

McCulley Messenger

Do your best, do what's right!

MARCH 2010 NEWSLETTER



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
Achieving Success Together

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Secretary: T. Hampson

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Let me begin by wishing Mrs. Resney all the best as she begins her year-long maternity leave. We welcome Ms. Jones who will be moving over to the grade 1 class, and Mrs. Waselovich who will be taking over the duties in the morning JK/SK class. We are glad to have you as part of the McCulley team!

We had another jam-packed month of experiences for our students. Our family night at the Ice Dogs game was a huge success. It was great to see so many families enjoying time together, and enjoying time with members of the larger McCulley family.

This past month, we began our focus on perseverance, including how this ties into the Olympics, and we will continue this focus into the month of March. A great time was had by all at our Moose Olympics. Students participated with their Moose Colour Groups in a wonderful combination of outdoor and indoor activities. This was followed by a medal ceremony at our Celebration Assembly. This would not have been possible without the hard work of Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. DiDomenico and a dedicated group of parent volunteers. Thanks for a great time!

Spirit wear orders are being sent into the company this week. Orders should arrive by the end of March. We look forward to seeing everyone wearing the McCulley logo!

We continue to accept registrations for kindergarten. Please encourage anyone you know who has a child who will turn 4 by December 31, 2010 to register their child as soon as possible. This allows us to plan accordingly for September.

I would like to wish all students, parents and staff a most enjoyable March Break. Take time to relax and enjoy time with family and friends, so that you return to school refreshed and ready for the last term of the school year.

Mrs. De Luca-Gates



February Student Stars



- ★ JK/SK - A.M. - Om, Hilda
- ★ JK/SK - P.M. - Dawson, Gregory
- ★ SK-F - Emily, Taylor, Zakk
- ★ GR. 1-R - Riley, Kailyn, Emma
- ★ Gr. 1/2-C - Soarin, Caitlyn
- ★ Gr. 2/3-B - Sam, Daniel
- ★ Gr. 2/3-S - Steeley, Devon, Hope
- ★ Gr. 3/4-D - Josh, Thomas
- ★ Gr. 4/5-S - Jonathan, Joey, Trinity, Monique
- ★ Gr. 5/6-G - Josh, Liam



MAKE CHANGE FOR CHILDREN

This is an Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN) initiative to support District School Board of Niagara students in areas of poverty and emergency relief. We invite you to consider donating spare change to our school campaign that is running the week of March 8 to 12. A donation box will be on display at the office during this week. With your support, we can tackle the barriers that restrict learning for our students in need! Please see the enclosed flyer for more information. Thank you in advance for your consideration.



SLOW DOWN, PLEASE

Drivers dropping off or picking up E.I. McCulley students are reminded to **slow down** in our parking lot. We thank you in advance for doing your part to ensure the safety of everyone on school property.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Congratulations go out to all competitors in our annual Junior Public Speaking contest. Chandra placed first, Mikayla placed second and Oti placed third. Chandra went on to compete at a city-wide competition on February 16th. Our thanks to Mrs. DiDomenico for organizing this event for our students.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU...

We would like to thank Buckner Source for Sports and Pen Financial for their generous donation of skates to our school. We have been able to outfit most students with skates so that they could take part in both the school skating trip, as well as our family night at the Ice Dogs game. We are very appreciative of the community spirit shown by both of these businesses. **Our last school skate of the year will be on Tuesday, March 30th.** More information will be sent home after March Break.



Is your child up-to-date on his/her immunizations?

The *Immunization of School Pupils Act* requires every Public Health Unit to have one of the following on file for each child attending school:

- an up-to-date immunization record, or
- a legal exemption document (a statement of medical exemption, or a statement of conscience or religious belief affidavit).

In mid-March, suspension orders will be mailed to parents/guardians of those elementary school children who do not have complete immunization records (or legal exemption) on file with Public Health. **Parents have until May 3, 2010 to provide the necessary information to Public Health** (otherwise their child will be suspended effective May 4, 2010).

Parents may contact their health care provider to obtain immunization records and/or immunizations. Public Health also offers immunization clinics. To book an appointment for your child or for more information call 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.

Niagara  Region
PUBLIC HEALTH

**TERM 2 REPORTS
WILL BE ISSUED ON
FRIDAY, MARCH 26TH!**



WELCOME, S.N.A.P.!

Two of our classes are fortunate to be participating in the John Howard Society of Niagara SNAP® for Schools programme that was designed as a preventative method to keep children in schools and out of trouble. The SNAP® for Schools program delivers effective strategies for managing emotional arousal and gives positive options while dealing with everyday challenges. The program urges students to respond in a way that will make their problem smaller not bigger.. Niagara SNAP® for Schools teaches students to recognize body cues, to cope with anger, to deal better with peer pressure, and also how to handle problematic situations. SNAP® advocates students to make friends, to join in and to reward themselves for positive behaviour.



MARCH NEWSLETTER DRAW

My child(ren) _____
Class(es) _____
and I have read the newsletter.

Question: *Why is the school collecting milk bags?*

Answer:

Signature:

Please answer the question and return this ballot to the office for a chance to win a prize!

**Congratulations to Iyad K. who won
February's Newsletter Draw**

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO!

The seventh annual **DSBN Road Race** is scheduled for **Sunday, April 25th** at the DSBN Education Center. There will be a 1km fun run and a 5 km road race. All proceeds from this race will benefit the Education Foundation of Niagara and Niagara Nutrition Partners.



Information packages that will include registration and volunteer forms will be sent to all schools during the week of February 16 to 19.

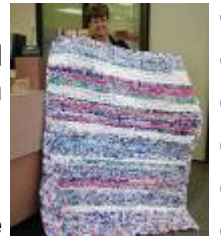
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The next meeting of our Council is Wednesday, March 10^h from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the school library. Babysitting is provided. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

Meeting dates for the year are: Apr. 14, May 12 and June 9.

WANTED: MILK BAGS AND PARENTS WHO CAN CROCHET!

Plastic milk bags can be turned into mats that are then shipped to Haiti where they are used as sleeping mats. They are washable, repel bugs and provide an alternative to sleeping on the damp and bare ground. In Haiti, if they don't have the mats, they use banana leaves, which can cause cuts to the skin.



Plastic milk bag mats are made from the plastic of the **outer** milk bag (4 L), which holds the three smaller clear bags inside. The bags must be clean, dry and folded flat. The bags are then cut up into strips and crocheted into mats by volunteers. During shipping, the mats are used as packaging in the containers which contain clothes, food and supplies. An adult mat requires approximately 250 bags to make, while a child's mat requires approximately 150 bags. The plastic bags are also crocheted into tote bags that can be used for carrying groceries, or as school bags.

We have a volunteer who is willing to teach us how to cut the bags into strips and how to crochet. If any parents are interested in learning how to crochet these mats, please contact Mrs. De Luca-Gates at the school. We will begin collecting milk bags so that we are ready to begin this worthwhile project. Students are asked to bring milk bags to the office.

BE NICE AND CHECK FOR LICE

Lice is not a topic many people want to hear about, let alone discuss, but it is a reality that we need to deal with. DSBN policy states that:

- The parent/designate will be notified and the child will be withdrawn from school for the first head lice treatment.
- The student will be given a letter stating that he/she may not return to school until treatment has been administered.
- Students will be re-checked upon returning to school.

There are a number of head lice products on the market, but **head lice products do not kill all eggs**. This is why a **second treatment is needed** 7 to 10 days after the first. In between the treatments, **nit-picking each day to remove eggs is essential**. It is also necessary to **wash all clothes, bedding and towels** used for the last 3 days. It is also helpful to vacuum all furniture, including pillows and stuffed animals.

Some proactive measures that may be useful include: wearing long hair in a pony tail, checking your child's hair regularly, ensuring your child does not share any items worn or used on the head.

As a parent who has dealt with lice, I understand your frustration, but only by being diligent can we work towards eliminating the nuisance of lice. More information on lice is available at the school or through Niagara Regional Public Health at 905=688-8248.