

*Wasauksing Kinomaugewgamik Mazina'igan*  
**Booboogame Giizis 2024**

BROKEN SNOWSHOE MOON (APRIL) SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**MNO DBISHKAAN!**

April 6: Gwiingwiish

April 8: Greyson

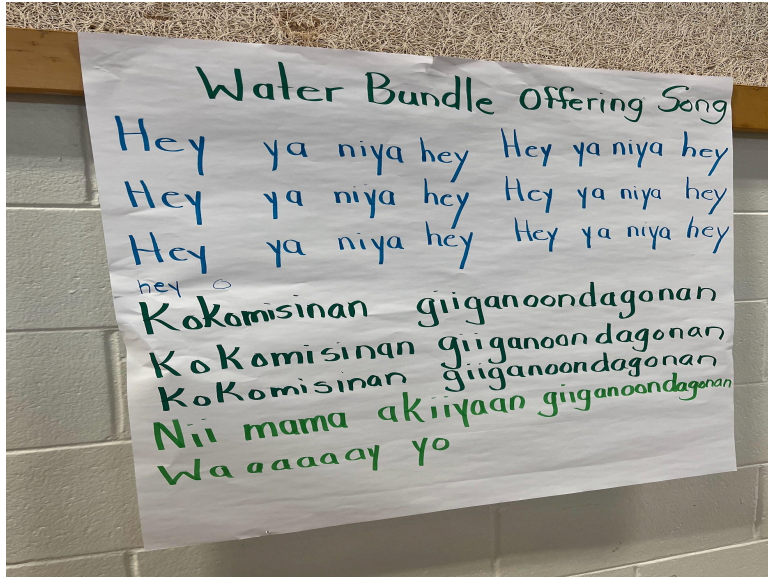
April 10: Blossom

April 16: Chase

April 20: Taiva

April 22: Kyanne

April 29: Gracie



March's Spirit Theme Jersey Day was a hit!

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## Baajmowin OgimaaKinomaagekwe (Principal's Message)

Aanii kina wiya,

It's hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the school year, with only 3 months left!! We begin to ramp up here in these months, with lots of activities and planning for year end trips and events.

While we were disappointed with the Christmas concert, we are excited to have Mnookmi Waabanda'iwewin (Spring Concert) this year to showcase our talent—I hope that this is something that we can continue in the coming years.

I have been reflecting on the Nibi Dbokjigan (Water Bundle Ceremony) we did as a school last month. As we go into intensive planning for our big Nibi (Water) Walk (SAVE THE DATE MAY 30th), I see how important it is to celebrate and care for our water all year long. Being in Wasauksing, I see how important Nibi is to the community and how much ceremony and care is taken for her. It was a beautiful moment to watch the bundle being thrown off the bridge by our children and with the help of our Nokomis. Waabkuniikwe helped us to understand that ceremony helps us to grow spiritually and connect with our Nibi, Akiikwe, and creation. I read a quote recently: "If our spiritual growth is a communal process, our collective physical, emotional and spiritual growth is accelerated..." The teaching of the bundle also taught us how important it is to put our good intentions into the work that we do. The spirit of our intent is put into the Semaa that goes into the bundle and our good thoughts, energy, and Namewin (prayers) are received by the spirit we are offering to. Ahow.

-Miigwech, Mnookmikwe (Leslie Ramsay) [principal@wasauksing.ca](mailto:principal@wasauksing.ca)

## Baajmowin Shkaabewis Kinomaagenini (Vice Principal's Message)

Aanii/Boozhoo,

As we embark upon Booboogame Giizis, the Broken Snowshoe Moon of 2024, the landscape outside mirrors the essence of this time – a tapestry of resilience and adaptability.

Imagine the sturdy snowshoe, its frame slightly fractured, yet still carrying its bearer across the snowy expanse. In much the same way, we find ourselves navigating the twists and turns of this season, fortified by our ability to adapt and persevere.

As we reflect on the wisdom shared during Sheema Osipenko's enlightening discussion on Manaaji'idiwin/Respect, where we delved into the ways we demonstrate and receive respect from one another, our hearts were enriched by the insights gained.

This month, on April 10, we eagerly anticipate welcoming Faith Pegahmagabow as she leads us in a discussion on Honesty/ Gwekwaadziwin. With Faith's guidance, we'll explore the significance of



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honesty in our interactions, both with ourselves and with others, deepening our understanding of integrity and truthfulness in our daily lives. Join us for what promises to be a thought-provoking and enriching session!

And speaking of journeys, as we navigate through the Broken Snowshoe Moon, we're reminded of the upcoming milestones on our calendar – from the camaraderie of the Chess Tournament to the vibrant hues of Aakiikwe Giizhigat (Earth Day), where we'll come together for a Clean Up & BBQ and a school spirit day in green and blue to celebrate our interconnectedness with our planet. As the month unfolds, we'll harmonize our voices in the Mnookmi Waabanda'iwewin, celebrating the arrival of warmer days with melodies that resonate through our hearts.

And amidst it all, we'll add a dash of whimsy with the Wacky Hair/Sock Spirit Day, a reminder to embrace joy in the everyday moments of school spirit and community.

-Nathaniel Smart [viceprincipal@wasauksing.ca](mailto:viceprincipal@wasauksing.ca)

## Baajmowin OgimaaKinomaagenini (Director's Message)

Congratulations to Education Counsellor, Mike Kalfus and Cultural Coordinator, Lisa Ross who have been asked to deliver a presentation at the Niigaan Gdizhaami Forum this month regarding the cultural programs being delivered at WK and partnering schools. They will also be bringing 5 local High School students to the forum to present the successes of the 7 Grandfathers program. I would also like to acknowledge the excellent work being done in our school by our unheralded support staff (Educational Assistants, Custodians, School Coordinator and Bus Drivers). They are an integral part in making Wasauksing Kinomaugewgamik the excellent learning place that it is today. Our Education Committee has been busy looking at Attendance & Transportation policies and providing input into possible strategies to help educators achieve the goals as set out in our Comprehensive School Evaluation. I look forward to seeing many of our community members at the upcoming events listed below. The students love to see elders, caregivers and all community members at the functions. As always, please do not hesitate to call or email me regarding any suggestions, ideas etc..regarding education...[doe@wasauksing.ca](mailto:doe@wasauksing.ca)

-Dave McDougall



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## Important Dates

April 2nd: Autism Awareness Day

April 8 & 26: PD Days

April 10: Aambe Baajmindaa

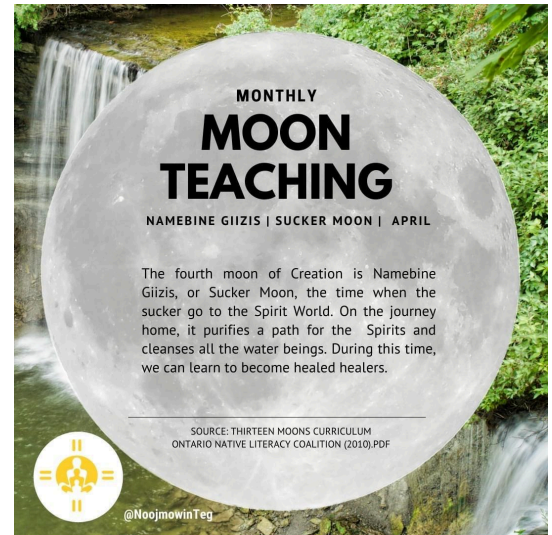
April 12: Chess Tournament

April 17-29: BOOK FAIR

April 22: Aakiikwe Giizhigat (Earth Day), Clean Up & BBQ, Wear Green/Blue Spirit Day

April 23: Mnookmi Waabanda'iwewin (Spring Concert)

April 25: Wacky Hair/Sock Spirit Day, PSiHS ArtsFest for Grade 6/7/8



## Literacy

### Home Reading Program

We would like to thank all of the parents who have taken the time to support their child with reading at home. Our Home Reading Program, which began at the beginning of Mkwá Giizis (February), will continue until the end of the school year. Please contact us at the school if you have any questions. Students can earn small prizes for every five 15-20 minutes of reading and they get their name in our end-of-the-year raffle for a larger prize.

### Scholastic Book Fair

Once again, we will be hosting our Scholastic Book Fair from Boopoogame Giizis (April) 17th - 29th, 2024, 8:30 to 4:30 every week day. We will send home a book flyer by April 11th. We can already hear the students' excitement about the upcoming book fair.

**Mnookmi Waabanda'iwewin (Spring Concert)-The bookfair will be open until 6: 30 p.m.**

### Literacy Evening

This year, we will have a Literacy information booth at our Spring Concert. We will be giving our free Snakes and Ladder Word games, book marks, and various other information flyers.

-Donna [teacher3@wasauksing.ca](mailto:teacher3@wasauksing.ca)



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## Special Education

April is Autism Awareness Month and April 2nd is Autism Awareness Day. On April 2nd, Allison will be coming around to the classes to do some lessons, talks, and read alouds on Autism Spectrum Disorder and the 'Gifts' that come with ASD. Teachers are also being encouraged to continue the discussion on Autism and 'Neurodiversity' through the month of April.

Mental Health Counselling will be continuing on a part-time basis until April 22nd, at which time Lisa Ivany will be taking holidays while she finishes her practicum. When she returns on May 6th she will be able to return to 3 days a week of Mental Health Counselling. Lisa has provided journals for the students to use during her 2 weeks off. We want to give a big Miigwetch to Lisa for stepping up to support our school during such a busy time for her.

Chi-Miigwetch Lisa!

-Allison [sertlead@wasauksing.ca](mailto:sertlead@wasauksing.ca) miinwaa Diane [sert@wasauksing.ca](mailto:sert@wasauksing.ca)



## JK/SK Class

Welcome to Spring! We have been enjoying the crazy weather that spring likes to bring. We enjoyed sliding and playing in the snow after March break.

We are expanding our letter knowledge and learning how to blend sounds into cvc words such as cat, sat, can, ran and so on. We are having fun rhyming and making silly words. During our water walk week we created a water hero. We enjoyed talking about what our superhero would look like and all of the wonderful things it could do. Everyone was very interested in learning about the water and how they can protect it.

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We have been learning about shapes and patterns. Everyone is having fun working with the shapes and blocks to build new structures and pictures.

We really enjoyed our easter party. Students decorated eggs, had an easter egg hunt, and played some fun games with our plastic easter eggs.

Danielle Brooks [teacher1@wasauksing.ca](mailto:teacher1@wasauksing.ca) miinwaa Agnes & Dani



## Grade 1/2 Class

Time is flying! It must be because of all the fun being had! :) The grade one/two class is having a blast in the arts right now. We are exploring our dramatic skills with puppets and using the classroom keyboard to create soundtracks to our performances. We are also learning the dance moves to Snoop Dog's Affirmations song (check it out on YouTube!). Our home reading program has been a huge success, keep up the good work! We have now seen our "pet" tree "Oakley" in all four seasons; watching 'him' adapt to the seasonal changes. Nature is awe-inspiring! We can't wait to see what exciting learning adventures this spring will bring! Stay tuned for hatching chicks, pet ants, and dramatic performances!

Jessica [teacher5@wasauksing.ca](mailto:teacher5@wasauksing.ca) & Sarah



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## Grade 3/4 Class

Aanii! We've been busy in the 3/4 class, let me share what we've been up to!

**Language** - We have been working so hard to become more tech-savvy so that the technology we have available can support our learning. We now know how to navigate Google Classroom and Google Docs. We can use voice-to-text to type by speaking and text-to-voice to have any words read to us outloud; now we can all read anything, regardless of our current reading level, and we can all communicate in writing, regardless of our spelling skills or the legibility of our handwriting. This has really opened the door to tackling more difficult content and concepts (like the nuances involved in creating more complex sentences) as we move into our story writing unit. Exciting times!

**Math** - With a solid foundation in addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, we are now understanding how to approach more 'real-world' math by learning to solve 'word problems' that describe a situation involving numbers instead of being given the equations to solve. The goal here is being able to see the relationships between numbers and figuring out our own equations. Before the end of the year, we will apply our skills in data analysis and algebra.

**Health** - We continue to focus on health under the umbrella of regulation and looking after ourselves. We've talked a lot about reactive regulation (responding to hard feelings), but this month we are taking a step back and learning about how to increase our ability to cope with difficulty by taking care of ourselves. We know we need to get enough sleep, eat often enough, drink enough water, and not spend too much time looking at screen, but we had to use technology to learn exactly what is 'enough' when it comes to sleep, food, and water, and what is 'too much' when it comes to being on devices. Knowing ourselves and what it takes to stay regulated is the goal.

**Science** - World Water Day sparked an interest in the water cycle and the fact that the water we drink today is the same water that has always existed on our planet. We made terrariums, planted seeds, watered them, and sealed them up. Our plants are growing, despite no water being added, because we made mini-ecosystems that have the water cycle at work.

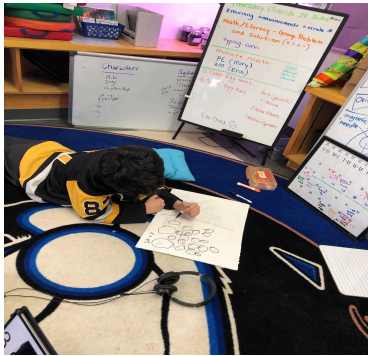
**Socials** - We have begun our cultural studies / geography projects by learning about landforms and population needs; we are building islands with various landforms and populating these islands in a way that preserves the environment and provides the communities with the resources they need. From here, we will move into the historical study of Wasauksing.

**Arts** - We are working on an instrumental performance for the spring concert. It's hard work and will take a lot of persistent practice, but we'll get there, and we're excited to show off our efforts! We continue with creation stations on Fridays when we practise our skills to make new things.



As always, please reach out at any time!

Miigwech,  
Rosie & Pamela (705-559-5342) [teacher7@wasauksing.ca](mailto:teacher7@wasauksing.ca)



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## Grade 5/6

Aanii! What? Another month has passed already? Holy Moly! Ok, Let's get down to it. Here's a wee glimpse of what we've been up to.

**Math:** After wrapping up our geometry adventures, we've now shifted our focus to the captivating world of coordinate planes and will learn how to plot, translate, reflect, and rotate points and shapes.

**Science:** Grade 5 students have embarked on an exploration of the principles and conservation of energy, while our Grade 6's are diving headfirst into the electrifying realm of electricity.

**Geography:** Our journey across the vast expanse of Canada unit continues. We are immersing ourselves in the different regions of our country, honing our map-reading skills, mastering Google Maps, and the art of using a compass rose to navigate direction.

**Arts:** We are busy brainstorming and planning for the upcoming Spring concert. Stay tuned...

In other news, we're on a mission to boost our home reading participation from about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the class to 100% Let's make it happen!

Beyond the classroom, many of our students ventured to the big city of Markham for Little NHL during March break. It was fun hanging out with each other outside the school setting. Congratulations to all participants for their tremendous effort and sportsmanship!

-Dan [teacher2@wasauksing.ca](mailto:teacher2@wasauksing.ca) miinwaa Joanna





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## Grade 6/7/8 Class

Aanii Grade 6/7/8 families,

Hope all of you have been well and enjoyed the March Break!

Since the last newsletter, we have not had many school days because of the March Break and Easter holidays. Please see this year's Easter Egg Hunt pictures below. We also had an Art Session in which our guest artist, Don Corbett, got the students to work on Plein Mind AKA infinite imagination. In terms of academics, we worked on the following topics:

**Mathematics:** Numbers - practice on [DreamBox](#) and [Khan Academy](#)

**English:** Digital Citizenship Unit - Smartphone Addiction; **Reading** on [ReadWorks](#) and [Raz Plus](#), Word Study, Grammar and Comprehension exercises on [Lexia](#).

**Science:** Gr.6-Biodiversity; Gr.7 - Ecosystems (Human Interactions in the Environment); Gr.8 - Cells (Organization of Cells into Tissues, Organs, and Organ Systems)

**Art:** Art Session with Don Corbett on Plein Mind AKA infinite imagination.



Easter Egg Hunt, 2024







**Art Session with Don Corbett**

Baamaapii! Indu Bala Yadav [teacher6@wasauksing.ca](mailto:teacher6@wasauksing.ca) miinwaa Katelyn

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LAST THOUGHTS



Look back  
and be grateful,  
look ahead and be  
hopeful, look around  
and be helpful.



## Iskigamizigan-Sugar Bush

AKAWE ASEMAAKE- FIRST OFFER TOBACCO  
ININAATIG(OOG)-MAPLE TREE(S)  
MANISE-S/HE CUTS FIREWOOD  
NEGWAAKWAAN(AN)-TAP(S), SPIGOT(S)  
AKIK(OOG)-BUCKET, PAIL(S), CONTAINER(S)  
BAKITE'IGAN-HAMMER  
BAGONE'IGAN-DRILL  
OZHIGA'IGE-S/HE TAPS TREES  
OZHIGA'-TAPS H/  
MAAJIGAA-S/HE STARTS TO RUN W/ SAP  
NAADOOBII-S/HE GATHERS SAP  
ZIINZIBAAKWADWAABOO-MAPLE SAP  
ISKIGAMIZIGE-S/HE BOILS DOWN SAP  
ZHIIWAAGAMIZIGAN-MAPLE SYRUP  
OMBIGAMIZIGE-S/HE BOILS SAP TO SUGAR  
NASE'IGE-S/HE STIRS TO FORM SUGAR

