



Gator News

#10

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our second semester! It's hard to believe that we are already half-way through the school year, but here we are finishing the second week of our second semester. Students and staff have worked hard to close out the first semester strong and to settle into the second half of the school year. As you know, semester one final report cards were published last Friday. If you have not yet had a chance to look, please be sure to login to MyEd BC to review the report card with your student. Click [Family Portal](#) if you need help logging on. I extend sincere thanks to our staff for helping our students to get settled into the new semester so quickly and for making the transition so smooth.

While we are half-way through the school year, we are already planning for next year. Our course planning process is well under way. We have already hosted some parent and student information sessions and we will continue to host more information sessions with our students and families next week. Please see the detailed schedule in this newsletter for the important and upcoming dates related to course planning.

This month we have an intensified focus as a school and as a District in terms of celebrating diversity and inclusion. February is Black History Month. Our staff have collaborated to put together a variety of activities that classroom teachers may use to facilitate discussions and learning within the classroom which celebrates some of the accomplishments of Black Canadians.

From February 20 to 24, our students and staff will be participating in various activities, celebrations, commemorations and learning to build upon our understanding of respect and diversity and how it impacts our own actions, our peers, community, and country. Students and staff will be encouraged to show their appreciation of Diversity and Respect Week. I look forward to sharing some of the activities and highlights in our next newsletter.

Yesterday, we hosted a virtual student assembly where we focused on two key areas:

- 1) Semester 2 Reset
- 2) [PLC](#) Implementation

In the Semester 2 Reset portion of our assembly we reminded students of our expectations as a school community and the collective ownership and responsibility that we all have to take care of our school and take care of each other. In response to student feedback, we have adjusted our practices around students leaving the classroom during class time (to access washrooms or other areas of the building) by implementing a hall pass system. This implementation will start on Monday. As always, we monitor the implementation process and adjust as needed based on our observations as a staff and



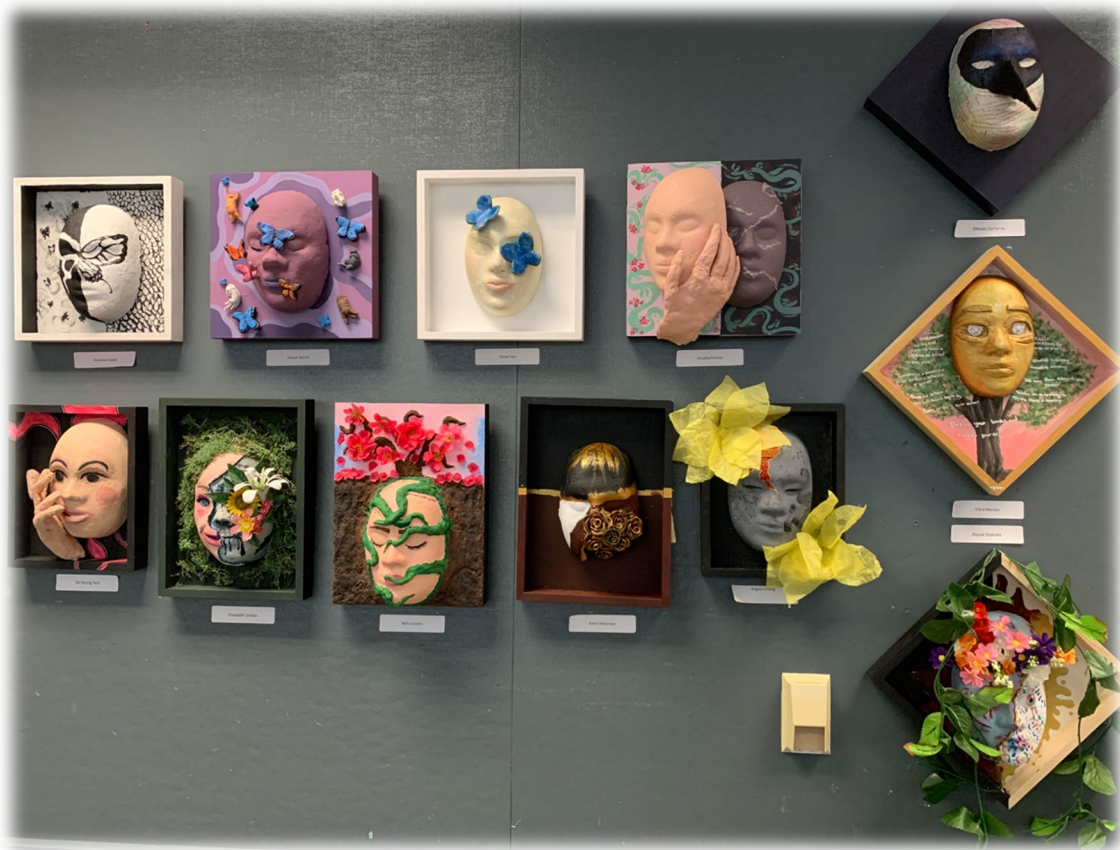
feedback from our students. The [PLC](#) Implementation section of the assembly, we shared our upcoming plan for implementing HUB Time. I am hoping that you all had a chance to review the letter that we sent home yesterday both from the District and from us, as a school, explaining the details and the purpose of this new initiative. There is also a fantastic student created video that helps to clarify what the expectations are for students during this time.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

J. Lyndon

Proud Principal



Spectacular artwork from Mr. Gordon's class!



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UPCOMING DATES

Friday, February 14	Grade 8-11 Course planning assemblies (virtual)
Friday, February 14	MyEd opens for course selection
Thursday, February 16	Course Planning presentation for families of students going into Grade 9 and 10 @ 7:00 PM
Thursday, February 16	Course Planning presentation for families of students going into Grade 11 and 12 @ 7:30 PM
Monday, February 20	Family Day, school closed
Wednesday, February 22	Pink Shirt Day
Wednesday, February 22	PLC Day
March 8 and 9	Early dismissal at 1:55PM for parent/teacher interviews, more info to follow.
Friday, March 10	Last day of classes prior to Spring Break
Monday, March 27	School re-opens after Spring Break

GATOR GEAR

We are excited to offer WGSS Gator Gear for purchase. Check out some of the new and exciting items available at www.beastvan.com/wgss. Some details to remember when placing your order:

- Be sure to check the sizing charts available online.
- Please be sure to select "**Shipping**" under Order Options upon check-out. All orders will be organized and delivered to the school. If this option is NOT selected, your order will not be processed.
- We hope to have the orders arrive at the school and be distributed before Spring Break, however, we are relying on production factories and shipping to run smoothly.

Orders will only be accepted through the online store. **Place your orders early!** The deadline to order is **Friday, February 17, 2023**. Late orders will not be accepted.

TRAFFIC CONTROL

We have received some feedback from neighbouring townhouse complexes that some WGSS families are using their lanes and driveways as a drop-off and pick-up zone to avoid traffic on Walnut Grove Drive. Please respect the property of our neighbours and use only WGSS parking lots/driveways for drop-off.



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COURSE PLANNING UPDATE

It is a busy time with course planning. We have already had information sessions for students and families for our AP program. Next week we will have more sessions for students and families. Here are the sessions that we will be having this week:

- Monday, Feb 13 – Grade 10 students will hear about our EDGE program during REP
- Tuesday, Feb 14 – All Grade 8-11 students will have our course planning presentations during REP
- Thursday, Feb 16 – Parents of students going into Grade's 9 & 10 next year are invited to join for Course Planning information @ 7:00pm in our Gator Pod room
- Thursday, Feb 16 - Parents of students going into Grade's 11 & 12 next year are invited to join for Course Planning information @ 7:30pm in our Library

Other Important Information about Course Planning

All the forms for specialty programs will open at 10:00am on February 14. MyEd will open on February 14 for students to start entering their course selections. All registrations must be completed by February 23. Students and families who would like additional information about our programs and courses that are offered please view our [Course Guide website](#). It is an incredible resource.

We hope to have many parents and families join us for our information sessions on February 16.

SUBSTANCE USE DECRIMINALIZATION INFORMATION FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND CAREGIVERS

The Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, has developed an information sheet on substance use decriminalization for parents, guardians, and caregivers. [Talking to Children and Youth about Decriminalization and Substance Use: Resources for Parents/Guardians and Caregivers](#) is now available on the erase website.



PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION MEETING – AP356

The District is sharing information from the recent Parent/Guardian Information Meeting held to discuss Administrative Procedure 356. The District appreciates everyone who attended the meeting and engaged with our staff. It was an opportunity for attendees to hear from District staff about the procedure and next steps, as well as have their questions answered. To report back to the community, the District is sharing the meeting minutes, presentation slides, as well as questions and answers from the meeting. You can find all this information and instructions to provide further feedback on the District website [here](#).

ATHLETICS

Our basketball season is nearing a close. Our teams are involved in the playoffs, competing hard and having a great deal of success.

Here are some of our results at this point:

Grade 8 Girls – 2nd in Langley

Grade 8 Boys – 1st in Langley

Grade 9 Girls – 1st in Langley

Grade 9 Boys – 3rd in Langley

Junior Girls – 3rd in Langley

Junior Boys – 2nd in Langley

We are looking forward to cheering all of our Junior teams on at the Eastern Valley Championships and hopefully beyond. Our Senior Teams are also having a great season. Our Senior Girls won their opening round playoff game and are looking to book their spot at provincials in the next week. Our Senior Boys knocked off the #5 provincially ranked Abbotsford Senior team and look to continue their own run to qualify for provincials over the next two weeks.

Look for notifications to come when our teams are playing at the Langley Event Centre as we always appreciate lots of fan support from the Gator Nation.



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GRADE 8 BOYS FINAL

42 **FINAL** 62







GRADE 8 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Today we hosted our annual Grade 8 Leadership conference. We had 90 grade 8 students give up their Pro-D day to be at WGSS where they engaged in a variety of workshops, activities and conversations about leadership, how to get involved at WGSS and how to continue to make WGSS a wonderful place to learn and grow. Huge thank you to our grade leaders for giving up their time to be a part of the Leadership Conference. Also, thank you to the Humanitarian Club, our senior student leaders, staff and even some WGSS Alumni who spent countless hours putting together the Leadership Conference experience and who helped to facilitate the day! Gator! Gator! Gator! Chomp! Chomp! Chomp!



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SPAIN 2024

Would you like to travel to Valencia, Spain?



WGSS is hosting a two-week travel exchange for 24 students

Travel Dates

March 10-24, 2024

Hosting

September 2023

Estimated Cost

\$2400

Eligible Students

Grades 10, 11 in 2023/2024
(current grade 9 and 10 students).

To find out more, please see Ms. Fenato in room 147
or Mr. Favaro in room 223.

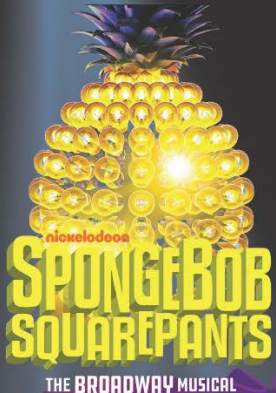
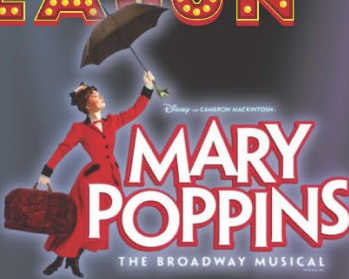
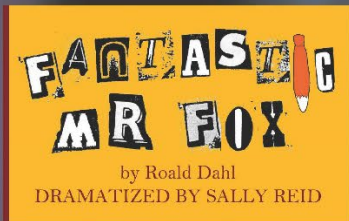
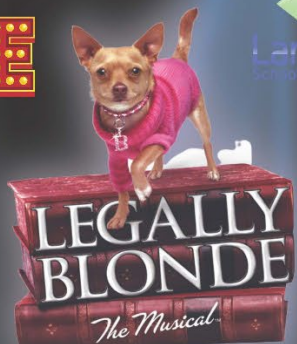
Parent info meeting will be held on Wednesday,
February 22 at 6:30 pm in the library.


Indicate Your Interest here

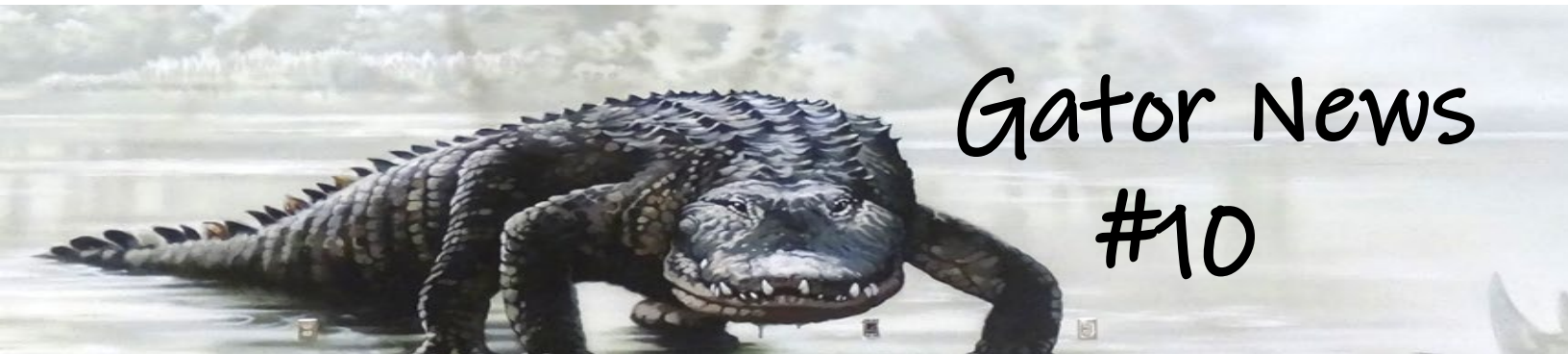




IT'S SHOWTIME!

<p>LANGLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2023</p> <h1>SEASON OF THEATRE</h1>			
			
Brookwood Secondary Musical Theatre February 22, 23, 24, 25 March 1, 2, 3, 4 7 P.M. shows	Langley Secondary School February 23, 24, 25 March 2, 3, 4, 7 P.M. shows February 25 & March 4, 2 P.M. shows lssmarypoppins@gmail.com	Langley Fine Arts School Drama April 25 - 29 7 P.M. shows Chief Sepass Theatre	Walnut Grove Secondary Theatre in the Grove May 4, 5, 6 & 11, 12, 13 7 P.M. shows May 6 & 14, 2 P.M. shows





VIRTUAL POST-SECONDARY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Join **WGSSCareers** on **Instagram** to be alerted to additional opportunities. The virtual events listed are hyperlinked to a registration and additional information.

Event	Date	Time	Link
Green Bricks Conference	Sat., Feb. 11	9:00 – 2:30 pm	Green Bricks Conference Virtual
SD35 ECE Information Session	Wed., Feb. 15	6:30 – 7:30 pm	SD 35 ECE Info Session
BCIT Big Info Session	Wed., Feb. 15	4:00 – 7:00 pm	BCIT Big Info Session Burnaby
TWU Preview Day	Fri., Feb. 17	8:30 am – 7 pm	Trinity Western
VIU Discovery Day	Wed., Feb. 22	9 am – 2 pm	VIU Discovery Day
BCIT Big Info Online	Wed., Feb. 22	4:00 – 7:30 pm	BCIT Big Info Virtual
Waterloo – Gr. 10 Student and Parents	Thurs., Feb. 23	5:30 – 8:30 pm EST	Waterloo – Gr. 10 Virtual
Surrey Careers & PSI Event	Thurs., Mar. 16	11 am – 3 pm	Sheraton Hotel, Guilford
SD35 Train in Trade Programs	Thurs., Mar. 30	See Career Advisor	APPLICATION DEADLINE

CAREER CENTRE NEWS

Green Collar Futures Career Conference

Saturday, February 11, 2023, 9:00 – 2:30, Virtual

Students are invited to experience new career opportunities at this FREE career conference held remotely. The day includes prizes and a chance to win a \$500 scholarship. [Link to register](#)

U of A Getaway for Grade 11s

May 26 to 28 2022, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

The University of Alberta is hosting a three-day event for Grade 11 students. The top 20 students who are selected will have all expenses paid; participants will have the opportunity to visit and explore the undergraduate programs being offered at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. **Deadline to apply is January 31, 2023.** [Link to register](#)



Horatio Alger Association Scholarship for Grade 11 Students

If integrity, determination, and courage describe you – you have what it takes to be a Horatio Alger Scholar. This scholarship rewards students who possess the character to succeed in life. They intentionally help students overcome **financial barriers** to pursuing higher education. To qualify, you must be in Grade 11, have at least a 70% average and require financial assistance to attend university. [Link to learn more and apply](#) **Application deadline is March 15.**

Tactical Day with the Abbotsford Fire & Rescue Services – for females*

Saturday, April 15, 2023, 09:00 – 4:00, Abbotsford

Activities include technical rescue, search and rescue, vehicle extrication, vehicle fire, medical aid, hazardous materials. [LINK](#) **Restrictions:** *Minimum Age - 16 Years, no maximum age.*

*The Achieve Anything Foundation defines as girls and women any persons that identify as female, including transgender. This definition applies to any reference of girls, women and/or females. **To be eligible to apply for Operation the applicant must identify as female.**

SD35 Career Ed Newsletter

Additional career opportunities can be found in the District Career Ed Newsletter published bimonthly. Click [this link](#) to get connected and subscribe to receive updates on events and news.

The Langley School District Career Education Department is excited to host a Parent Information session:



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It's really tough to be going through hard stuff with a child or youth who is struggling with their mental health and they end up in crisis – and we want to help you. We know what it's like because we've been there.

TOPICS

Session 1 & 2:

How to Support a Safety Plan at Home

Session 3:

How to Take Care of Yourself and Family After a Crisis

Session 4:

How to Find the Resources You Need

Region: FRASER

Dates: February 6,8,13 and 15, 2023

Times: 12:00-1:00 pm

Dates: February 7, 9,14,and 16, 2023

Times: Time: 6:00–7:00 pm

Dates: March 6, 8,13 and 15, 2023

Times:12:00-1:00 pm

Dates: March 6 and 8, 2023

Times: 6:00-8:00 pm

There is no cost to families. Registration is required: www.familysmart.ca/workshops

Help for the Hard Times workshops are facilitated by parents with lived experience. The workshops are hosted online and include a one-on-one video conference or phone call with a Facilitator.



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Fact Friday

Self-Care Can Be

- Spending time alone
- Putting yourself first
- Asking for what you need
- Setting boundaries
- Going for a walk
- Taking a step back

 **PCRS**



Gator News #10



#thatwellnessthing

Join us to learn more about mental health and wellness at our fourth annual open house & community resource fair!

WED. MARCH 1, 2023

4:30 PM – 7:00 PM

21405A 56 Avenue, Langley

Langley
Education
Centre
LEARN • ENGAGE • CONNECT



Gator News #10

#thatwellnessthing

EVERYONE AGE 15+
IS WELCOME

REGISTRATION
NOT REQUIRED

OPPORTUNITIES
TO TRY YOGA

PHOTO
BOOTH!

LIGHT
REFRESHMENTS

DOOR
PRIZES

PRESENTATIONS & INFORMATION TABLES

- Mental Health & Wellness
- Substance Use Resources
- Healthy Living
- Counselling
- Family Support
- Post-Secondary Info
- Employment
- Settlement Services



For additional information or to participate
as an agency, please contact Amanda:

arawle@sd35.bc.ca



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P.L.A.Y. SOCIETY

P.L.A.Y. Society is a Langley community based non-profit society that provides affordable theatre opportunities for children and youth regardless of their financial situation. Beauty and the Beast is the third production in P.L.A.Y. Society's performance program that highlights the amazing talent of youth from Langley and the surrounding areas. The past productions of Shrek and Newsies have been amazing. Don't miss this magical 'tale as old as time' at the Chief Sepass Theatre from March 16th - 18th.



PLAY
Disney
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
THE MUSICAL

Disney
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
THE MUSICAL

Music by Alen Menken
Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice
Book by Linda Woolverton

March 16 to 18, 2023
Evenings at 7:30pm | Matinees at 2:00pm
Chief Sepass Theatre, Fort Langley

Tickets start at \$15

Go to playsociety.ca



DRY GRAD NEWS

We are in high gear working hard to plan the best Dry Grad Party for our kids and we need you! We need many volunteers for many rolls. We need donations of cash and prizes for our Pub Night Fundraiser and the Dry Grad event, June 26th, which follows immediately after the Dinner & Dance. Please reach out to us at wgssdrygrad2023@gmail.com and follow us on Facebook at WGSS 2023 Dry Grad Parent Group.

The next Dry Grad parent/guardian meeting is Tuesday, March 7 at 6:30pm in the WGSS Library. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

Dry Grad Fundraisers

Tickets for our Pub Night Fundraiser are now available. See details at [PubNightflyer.pdf](#). \$25 per ticket for a burger and beer PLUS we will be holding many fun activities like a 50/50 draw, on-line auction and more! To purchase tickets please contact Karen Moore 604-308-7310 rkmoore@shaw.ca

Meridian Meats Gift Card Fundraiser is now open! See details in attached flyer. Order deadline is February 22. All gift cards purchased give back 30% towards our event. Consider buying the cards for your monthly groceries or for a local charity, employee incentive, thank-you gift and so much more.

We currently have two on-going fundraisers:

- Consider a direct donation through the Langley School Foundation (tax deductible) using this link <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/langley-school-district-foundation/p2p/WGSSDryGrad2023/> or scan the QR code



- Donate your refundable recycling to the WGSS 2023 Grad class! Please see the last page of this newsletter for all the information!



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WGSS Dry Grad 2023 FUNDRAISER

Farm Fresh Gift Cards Order Meridian & Ralph's Farm Market

Please consider purchasing Meridian & Ralph's Farm Market gift cards to support our 2023 Dry Grad event for our grads this year. Sell to your family, friends and neighbours!

All gift cards purchased give 30% back towards our fundraiser.

Gift cards do not expire and can be used, in person, at any Meridian Meats and Seafood or Meridian Farm Market Locations including Ralph's Farm Market.

****ALL ORDERS AND PAYMENTS ARE DUE BY WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023****

THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO ORDER!

DROP OFF THIS ORDER FORM WITH CASH OR CHEQUE
(MADE PAYABLE TO WGSS DRY GRAD) AT THE WGSS MAIN OFFICE

OR VISIT <https://form.jotform.com/230114120889248>

SUBMIT ORDER ONLINE WITH E-TRANSFER PAYMENT

PICK UP ORDERS: MARCH 2, 2023 - DETAILS TO BE DETERMINED

Student Name: _____

First

Last

Parent Name: _____

First

Last

Phone: _____

Parent Email (for pick up notification): _____

_____ x \$25 Gift Card = \$ _____

_____ x \$50 Gift Card = \$ _____

_____ x \$100 Gift Card = \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Meridian
FARM MARKET


Ralph's
FARM MARKET



**WALNUT GROVE SECONDARY
DRY GRAD 2023
FUNDRAISER**



Please consider donating your recycling funds
to our Walnut Grove Graduation Class of 2023

Take your cans, glass, and plastic bottles in
clear or clear blue plastic bags to
**Return-It Walnut Grove Bottle and Return
Centre**

At the label kiosk enter this number:

604-908-9597

and place the label on your bag.

All funds will go to the
2023 WGSS Graduation class.
Thank you for your support!