

MAY 2015

3691 Dorchester Rd.,
Niagara Falls, ON
905-354-2-3916
Principal -
H. Nunnenmacher
Secretary -
S. Mannella

Dates to Remember:

- ◆ Mondays - Lunch Lady,
- Wednesdays - Pita Pit,
- Thursdays - Pizza
- ◆ May 7 - Roof Top School
Picture (May 8 Rain Date)
- ◆ May 12 - Grade 1 Scientists in
School
- ◆ May 12 - Support Staff Day
- ◆ May 13 - Grade 5 and 7/8
Health Nurse Visit
- ◆ May 13 and 14 - St John
Ambulance Water Patrol Pres-
entations K-8
- ◆ May 14 - Popcorn for Big
Brothers/Big Sisters
- ◆ May 14 - Grade 5 Health
Nurse Visit
- ◆ May 15 - PA Day (no school)
- ◆ May 18 - Victoria Day (no
school)
- ◆ May 19 - Hot Dog Day
- ◆ May 20 to 22 - Intermediate
Camp Trip
- ◆ May 26 - School Council 6:30
- ◆ May 26 to 28 - Grade 3 and
6 EQAO
- ◆ June 2 to 4 - Grade 3 and 6
EQAO

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

A big thank you to everyone who has regis-
tered for the School Cash Online Program.
We are still working toward our goal of 80%
of our school registered for the School Cash
online option and are up to 71%! Congratula-
tions to Mrs. O'Connor and Ms Lambourne's
Kindergarten class for having the highest reg-
istration rate during our March campaign
(currently they are at 89%). The class will
enjoy a movie afternoon in June. All of our
classrooms have over 50% adoption rate
which is good news because we can now move
onto the next step. We will only be sending
home paper notices for upcoming events and
activities that involve a cost to those that have
not registered yet. Those that are registered
will receive an email from School Cash letting
you know there is a new item available. As a

school we are finding this program to be quite
beneficial. The amount of money coming into
the school is quite less which means less time
the teachers, our School Council Volunteers
and Mrs. Mannella are spending counting
money. Over the last two months we have
had over 1400 online transactions with a
value of over \$9200! Now when you pay for
something online we have an immediate re-
cord of what you paid for so if your child for-
gets we can look it up and you also have a
record so you will know what has been paid
for. Parents can offer to volunteer for events
and even give permission to attend online,
which means no more lost pieces of paper. If
you haven't registered yet you still can.
Please give us a call if you have any questions
or need any help registering online.

TRACK AND FIELD

Over the years Track and
Field meets have been held
where all students in grades 4
-8 must participate. The staff
at Orchard Park took a look
at that and felt it wasn't fair
since no other team sport has
a mandatory try out for the
team. This year they got to-
gether and set up Track and
Field differently. All students
in grades 4-8 learned about
the different Track and Field
events during their gym

classes. Only those students
wishing to try out for the Or-
chard Park team had to sign
up to compete in the events
they wanted. Teachers held
clinics to offer the students
extra time to practice the
event(s) they had signed up to
compete in. On April 30th
half of the Orchard Park stu-
dents headed to Oakes Park
to try out for the Track and
Field Team. Feedback from
the staff and many parents

was this was the most success-
ful Track and Field Meet we
have had. We are very
proud of our students and
those that made the team will
represent us at the Area Meet
on May 12th. We wish them
all the best with their events!

A thank you to the Junior and
Intermediate Teachers for
their insightful thinking and a
successful Track and Field
Meet!

PAN AM GAMES

On April 30th students participated in the Pan Am Games. Various activities were set up and run by our grade 8 students, teams were led by our grade 7 students and students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 made up the different teams. Everyone had a fun filled day. A thank you to Mrs. Anderson and Mr. Arseneau for organizing this event and to Keara B. and Victoria B. for helping with all of the organization. Students in the primary grades could be heard saying "This was the best day EVER!!".

SILVER BIRCH CONFERENCE

On Friday, May 1, eight Orchard Park students had the opportunity to attend the Silver Birch conference at Club Roma in St. Catharines. It was an exciting day filled with a variety of workshops, guest speakers, and many hands on experiences. Students from across DSBN schools recently voted on their favourite Silver Birch Fiction and Non-Fiction Books and the winners were announced at the conference. The non-fiction book winner selected by students was Annalise Carr: [How I Conquered Lake Ontario to](#)

[Help Kids Battling Cancer.](#) The winner of the fiction book was [The Night Gardener](#) by Jonathan Auxier. Both authors were at the conference to not only sign their books but to also speak to the students about their experiences. The students had a fantastic time and represented Orchard Park well!

A thank you to Ms Lovasi and Ms Polgar for all of the work you did for the students participating in this great activity!

Orchard Park Gives Generously

Thank you to the Orchard Park Community for the donations of change to the Education Foundation of Niagara. We are able to donate \$1000 to this worthy cause. Because of you, students in DSBN will have greater access to things like eyeglasses, winter wear and fuller participation in school activities. Thank you for "making change" in the lives of students.

Thank you to Mrs. Vanderwater to organizing this worthwhile fundraiser!

EDUCATION WEEK: MAY 4-8

Many students can recall the first moment in school when the world began to make sense, when their minds became open to new concepts, ideas and possibilities. Although that's an important time in a student's life, the reality is that education is a series of moments, each one helping to build greater understanding, self-esteem and character. During May 4-8 DSBN schools will showcase how they help students experience those "a-ha" moments each day.

SUMMER HEAT 2015

We are pleased to offer SUMMER HEAT, a primary Summer Learning Program, again this year. The program will run from Monday, July 13th to Friday, July 31st for students entering JK to grade 4 in the fall of 2015. Kindergarten Kick Start is for students entering junior and senior kindergarten in the fall, while Funshine Kids is for students entering grades 1, 2, 3 and 4. This three week program is entirely FREE, but space is limited so please be sure to register early. Registration can be done online starting Friday, May 1st. The program will begin at 8:15 a.m. with breakfast provided, and it will end at 12:15 p.m. Students will be involved in a variety of learning opportunities throughout the morning, with focus on literacy, numeracy and active living. We are excited about being able to offer this amazing program to our families. Check it out on the DSBN website at www.dsbn.org/summerheat

In Niagara Falls, Summer Heat will be offered at Simcoe Street School (literacy and numeracy site) and Valley Way (Aboriginal Site with literacy)

SUNSCREEN REMINDER



As the warmer months are now upon us, please remember that our students spend more time outside. Physical Education classes are often held outdoors. Many class trips are held outdoors as well. Don't forget to wear sunscreen on those sunny days.

Please Note that our June Newsletter will be out the middle to end of June as it will be our final newsletter for the school year.

**Congratulations to
Mrs. Vanderwater,
Ms. Pavone and
Mr. Ott for their 15
years of service with
DSBN!!**



RACING AGAINST DRUGS

Racing Against Drugs was a lot of fun. We learned lots of important things, like how to stay healthy and not do bad things. We were told never to go to jail because you won't have a fun time. We learned about alcohol and how it can affect your body and your brain. We were told to stay safe by not going near train tracks. We did a little experiment with drunk goggles and tried to walk on a train track mat and not fall off. There was an obstacle course bouncy castle and this station was about staying healthy and eating healthy. After, we paired up with our classmates in the bouncy castle and found out who got out faster. We totally recommend going there. Have you ever watched Border Security? Well, we got to meet a canine helper that searches cars and motor homes for things like drugs and illegal things. We learned that the dog knows how to smell drugs and instead of barking she sits down. It was a great day! By Sydney and Trinity

We had lots of fun at our school trip Racing Against Drugs. We went to various stations, for example we learned about house fires and how fast they can spread. At another station we learned about mental health and played Plinko. In one of the stations there were very pointy knives that were in a wooden display case and a work dog named Sawyer. She helps officers find drugs. One of the best stations was about staying healthy and not to take drugs. We got to go in a bouncy house but it was split in half so you can race your friends. And those were most of the things we did on our school trip. By Leah and Jacey

Mrs. Lane's Grade 4/5 class and Mrs. Anderson's Grade 7/8 class were given the opportunity to decorate a ceiling tile for the cat adoption room at the Lincoln County Humane Society in St. Catharines. The tiles will be placed in the ceiling in the Cat Adoption Room as cheery décor to welcome people who are interested in adopting a pet. If you are in the area, pop in to see OP's artistic talent on display...and maybe bring home a new furry friend while you are there!

GRADE 3 & 6 EQAO TESTING

Please note that our grade 3 & 6 students will be involved in EQAO assessments from May 26 to June 6. We have scheduled our students to write on May 26, 27, 28 and June 2, 3, 4. We ask that every effort be made to have these students at school each day during these dates. If you have any questions please contact the school.



USING SCHOOL CASH - YOUR WAY



It's all about choice.

We're expanding the services offered through School Cash Online so you can pay for the items you want, using the method of your choosing. Now, you can use Interac Debit to make purchases.

Research shows that nearly 60% of Canadians prefer to use Interac Debit when buying everything from groceries to gifts. We hope you will find these enhanced services to be helpful as you engage with our school online.

If you've already registered for School Cash Online, the next time you pay for an item you will see Interac Debit as an option for payment.

For those who have yet to register, you can do so by clicking on the "School Cash Online" button on our website. Registration is easy and should take about five minutes. Best of all, you can use School Cash Online with confidence; it is a safe and secure web portal that will make it easier for you to purchase school related items and approve field trip permission forms.

Thanks for your support!



PLANNING TODAY TO ENERGIZE EDUCATION FOR TOMORROW

DSBN Trustees are supporting student success by revitalizing our public schools. An important part of this process is the role of the Accommodation Reviews.

On March 26, 2015 the Ministry of Education released revised Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines (PARG) and the DSBN has revised the Accommodation Review Policy to align with the new Ministry Guidelines.

You are invited to provide your comments on this new policy. From May 6 to June 3, 2015 please go to www.dsbni.org and click on the "Accommodation Review Policy Feedback" button. You may also provide comments via mail. Please send to Lora Courtois Superintendent of Planning, District School Board of Niagara, 191 Carlton St., St. Catharines, ON L2R 7P4.



Looking Ahead to September..

The staffing process has begun at our schools in DSBN. It is very early yet and our staffing will continue into September when actual numbers of students are known. In the June newsletter staff changes and organization will be listed.

In order to help us be as accurate as possible, it is important that you let us know as soon as possible if you are moving away or know that your child (ren) will not be returning next year. Also, if you know of anyone in the community who may not have registered their child please ask them to call the school. This will help with our September organization.

The City of Niagara Falls has added a new section to their website. The website now lists their School Crossing Guard Locations and Time Shifts. To access this information you go to the City's website www.niagarafalls.ca and select the dark green tab which says: City Hall Departments. Next, select Transportation Services and then on the left-hand side, choose: School Crossing Guard Information.



District School Board of Niagara

Achieving Success Together

191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 7P4 (905) 641-1550 Fax: (905) 685-8511

Warren Hoshizaki, Director of Education

May 6, 2015

Dear parents/guardians of DSBN elementary students,

Recently, the Ontario Government has been in negotiations with the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) regarding a new contract.

We are disappointed to report that those discussions have reached an impasse. Beginning on Monday, May 11, ETFO will be in a legal strike position. It is our understanding that ETFO intends to begin a job action at that time.

However, it is important to note that this will not be a full withdrawal of services, and:

- **All DSBN elementary schools will be OPEN on Monday**
- **School activities are not expected to be impacted**

The job action is expected to include a withdrawal of some administrative tasks normally performed by teachers. Under the terms of the job action, teachers will not perform duties related to the EQAO, fill in for Principals or complete report card comments.

This is a dispute between the federation and the provincial government. The District School Board of Niagara respects and values all the efforts that teachers make to help students achieve success every day. The DSBN is continuing local negotiations in good faith. However, under the terms of provincial legislation, there are a number of items that must be bargained at the provincial level. We remain hopeful that an agreement will be reached soon.

We are committed to providing you with information and regular updates to support you as valued partners in your children's education. Updates will be sent home with students and also posted to our website DSBN.org under the Negotiations Update slide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Barnett".

Sue Barnett
Chair of the Board



REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW POLICY UPDATE

BACKGROUND:

The District School Board of Niagara may undertake Pupil Accommodation Reviews to address programming, enrolment and/or facility condition issues at a school or group of schools. These reviews are undertaken to develop solutions for the schools to best meet the current and future educational needs of students.

The Pupil Accommodation Review process is set out in the Education Act and the Ministry of Education's Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines (PARG). School Boards are required to establish their own set of Pupil Accommodation Review policies that reflect the Ministry's minimum standards.

PURPOSE:

On March 26, 2015, the Ministry of Education issued the new Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines to all School Boards in Ontario. School Boards are required to update their own policies to reflect the new 2015 guidelines.

The Ministry's 2015 PARG contains a new optional modified pupil accommodation review process that is intended to help streamline less complex accommodation reviews. An optional modified accommodation review must meet two or more criteria that are included in the School Board's policy.

OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT: **(available online May 6 to June 3, 2015)**

As part of the public consultation process, stakeholders and the public are invited to review the Draft Accommodation Review Policy. We invite you to provide comments on the draft policy including the optional modified review process (Section 7). The draft policy may be found by [clicking here](#). Comments may be sent electronically by [clicking here](#) or by mail between May 6 and June 3, 2015 to:

Lora Courtois
Superintendent of Planning
District School Board of Niagara
191 Carlton Street
St. Catharines, ON L2R 7P4

[Read the Draft Policy Here](#)

[Provide Your Comments Here](#)

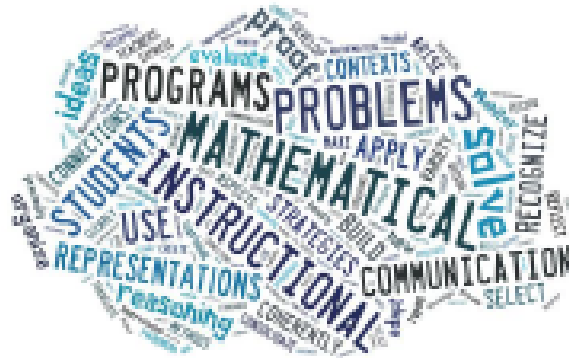
You are invited...

PARENT MATH NIGHT

Wednesday, May 27

Prince Philip Public School (Gymnasium)

Doors open at 6:00pm, Presentation from 6:30 to 7:30pm



We will be welcoming guest speaker Dr. Cathy Marks Krpan

Dr. Cathy Marks Krpan teaches in the Department for Curriculum, Teaching, and Learning at OISE, and is the author of several books related to math teaching and learning. Her focus will be on student communication in mathematics and how to support your children in today's math classes.

Coffee and light refreshments will be offered and some compelling student work will be on display beginning at 6:00pm.

Dr. Cathy Marks Krpan will also welcome questions from parents following the presentation.

R.S.V.P. by May 22 to your child's home school using the form below. Merci bien!

We hope to see you there!

Please submit the bottom portion to your home school by May 22.

Confirmation of attendance at Math Night at Prince Philip on May 27

Name: _____

Number expected to attend: _____