

## The General Brock May Newsletter

So long spring showers...welcome May flowers!

As a staff, we are looking forward to hosting our first community night in two years! It will take place right after school on May 18 from 3:00 to 5:00pm. We will have gym activities, community partners, and art and music activities for all. Halal hot dogs, chips, and juice will also be available for a nominal fee. We look forward to seeing you there!

Additionally, we look forward to Track and Field, Special Olympics, field trips, and Graduation events during the next two months of school.

Thank you for your support with our Little Caesars Fundraiser – a \$700 profit that will be used to support our arts programming for our Bulldogs! Congratulations to the Roy family as our top fundraisers!

A friendly reminder - if your child will be absent from school, please call the school or enter the absence on Edsby. Also, please have your students arrive after 8:20 – supervision begins then.

With the change in seasons, a slight change to our morning entry procedures will begin. Instead of entering the building at 8:20, students will now begin entering at 8:30. Staff will be outside to bring our students into the building at this time.

Whenever possible, we ask that children arrive as close to the 8:35 bell. This helps to reduce the large numbers of students on the playground.

If you have a child(ren) in Kindergarten, a separate entry procedure will be shared with you via the kindergarten Staff.

Thank you for your flexibility as we adopt this new morning schedule.

The weather continues to warm up outside – finally! Please be sure to dress in layers, label your child(ren)'s clothing, bring extra water and use sun-screen when possible. This helps to keep everyone safe and comfortable when participating in both indoor and outdoor activities during the school day.

We look forward to the next several weeks at school and really appreciate your partnership with us. Together, we care about each other.

Sincerely,

Mr. Callow and Mr. Johnson

## Important Dates

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 – Pizza Days from 'Pizza Plus' - all Halal - \$3/slice or two for \$5 – no pre-orders

May 4, 18 – Nacho Day - \$3/one or two for \$5 – no pre-orders

May 6, 13, 20, 27 - Kettle Corn Fundraiser - \$3/bag or 2 bags for \$5 - no pre-orders

May 16-20 – Fit-week – let's get active – 'Hope, Support, Connect'

May 18 – 3:00-5:00 - Community night – more details to come

May 19 – 3:00-4:00 - Welcome to Kindergarten for our new Bulldogs – more details to come

May 20 – Loonie License day – forms will be sent home prior to the day

May 23 – Victoria Day – no school for students

May 24 – June 2 - EQAO for students in grades 3 and 6

May 27 - Student of the Month - Compassion / Month in Review assembly beginning @ 1:30 in gym

June 2 – Elections – Polling station open all day in our gym

June 3 – Spirit Day – Hawaiian Theme

## Kindergarten News

**Welcome to Kindergarten** will be on **Wednesday, May 19th, 2019 from 3:00 pm to 4:00pm in our Kindergarten classrooms**. Over the course of an hour, parents/guardians and their children will be invited to participate in a short session designed to help prepare our future Bulldogs for a successful, engaging, and fun filled first year in school. Each family will be provided with a bag full of learning and literacy resources to use at home.

## Mental Health Support Services

Student mental health and well-being is a crucial part of student success. This is a priority at the GECD SB especially as we continue to deal with the impact of COVID-19.

As such, the GECD SB has been able to provide a comprehensive list of agencies and services that are available to support both students and families.

Detailed information can be found at - [Mental Health Resources](#)

Fit-week during the month of May is here – ‘Hope Support and Connect’



May Fit-week theme is “Hope, Support, and Connect’ during May 16-20. During the week staff and students will engage in activities that promote health and well-being during our daily routines. Research shows that regular moderate physical activity can improve learning and mental health. It helps increase energy level, attention span, problem solving and decision-making skills. Daily physical activity can also help improve children’s skills for writing tests.

## EQAO

The letters EQAO stand for **Education Quality and Accountability Office**. They are an arm's-length agency of the provincial government and are responsible for testing students in Ontario in Grades 3, 6, 9 and 10. The tests are based on the Ontario Curriculum.

As we move towards the end of May, students in grade 3 and 6 will be participating and completing the EQAO Provincial Assessment. The EQAO assessment will take place from **May 24-June 2**. Please ensure your child is present at school during this time and try to schedule any appointments for your child before or after the testing. Certain basic supports, such as having a good breakfast and getting enough sleep the night before help. Some other strategies that you may choose to implement to help your child do the best that they can include: review of formulas, language rules and other facts. When reviewing notes, have your child focus on the facts several seconds while studying. This extra bit of time will give the brain a chance to store the information in short term memory. Try to familiarize your child with the types of questions that may be asked. Check with your child’s teacher on what types of questions or if there are any extra practice test materials available. Our Grade 3 and 6 teachers will be practicing

sample questions from previous EQAO tests. You can try to recreate these types of questions at home as well. You may wish to use items like flashcards to match words and definitions. The EQAO website ([www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)) also has practice tests available in the parent resource section.

### **Resources for Parents**

EQAO has created a short video to assist parents and guardians of primary- and junior-division students participating in the assessments. The video is now available on EQAO's website too:

[www.eqao.com/about-eqao/media-room/videos/information-parents-guardians-about-primary-junior-assessments](http://www.eqao.com/about-eqao/media-room/videos/information-parents-guardians-about-primary-junior-assessments).

### **A Little Bit of Local History**

Does the name John Muir ring a bell? Well, if you have been part of the Brock community for some years, you may know that he was a former principal of our school. In addition to being the principal of General Brock, Mr. Muir was also passionate about the community of Sandwich and the well being of its residents. He had a hand in many local projects, including the development of the Sandwich Health Centre in 1989 and the town's sculptures of General Isaac Brock and Chief Tecumseh, which commemorate the War of 1812. For that reason, Mr. Muir's name now resides on the front of the Sandwich Public Library on Mill Street, just south of Sandwich Street.

Maybe you don't know that this beautifully renovated library building was once a fire hall? Where the library now stands was the former site of the first Methodist church in 1838, which was also used for a period as the Sandwich town hall. In 1921, a fire hall, designed by local architect Gilbert J.P. Jacques, was built. The hall originally featured a three-story hose drying tower with an unusual pagoda roof. The horse stable behind the hall dates prior to 1915 and was used in the days of horse drawn fire engines. This is the only surviving fire hall stable in Windsor. In 1941, while the firefighters were out on a call, a fire swept through the second story and destroyed a portion of the tower. The structure was rebuilt in 1945 with a new second story façade and a shorter tower and continued to serve until it was decommissioned in 1964.



What was once housed in the front part of our own school building, the Windsor Public Library decided to move the Sandwich branch to the restored fire hall which opened in 2019. It's \$5.5-million price tag was around double what it would have cost to build a brand-new branch and construction was delayed due to unforeseen problems that pop up when a 1921 building, vacant and abandoned for close to a decade, is being dramatically repurposed. The transformation of the 1921 Sandwich Fire Hall and Stable into a stunning 21st century public library facility is a spectacular example of innovative planning and construction.

The historically accurate restoration returned the fire hall to how it looked in 1941, while the much-older stable was returned to how it looked when it was built in the mid-19th century. An addition was built to connect the two structures of both heritage buildings. In addition, the existing hose-drying tower was converted to a glass-capped observation tower, an outdoor piazza was constructed with reclaimed granite stones, and a glassed-in community room was included in the multi-use design. Another interesting feature is the exposed original charred timber on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor that visually documents the 1941 fire.

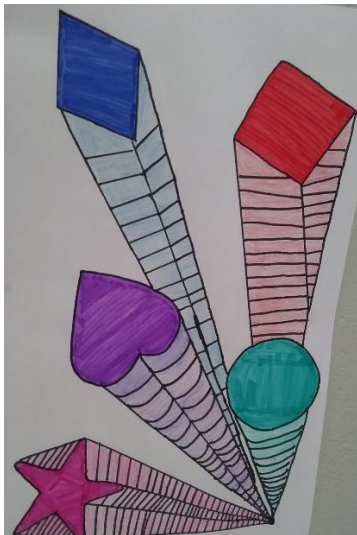


Since its opening, the John Muir Branch has won numerous awards for its design and historical conservation. Sadly, our former principal Mr. Muir passed away in 2016 at the age of 75, three years before the opening of this magnificent heritage building that bears his name.



Featured this month - Grade 6 students from Mrs. Brown's sharing their hard work below...

### **One Point Perspective by Mobolaji A**



**One-Point Perspective by Savannah W**



**One-Point Perspective by Kaylynn M**



## The Little Boy Who Went Missing in the Woods

Author: Devin G.



One morning a boy named little Timmy goes outside and plays with his friend Tom the dog and one hour later Timmy's mom calls them in for lunch. After they were done eating lunch, they went back outside in Timmy's back yard and Timmy said, "Let's go into the woods." So they go and they walk for a couple hours and Timmy and his dog go missing.

The parents and the police start a search party to find Timmy and Tom, the dog. They find a piece of his clothes that gives them a little hint. They keep following it and then they see a wolf standing right next to Timmy and Tommy. Tommy, the dog, is defending Timmy.

The dog ends up scaring off the wolf and the police hear the wolf barking and they go into the area and find them. The police take Timmy to the hospital and while he is in Emergency they call his parents and tell them. The parents go to the hospital and they see Timmy and they can't bear to look at him. He is super skinny and he is not the boy who they remember. The parents hugged their son and said, "Don't worry, everything will be ok."







## A Convenient Case

Author: Ayman H.

It was midnight. The basketball court was dusty and old. The poles and the backboard were turning rusty. Three backpacks lay on the ground forgotten, not yet knowing that their owners were indeed missing. A car zoomed past, almost running over an orangey-red basketball. A convenience store across the street was the only sign of light, until the owner turned them off and left, muttering angrily under his breath... Joe woke up on a Thursday morning without any worry in his head. He forced himself out of his soft, comfortable bed and walked to the bathroom. He washed his face and went downstairs and put some bread in the toaster. He made himself some morning coffee and heard the “ding” from the toaster. He picked up the toast and immediately dropped it. Joe was late for work... again. He hastily ate the toast and gulped down his coffee. The coffee scratched his throat while he ran upstairs, changed, brushed his teeth, put on his best fedora, and left the house. He got into his jet-black jeep and drove off.

He got there in exactly five minutes. He gulped as he walked into his boss’ office and found himself in front of his boss again, who he thought was trying to make himself hoarse. “YOU’RE LATE AGAIN, MR. MACOWSKI. YOU ARE NOT TRYING AT ALL TO FIGURE OUT THAT CASE ABOUT THOSE FOUR MISSING BOYS. YOU’VE GOT NO CARE IN THE WORLD!” yelled Mr. Ross. “I can assure you I am doing everything I can,” replied Joe calmly. “I WANT TO SEE A LEAD BY THE END OF TODAY OR ELSE YOU’RE FIRED,” he yelled. Joe groaned and silently walked out. He walked to his unstable, broken-down old desk filled with file reports and donut boxes. It took him a good 30 minutes just to find it. He looked at the file report for the four boys and saw that they were last seen at Center Town public basketball court. He walked out of the building and got into his jeep and slammed the door. He thought to himself, “That’s the sketchiest place in town. No wonder they went missing,” and he drove off.

He got out of his jeep and looked around the place. It was completely deserted except for the spray-painted-on shops behind him. He looked at the convenience store and saw weird, worn-out basketball shoes that didn't have any price tag. It looked very suspicious. Joe walked into the store, and he heard weird thumping noises in the back. He guessed that the owner was having a doubt of career choices because this place felt deserted. Joe left and he walked on the court and almost immediately turned around. Joe saw a basketball on the street and went to pick it up, but before he could, he saw four soggy backpacks in a dark, murky puddle. He walked towards them and picked one of the backpacks up with one hand, as if it were something poisonous, and opened it. The nametag said it belonged to Bob Applebee. He knew this was one of the boys that went missing. Joe heard something behind him and said, "Hello, Mr. Smith." Mr. Smith was the convenience store owner. He had a short beard and moustache, short brown hair, and a few freckles. His eyes were a cold grey colour, and he was almost as tall as Joe. He was wearing a red plaid long-sleeved shirt and some old, worn-out jeans. Mr. Smith held out his hand and Joe shook it. "Please, call me Mike," Mr. Smith said in an oily voice. He continued, "I saw the librarian look at the kids outside my store with a look of envy in his eyes. You might want to ask him." "Thanks," replied Joe, and while Joe drove off, he heard Mike say, "Those four boys are very, very...."

Joe looked at the library. He was very fond of the librarian, so he doubted what Mike said. Joe noticed that very few people went to the library, well fewer than usual. He walked up the stone steps and opened the oak doors. It was incredibly quiet. As he walked through the library to the counter, he noticed that people were very crowded in the "detective/mystery" section. Joe smirked. He walked to the counter and said, "Hello Mark,". The librarian looked down and put a smile on his face, "Why hello Joe! What brings you to the library?" asked Mark joyfully. "I would like to ask you some questions," replied Joe. "Shoot," said Mike. Joe held up four pictures and asked, "Where were you when these four boys went missing?"

Unsuccessfully, Joe left the library. Mark had said that he was near the Center Town public basketball court and that he was jealous because his mother had made him go to "The Literacy Camp Wonder" when he wanted to go to basketball camp. He knew this was true because he always told Joe the horrible things that happened to him there. Joe looked at his old, dusty watch and saw that it was 6:00pm. Work was over. He felt sadness drench over him as if a wet mop were placed on his head. He was not able to give Mr. Ross a lead yet. He went home and walked up the stairs. Joe instantly fell asleep. He remembered his

conversation with Mike and Mark and realized something. Joe knew who kidnapped the four boys.

Joe quickly left his house that morning and drove to the convenience store. He didn't even care about the speed limit or that he was fired. He walked into the store and saw Mike. He didn't bother to say hello and said to Mike, "What's in that door behind you?" Mike looked shocked. Mike said, "You can go and see for yourself." Joe leaped over the counter and opened the door very slowly. What he saw was shocking. Four boys with their backs to each other tied to each other in thick ropes. "Hello? Is someone here to save us?" said one of the boys. "Not another move detective," said Mike from behind him. He was pointing at a steel gray pistol at his back. Mike said, "I do have a question for you. How did you know it was me?" he continued. "It was easy," Joe said, "How did you know I was on the case of the four boys, unless you were expecting a detective?" Mike looked shocked and worried. Joe turned around and Mike shot. It made a loud **\*BANG\***. Luckily for Joe, Mike's aim was lousy. Mike fumbled with his weapon and accidentally dropped it, giving Joe the chance to point his weapon at Mike. "Put your hands up where I can see them," said Joe with the most fury he had ever had. Mike thought to himself for a second, but he did what Joe said. Joe called the police, and they were there in under a minute. Mike had been sentenced to 8 years in jail and community service. "I am deeply sorry Joe, for all I said," Mr. Ross whispered. Joe nodded. That was how he accepted apologies. The four boys, Jamal, Bob, Jeff, and Samson were shaken up but all right. Joe thought that everything was fine, but little did he know that he was terribly wrong... A purple-faced fat man sitting in a red velvet armchair looking at the convenience store cameras, yelled in rage, "THAT IDIOT!". His henchmen shook in fear. "I'm going to get that detective even if it takes my whole life," he angrily said.