

It's the most wonderful time of the year

Back to school has got to be one of the most wonderful times of the year if you are a parent of school aged children.

After what used to seem like the longest summer ever, which was every summer when my kids were in school, the final few weeks and the countdown was on.

Not that I don't absolutely love my children to pieces, however after two very long months of trying everything to entertain your children without just sitting them in front of a television or PlayStation all summer is exhausting.

From beach trips to a zoo visit, then there is always the hikes and bike rides, don't forget the afternoon swimming at the public pool and weekly visits to the library. Not to mention the many weekend camping trips and there was a week we rented a cottage where we all went go-karting then ate ice cream...whew! Just writing it all down makes me wonder how I ever did it all. But somehow, at the end of every summer my children had a stories of good times and fun to tell their friends, and I had the pleasure of knowing that all that work, all that planning, all that money spent was so worth the stories that have been told over the years and still to this day of our adventures.

However, I must say that the day my children went back to school was the most wonderful time of the year for me. It meant my life went back to the what I considered normal. I felt like I could breath a big huge sigh of relief knowing that I could finally relax again. Every first day back to school I would book off as a vacation day and celebrate the entire school day with one of my very good friends who is no longer with us. My youngest enters her last year of high school this year and is already making plans to go to college. I miss those days, I miss my friend and I miss the fact that my children are no longer young and plan their own summers out with part-time jobs, bonfires and their friends.

As summer once again is coming to an end I hope all my teacher friends have a wonderful last few weeks of freedom and to all those parents with children returning I wish a happy back to school day to each and every one of you!

By Michelle Janzen