Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> many of our students attended *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer* at Rene Caisse Theatre in Bracebridge. School Council made this possible for us by funding the bus – thank YOU! We also extend our appreciation to School Council for organizing our annual Poinsettia Fundraiser, which has been successful again this year! During November, new volunteers joined our Breakfast Program. We are extremely grateful for our community's continued support.

December is around the corner. Please mark important dates on your calendar including our annual Christmas Sale on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. It is truly heart-warming to watch students choose gifts for their family. I had the pleasure of seeing this in action several years ago when visiting Watt, and I'm pleased to discover that the tradition continues. Watt is truly steeped in wonderful traditions!

We also have our Christmas Concert on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>. Teachers and students have been preparing and planning; our halls and library have been filled with music and drama. We look forward to sharing our holiday spirit with you at the concert. Speaking of spirit, the students in *Watt Movement* have been busy bees. This year already, they spearheaded donations to Manna Food Bank through their Scare Hunger program, promoted “kindness” during Kindness Week, and now they are organizing “spirit” Fridays. Please check the “attire” for each Friday in December to join in the fun and earn “gotchas” for Colour Houses.

As winter approaches, please remind your children about our rule to keep “snow on the ground”. There are many fun and creative activities that children may engage in (e.g., building snowmen), but throwing snowballs is not permitted in the interest of safety for all.

In grade 7/8 we recently engaged in collaborative problem solving to develop a policy regarding personal devices. Cell phones have become a distraction during instructional times and a concern on the yard and during nutritional breaks. At Watt we recognize that technology plays an important role in our learning and personal lives, but we need to ensure that it is used safely and appropriately. Please take a look at the details of this co-created agreement in the newsletter and ask your students about our “off and away” policy.

We look forward to seeing you at many events during December. As always, my door is open. Please call or come by to visit if you have any questions or concerns.

Although it seems early, I know the time will pass quickly. Our last day of school this calendar year is Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Wishing you a safe and happy holiday!

*Norah Morrison*

## School News

### SAFE ARRIVAL

Parent(s)/Guardian(s); Please remember to contact the school in the event that your student(s) will be away/late.

**705-769-3643**



### December Pizza Orders

Completed December pizza orders must be returned to school office with payment by:

**Wednesday, November 29, 2017**

Please note our pizza options are  
Cheese & Deluxe!



# School Council

## Mark the date... Christmas Sale

Our annual Christmas Sale for students will take place on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am-1:10pm and from 9:30am-Noon on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Items for sale are priced at \$2. Students who bring money will shop during their classrooms' assigned time. Gifts purchased will be wrapped and tagged for the students to bring home ready to place under the Christmas tree. The children love to shop for their parents, siblings and/or grandparents; the delight on their faces after completing their shopping is wonderful to see.

Thank you to our fundraising elves for shopping, pricing and helping organize this annual Christmas Event!

### You're Invited

2017 / 2018 School Council Meeting



**Get Involved!**

**DATE:** Tues. Dec. 12th  
**TIME:** 6:30 pm  
**LOCATION:** Watt PS - Library

### Poinsettia Pickup



Please plan to pick-up your poinsettias  
**Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**After 11:30am**

### 2017 / 2018 School Council Committee

<b>CHAIRPERSON</b>	Kate Monk
<b>VICE-CHAIR</b>	Greg Goulter
<b>TREASURER/SECRETARY</b>	Cheryl Marshall
<b>FUNDRAISING CHAIR</b>	Jeannette Odman

### QUESTIONS?!?

Email: [askwattparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:askwattparentcouncil@gmail.com)



**PRINCIPAL:** Norah Morrison  
**SECRETARY:** Laurie Johle  
**MUSKOKA LAKES TRUSTEE:** Louise Clodd  
**SUPERINTENDENT:** Bruce Barrett

### STAY CONNECTED!



@TLDSB



@WATTPS



## *Bus Cancellations?*

[www.tlidsb.on.ca](http://www.tlidsb.on.ca) or [www.mybustoschool.ca](http://www.mybustoschool.ca)

In case of unsafe road conditions, cancellations are reported on the Board website, [www.tlidsb.on.ca](http://www.tlidsb.on.ca) or [www.mybustoschool.ca](http://www.mybustoschool.ca), and repeated on local radio stations including Moose FM. The decision to cancel buses is made in conjunction with bus operators as soon as road conditions are known in the morning. Decisions are made for each area of the School Board independently, as weather conditions vary.

If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not run in the afternoon. Therefore, if you drive your child to school on a bus cancellation day, you must also pick up your child.

If road conditions deteriorate during the day, or if the school facilities experience mechanical or electrical breakdown, or a power failure, students may be dismissed early. In this event, the school will follow its emergency plan to dismiss students. For more information on your school's emergency plan, contact the Principal.

**Parents can subscribe to their child's bus delays and cancellations at [ww.mybustoschool.ca](http://ww.mybustoschool.ca)**

### ***Appropriate Winter Clothing***

Winter weather is here and we need our students to be dressed warmly. Please ensure your children are dressed for the weather... Pack extra hats, mitts etc. and keep them at school.

### **"Off and Away" Policy for Cell Phones**

On November 16<sup>th</sup>, the grade 7/8's engaged in collaborative problem solving with Mr. Matthews and Mrs. Morrison about personal devices. After discussion, students co-created their "off and away" policy. With this plan, students are permitted to use their personal devices when required for learning purposes or during scheduled "tech" times. At all other times (including nutritional breaks and recess), cell phones will be stored in "**off and away**" bins, in student's back packs, school office, or at home. If students are not adhering to this policy, they will be asked to take devices to the office until the end of the day. If students need to call home due to illness or other reasons, they are asked to communicate with teachers, Mrs. Johle or Mrs. Morrison. We are happy to assist.

### ***Hand Washing Reminder***

As we all find ourselves indoors with others for longer periods of time, we'd like to remind everyone about the importance of *frequent hand washing* to avoid the spread of germs to others. Please remind and encourage your children to wash their hands often while at school. Thanks for your help with this important message.

### **SCHOOL PHOTOS**

***Wishing you'd ordered school photos for Christmas?***

**It's NOT too late! Orders DUE: Mon. Dec. 4th, 2017.**

For more information please contact:

**[www.edgeimaging.ca](http://www.edgeimaging.ca)  
1-888-416-3343**



# School Reminders

## Christmas Concert

Tuesday December 19, 2017

12:00pm (dress rehearsal)

6:30 pm (concert)

Non-perishable food items will be collected at the door for local food hampers.

*\*\* In the event that Dec. 19 is a snow day, the dress rehearsal and concert will be re-scheduled to Wed. Dec. 20, 2017 \*\**

## WATT PUBLIC SCHOOL – Mission

### Academic Skills

We connect learning to the real world at Watt Public School.

We encourage higher level thinking with an emphasis on the process of learning.

We aim to create an environment where students can solve problems, be creative and challenge themselves.

### Social Skills

We promote an understanding and appreciation of the rights and responsibilities of all members of the Watt community.

### Life Skills

We encourage healthy lifestyle choices at Watt Public School which will lead to a well-balanced adult life.

## Dates to Remember

**Dec 1** Pizza Day

**Dec 1** Dental Screening @ 9am

**Dec 1** PJ Day

**Dec 5** Poinsettia Orders arrive (11:30am p/u)

**Dec 7** Girls Unplugged

**Dec 7** Christmas Sale (9:30-1:10)

**Dec 8** Christmas sale (9:30-noon)

**Dec 8** Pizza Day

**Dec 8** Dress up as a present day!

**Dec 14** Girlz Unplugged (last day)

**Dec 14** January Pizza forms go home

**Dec 15** Ugly Sweater day!

**Dec 18** Decorate doors today!

**Dec 19** Christmas Concert - rehearsal noon

**Dec 19** Christmas Concert- 6:30-7:30pm

**Dec 20** Christmas Concert (snow date)

**Dec 21** Seasonal Craft rotation (middle block)

**Dec 22** Carol Sing (9:30am)

**Dec 22** Pizza Day

**Dec 22** Red/white/green day

**Dec 22** Assembly

**Dec 22** Last day!

**\*Happy Holidays\***

## Milk

White and Chocolate milk are sold daily during 2<sup>nd</sup> Nutrition Break for **\$1.00** by the office.



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLOSURES

**NO SCHOOL**

*Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> 2017-  
Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018!*

Back to School: Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018