
















The Crossroads Connection

School Newsletter
February 2014

Crossroads Public School
1350 Niagara Stone Road
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON, L0S 1J0
905-468-7793
crossroads.dsb.n.org

Troy Wallace
Principal
Steve Holowchuk
Vice Principal

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Point to Ponder

The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled.

-- Plutarch

A Note from the Principal

The month of February is going to be an exciting and busy time at Crossroads. On Thursday, February 6 we are hosting our Kindergarten Open House for families to register children for September 2014, and students will be bringing home the Term One Report Cards. This is an excellent opportunity to celebrate with your child his/her successes this year and to set next steps in his/her learning. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher. We are very excited to be hosting a Citizenship Ceremony on February 14 which will be a red-and-white day for our school, and please also be aware that this is also an Early Release Day with students being dismissed at 12:00 p.m. Then on Saturday, February 22 we have our Niagara Ice Dogs Night where families will have the opportunity to skate before the puck drops. Our month ends with the Niagara-on-the-Lake Home Show scheduled for Saturday, March 1 where we hope to see many families out to take advantage of some great deals!! Please let the office know if you are able to volunteer that day.

Early Release Day

We'd like to remind you that Friday, February 14th is an Early Release Day. There will be no afternoon classes for students. On this Early Release day, the staff will participate in professional development to enhance student learning.

Dismissal for all Kindergarten to Grade 8 "walk in" students or those being picked up by parents/designated adults will be at the end of period three – 12:00 p.m. If you are picking up your kindergarten child, please do so in the front courtyard area. Grade 1 – 8 students will meet you at the back door near the gym.

Bussed students will be transported home at approximately 12:05 p.m., and can be expected to return home approximately 3 - 3 1/2 hours earlier than usual.

We understand that on early release days there is often a need for alternate pick up arrangements (i.e., with a grandparent, babysitter, friend, walking, bicycle, etc.). We ask that if your child will be traveling home on Friday in an alternate manner, please communicate this to us via telephone or a note to the teacher.

We appreciate your ongoing support and flexibility.



Early Morning Supervision

Just a reminder to all parents that our school day officially begins at 8:50 am, when the students are brought into the building. Yard supervision begins 15 minutes before that time at 8:35 a.m. Students should not be dropped off at the school earlier than 8:35 a.m., as there is no one available to supervise them during this time, with the exception of pre-arranged appointments. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important safety matter.

Citizenship Ceremony

Crossroads Public School is both honoured and excited to be holding a Citizenship Ceremony for 30 new Canadians on February 14th between 9:30 and 10:30. All families are invited to join us in welcoming our newest citizens. It is guaranteed to be Canadian history in the making.



Crossroads Night at the Ice Dogs

Crossroads Night at the Ice Dogs! Bring your family and friends to see the Niagara Ice Dogs take on the North Bay Battalion on Saturday, February 22nd at 7:00 p.m. You are all invited to participate in a Crossroads family skate from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on the same ice that the Ice Dogs will play on later. Ticket order forms will be sent home soon so book the date and we hope to see lots of you at the game.



Claude Haggerty, Grand Scale Illusionist, will be at Crossroads School on Tuesday, February 11th, starting at 2:30pm, to share a little magic with the Crossroads school community. This will be a 30 minute inspirational show to inspire staff and students in the morning.

Claude will also have an event at the Community Centre in Niagara on the Lake to support Newark Neighbours on Saturday, February 15th. Please join us if you can ☺

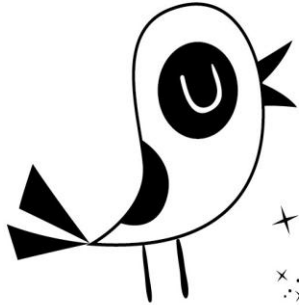
It's almost time to register for

Kindergarten

at the DSBN



Do you know a child who will be turning 4 or 5 before December 31, 2014?



Visit a DSBN Kindergarten Open House from 4-6 pm on February 6th, 2014 to register and to help your kindergartener get ready for their first day of school at the DSBN.

See the classroom, meet the staff and get a gift bag full of fun learning resources and information to help children develop their school readiness skills.

Looking for more information? Visit our website at www.dsbn.org/kindergarten

How Do I Know When to Keep My Child Home From School?

As a parent, making the decision to keep your child home can sometimes be challenging. Nobody wants their child to miss school unnecessarily. According to Public Health, your child should stay home if they are experiencing:

Vomiting/Diarrhea through the night or in the morning

Fever ... this indicates active infection

Eye Irritations with yellow discharge or redness ... it could be pink eye which is contagious

Runny Nose ... especially with thick mucous

Head Lice ... child should stay home until treated with special shampoo and nits removed

Rashes ... only your doctor can diagnose, so have it checked out

Stomach Aches & Headaches ... keep your child home for observation and if they happen often, see your doctor

Sore Throat ... can usually spread infection

Cough ... night cough or any continuous coughing

Toothaches ... child should be seen by a dentist

If your son or daughter appears ill in the morning, please keep him or her home. Learning is difficult when you are not feeling well and we wish to prevent the spread of sickness to other students. Sometimes one day at home resting can ensure that a student doesn't become more seriously ill in days that follow. If your son/daughter becomes ill with a communicable disease (i.e., chicken pox, pink eye, impetigo, etc.), please check with your doctor before he/she returns to school.

Please Note: Students are not kept in at recess due to illness as fresh air and exercise are essential to a healthy mind and body. If your child is well enough to be at school, we consider him/her well enough to be outside. Colds and coughs will not be affected if the student is properly dressed and does not over-extend him/herself. We feel very strongly that if the child is too ill to go out for recess, it would be in the child's best interest to remain home for the day. If you believe your child is an exceptional case, please contact Mrs. Friesen to discuss the situation.

Stress

Adults are not the only people who feel stress. Kids do too. Some stress is normal, but too much is not good for anyone.

When kids feel too stressed, they may:

- Complain of tummy aches or headaches
- Cry or whine a lot
- Seem sad or angry
- Have trouble sleeping
- Not want to go to school
- Seem to not care about the things they normally like doing
- Have trouble getting along with their family or friends



You can help your child deal with stress by:

- Making sure they get physical activity and time to play
- Providing nutritious meals
- Spending time with your child, ask them how they feel and show them that you love them: hugs and kisses will make them feel good. Have fun together!
- Have bedtime routines to help them relax at the end of the day
- Make sure they get enough sleep
- Start the day with morning routines
- Learn to manage your stress

For more information visit: <http://psychologyfoundation.org/index.php/programs/kids-have-stress-too/> or talk to your school nurse.

Source: The Psychology Foundation of Canada

Free Dental Screening

Public Health registered dental hygienist is scheduled to visit our school Thursday February 20 and Friday February 21, 2014 to provide dental screening to students in grades JK, SK, 2, 4, 6 and 8 and other children as required under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.



During this time the registered dental hygienist will perform a visual inspection of each child to determine his/her dental needs. Parents will be contacted if their child requires immediate dental care. Public Health dental programs may financially assist children who do not have access to required dental care.

Please contact the Public Health dental program for any of the following:

- If you do NOT wish your child to participate in the dental screening.
- If your child is not in one of the targeted grades and you would like him/her to participate.

Call the Dental Health Information Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 or email dental@niagararegion.ca

Crossroads Shining Stars

ARTS L. Willms	Ashley N. Abby D. Brylee M.	3 Anderson	Gracyn B. William C. Ethan P.
ELP Willms/Foley	Jessica D. Emma P. Daniel K.	4 Peters	Chase B. Sarah J.
ELP Lisi/Thiessen	Justin D. Sarah D. Maximus F.	4 O'Connor	Joyce F. Caitlin M. Cameron M.
ELP Bartel/Wotherspoon	Lucianna B. Ian D. Nancy J. Becky U. May A.	5 Reschke	Samuel H. Samantha P.
1 Kent	Maggie F. Austin L. Jorga L.	5 Kenworthy	Kaitlyn H. Lucas J. Aria S.
1 Fairchild	Catherine D. Zeek L.	6 Snider	Emma A. Olivia K. Eric M.
1/2 Jones	Lucas A. Nellena G.	6/7 Huntingdon	Olivia K. Austin B. Sam E.
2 Tompsett	Olivia B. Carter G.	7 McNarry	Samantha D. Nicholas K. Hunter S.
2 Komandanski	Nathaniel B. Margaret H.	7/8 Ho	Lexi H. Leah K. Mike W.
2/3 Willms	Alex D. Kolby G.	8 Krake	Conor N. Paige S. Megan V.
3 Buck	Elena B. Courtney B. Keira W.	Mme. Zoccoli	Miguel G. Kyle M. Madylin V.



NIAGARA STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

3350 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold, ON, L2V 4Y6
Phone: 905 346-0290 Email: general@nsts.ca

Transportation for Your Kindergarten Child

Starting school is a very exciting time in both a parent's and a child's life. It is also a time when there are many new things to get used to and lots of questions about how things work. We hope this information will answer some of your questions about the transportation of your child to school.

About NSTS

Niagara Student Transportation Services (NSTS) is a consortium between the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) and the Niagara Catholic District School Board (NCDSB).

Transportation Eligibility

Our goal at NSTS is to provide safe, efficient and on-time transportation services, allowing your child to arrive at school ready to learn and return home safely at the end of their day. We are responsible for the safe transportation of 32,000 students daily with the help of contracted services from school bus and taxi operators.

DSBN and NCDSB Transportation Policies stipulate that students in Junior and Senior Kindergarten must be at least 800 metres from their home school to be eligible for transportation. Once a student's address is determined eligible for service, transportation is automatically assigned. If you do not require service, please email NSTS and we will adjust your child's record accordingly.

As students advance grade levels, the distance for eligibility increases for students attending their home school to 1,600 metres for grades 1 to 8 and 2,500 metres for students in grades 9 to 12.

Half-Day and Full-Day

If your child is registered in a full-day program, transportation will be provided on regular morning and afternoon routes. Both DSBN and NCDSB offer mid-day transportation services to support half-day Kindergarten classes. To ensure that transportation is arranged efficiently for half day programs, NSTS works with schools to group students eligible for transportation on the same side of day.

Bus Stop Locations

In general, pick-up and drop-off locations are designated at central points. Central bus stops are typically located within 400 metres of a student's residence. A house bus stop may be provided if a student is not physically able to access the central bus stop.

Changes to Address Information

NSTS automatically downloads student records from the school. If you change your address or change daycare providers, please update your child's information with your school so transportation can be arranged accordingly.

One Pick-Up and One Drop-Off Address

To ensure the safety of your child, students may only have one pick-up and one drop-off location. The pick-up location may be different from the drop-off location, but each must be consistent 5 days a week. The reason for this policy is a consistent schedule eliminates the chance of a mistake being made by one of the many people responsible for the transportation of your child.

6th Annual



March 1, 2014

9am – 4pm

This is our School Council's biggest event for the year! Proceeds will go toward the purchase of a sound system, lighting in the gymnasium and to begin work on the outdoor classroom. How can you help? Mark your calendar and save the Friday, Feb. 28 and Saturday March 1 dates. We need help before, during and after the event. Use the tear off below to indicate your availability.

Please let potential vendors know that space is very limited! They can visit the Crossroads Website (crossroads.dsbm.org) or email NOTLHomeShow@gmail.com for more details.

Most importantly, come to the show, and bring your friends! The more people who attend our show, the more encouragement it is to our vendors. We need YOU to make this event a success!

Thanks in advance for your support!



Can you help with the Home Show?

Name(s): _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Available:

- Friday afternoon set up
- Friday evening set up
- Saturday a.m. at the show
- Saturday p.m. at the show
- Parking Supervision
- Donate Baking
- Donate Silent Auction Prizes
- Taking down signs on Sunday

One of our Home Show Committee members will contact you to make arrangements for your involvement.




Road to Rankin



The **ME2WE CLUB** has selected the Rankin Cancer Run as our local focus this year. Students have planned fun activities that will take place every Thursday beginning in February and ending May 15, 2014. All proceeds raised are being donated to the Rankin Cancer Run which supports Cancer research, development, care, and treatment in the Niagara Region. In 2013, \$675, 000 was given back to Niagara, \$30,000 specifically to the Niagara-on-the-Lake hospital.

Students can participate by:

- Joining our Crossroads Families at the Rankin Cancer Run on May 24, 2014 (details to follow)
- buying friendship bracelets created by our students
- purchasing treats and participating in events on special days.
- Participation is voluntary

February 6 Games/Electronics For the day \$2.00	February 13 Buy a Candy Gram for \$1.00	February 20 Hot Chocolate \$1.00	February 27 Popcorn \$1.00	March 6 Fun in the Sun Dance \$2.00 Treats \$1.00
March 20 Orange Day Buy a Rankin bracelet for \$2.00	March 27 Teacher vs Student Volleyball Game \$2.00	April 8 Loom Bracelets \$1.00	April 10 Popcorn \$1.00	April 17 Crazy Hair Day \$1.00 Donation
April 24 Popcorn \$1.00	May 1 PJ and Teddy Bears \$1.00 Donation	May 8 Loom Bracelets \$1.00	May 15 Games and Electronics \$2.00	

To participate in all the activities a \$20.00 cash donation will be accepted at the beginning and a tax receipt will be issued. Please complete and return the attached form to get a receipt.



Full Name:	Donation Amount:
Address:	City:
Postal Code:	Email: