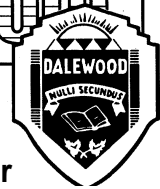


DALEWOOD SENIOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

Principal: **Mr. T. Wallace**
Troy.Wallace@dsbn.org

Vice Principal: **Mrs. L. Gower**
Lorraine.Gower@dsbn.org

février 2012 Newsletter



FAMILY DAY



There will be NO SCHOOL on **Mon., February 20th, 2012** as Family Day is observed in Ontario as the 3rd Monday of each February.

This holiday celebrates the importance of families and family life to people and their communities. Many people plan to take part in activities aimed at the whole family. These include visiting art exhibitions, watching movies, skating on outdoor ice rinks, playing board games and taking part in craft activities. Some communities plan special public events, and art galleries and museums may have reduced price or free entry.

As the weather is usually very cold in February, hot chocolate and freshly baked cookies are popular snacks. Other people use the long weekend as an opportunity for a short winter break or to travel to visit family members or friends. As Family Day falls on the same date as National Heritage Day, some people use the day to explore their personal heritage and family history.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Our next School Council Meeting is scheduled for **Mon., February 27th, 2012 at 6:30pm**, in the Library.

REPORT CARD DAY

Students will be bringing home their Report Cards on Thurs., February 9th, 2012.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

The following élève du mois (*students of the Month*) have been recognized for the month of **January**.

- 5-1 Abigail Boldt, Joe Coughler, & Amanda Goertz
- 5-2 Benjamin Mandigo, Joshua Bonnell & Nicholas Murray-Coplen
- 7-1 Madelaine Dick & Nicholas Pringle
- 7-2 Christian Beaucage
- 7-3 Jeff Wormald
- 7-4 Kurt Allen
- 7-5 Riley Kuijer & Katherine Mattatall
- 7-6 Julian Powers
- 8-1 Isaiah Bell & Paige Phillips
- 8-2 Ethan Snook & Lauren Stewart
- 8-3 Cameron Jones
- 8-4 Nathaniel Hoelzner & Stevie Watton
- 8-5 Danielle Bridle
- 8-6 Katie Juritsch



ABSENTEES & LATES

If your child is going to be away from school or even a bit late, please phone the school and leave a detailed message including:

- ✿ student's name,
- ✿ homeroom teacher's name,
- ✿ date of absence, and
- ✿ reason for absence.

For your convenience, our answering machine is on 24/7. The safety of our students is paramount; and having parents take a proactive approach by calling the school prior to an *absence* or *late*, makes attendance run smoothly and efficiently.

Many thanks to those of you who continually keep us informed!!



INCLEMENT WEATHER

All decisions concerning school closings are made by the Board Office, not the individual school. The announcements are made on local radio stations in time for the 7:00 a.m. news for morning classes. **Please listen in the morning** if you have weather concerns. (Some local radio stations are: CKTB 610 AM, CHRE 105.7 FM, CHSC 1220 AM, CHTZ 97.7 FM).



Please do not call the school regarding closures.



Early dismissal during the school day, due to inclement weather, is also announced on local radio stations. Please review with your child what arrangements have been made in the event of early dismissal for their arrival home.

PLEASE NOTE: The school may be open even though student transportation has been cancelled. The decision to send children to school remains at the parent's discretion.

ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Mr. Aylward

The Dalewood Robotics Club will be holding their school play-offs on **Wed., February 1st (12:00 - 4:30pm)** in the school library. The club members will be competing in a build and program robotics competition that will help the coaches decide which club members will represent Dalewood at the **DSBN Robotics Fair on Tues., February 7th** in NOTL. The Robotics Club will be sending 3 junior teams and 3 intermediate teams to the robotics competition. Thank You to the more than 70 robotics club members who have made this year our largest and most successful year to date! Robotics club parents are invited to drop into the school library after school on February 1st to observe the final stages of the robotics competition.



HUNGER GAMES BOOK CLUB

Mrs. Jones

Excitement has been building at Dalewood around reading and discussing Suzanne Collins' first Hunger Games novel. Approximately 90 students showed up to the Intermediate Hunger Games Book Club. We are thrilled to get students excited about reading and to share this novel. Intermediate students who are a part of the Club will be meeting Wednesdays, 2nd Break, in the Library.

ECO CLUB UPDATE

Mrs. Jones

This year Eco Club has been busy with many green initiatives in the school and in the community. In the Fall, students raked leaves in the Dalewood neighbourhood raising money for improvements and upkeep of our school courtyard. We also visited Niagara Recycling, allowing students to see, first hand, how items are recycled. We are planning some exciting initiatives this month around the school. Our meetings are days 5 and 7, 2nd break, in the library. Keep an eye out for our upcoming events and be sure to keep it green!

SNOWBALLS

At Dalewood, we expect students to leave snow on the ground. No snowballs or snow throwing is allowed. This is necessary to ensure the safety of our students, to be considerate of others, and to maintain a respectful and orderly environment. Snow throwing will involve progressive discipline as follows:

- ❄ 1st offence 30 minute office detention
- ❄ 2nd offence 3-30 minute office detentions
- ❄ 3rd offence 2-day suspension
- ❄ 4th offence 3-day suspension

It is our hope that no incidents will occur. Please review with your child the rule that snow remains on the ground. Experience has shown that this is the only safe alternative.

STUDENT SUPPORT BEFORE SCHOOL

This is a reminder that each morning, students are welcome to come in to the Library to receive additional support on homework or assignments with Mrs. Simpson. Students should arrive between 8:10am - 8:15am.

WINTER CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

The winter season has begun with its need for warm, dry clothing and footwear. Students are expected to have appropriate indoor and outdoor footwear at school. A pair of shoes or non-skid slippers must be kept indoors and a dry pair must be worn at all times inside. Writing your son or daughter's name on all clothing and footwear helps to ensure that these items do not get "left forever" in the Lost and Found box.

GRADE 8 GRADUATION



This year's Grade 8 Graduation will be held on **Mon., June 25th**, @ **Bethany Community Church (6:30pm)**. Further information will follow in April.

"ME2WE"

Megan Shimmon (8-6FI)

On January 11th, selected students from Me2We club, a few grade 5 representatives and Student Council went to a Think We Conference at Brock University. The Key Note speaker was star of Degrassi, Raymond Ablack. He talked about how his life has been enriched through volunteering. He and his cast mates went on a trip to Kenya with FTC (Free the Children) and helped build a school. He told us stories about how some parents in Africa tell their kids there is no point for them to dream about a future since their future is all about working to just survive. He also told us about how mothers spend up to 6 hour a day, to make trips 3 times a day, to get water and it's not even clean. He and his cast mates even had the chance to make one trip with them to collect water. It was one hour there and one hour back carrying big buckets of water. They could not believe how strong the women were and how difficult a task it was just to have water. The cast also got the chance to have tea with a family in their hut. It made him realize how fortunate we all are and how important it is to volunteer to help others. There was another speaker, Marty, who explained how you don't need to just help out in other parts in the world. There are many ways we can help out by volunteering time at a local food bank, an animal shelter, or Big Brother or Big Sister programs. All you need to do is find out what you are passionate about and then find an organization where you can volunteer your time. You are never too young or too old to make a change.

"Be the change you wish to see in the world"

~ Mahatma Gandhi ~

JR GIRLS BASKETBALL Mrs. Jones/Mrs. Duncan



Tryouts for the Jr Girls Basketball Team will begin in February. Those interested in trying out, be sure to listen to announcements for upcoming tryouts and practices.

CHESS CLUB



Mr. Wales is holding Chess Club for the Grade 7's on Tuesdays (1st break) and Grade 8's on Thursday (1st break). Mr. Theriault will be running the Grade 5 chess program.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

Motivational speaker, Marvin Law, will be speaking on the topic: "There's No Such Thing As Can't" on Wed., April 18th, at Bethany Community Church. This title is a perfect example as it is the expression Alvin's parent's used in his childhood to encourage a belief system, one that is timeless. This talk is one that has been used with youth for over 30 years. This is also a typical keynote that fits very well in opening or closing slots of conventions or professional development events.

H.O.P.E. MEETING SCHEDULE

HOPE (*Helping Others Parent Effectively*) is a Family Support Group for Parents/Caregivers of children with ADHD. Meetings are Wednesdays (7:00 – 8:30pm) at the St. Catharines Regional Child Care Centre (179 Carlton St.)

Upcoming meetings are: January 18th, February 15th, March 7th, April 4th, April 25th, May 9th, and June 6th. For more information, support, and resources please feel free to visit www.niagararegion.ca and search ADHD.



REGISTRATION!

Children who will be four years of age or older by December 31 are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten starting September 2012. Thursday, February 2, 2012 (4:00-6:00pm) is the Kindergarten Countdown Open House date for the DSBN. Please visit www.dsbn.org and click on "Kindergarten Registration" for all necessary details!

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HOW PARENTS CAN ENCOURAGE TWEENS TO READ

(by: *Reading Is Fundamental*, 2008)

You know that reading is important and you want to make sure that your tween grows into adulthood with all the skills he or she needs to succeed. The following list offers suggestions for encouraging your tweens to read.

1. **Set an example.** Let your kids see you reading for pleasure.
2. **Furnish your home with a variety of reading materials.** Leave books, magazines, and newspapers around. Check to see what disappears for a clue to what interests your tween.
3. **Give tweens an opportunity to choose their own books.** When you and your tween are out together, browse in a bookstore or library. Go your separate ways and make your own selections. A bookstore gift certificate is a nice way of saying, "You choose".
4. **Build on your teen's interests.** Look for books and articles that feature their favorite sports teams, rock stars, hobbies, or TV shows. Give a gift subscription to a special interest magazine.
5. **View pleasure reading as a value in itself.** Almost anything your youngsters read — including the Sunday comics — helps build reading skills.
6. **Read some books written for tweens.** Young adult novels can give you valuable insights into the concerns and pressures felt by tweens. You may find that these books provide a neutral ground on which to talk about sensitive subjects.
7. **Make reading aloud a natural part of family life.** Share an article you clipped from the paper, a poem, a letter, or a random page from an encyclopedia — without turning it into a lesson.
8. **Acknowledge your tween's mature interests.** Look for ways to acknowledge the emerging adult in your tweens by suggesting some adult reading you think they can handle.
9. **Keep the big picture in mind.** For all sorts of reasons, some tweens go through periods without showing much interest in reading. Don't panic! Time, and these tips may help rekindle their interest.

Reading is Fundamental. All About Adolescent Literacy. 8 12 2011

<<http://www.adlit.org/article/23399/>>.



It's all about FAMILY!

Family Day Free Skate! - Monday, February 20th, 2012

Sponsored by Family and Children's Services Niagara

Lace up! Come out and have some fun! Celebrate Family Day with some fun family time!
Free Skate time sponsored by FACS will be offered at the following locations and times:

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Fort Erie | Leisureplex | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm |
| Grimsby | Peach King Arena | 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm |
| St. Catharines | Seymour-Hannah 4 Pad | 9:45 am – 11:15 am |
| Lincoln | Jordan Arena | 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm |
| West Lincoln | West Lincoln/Smithville Arena | 11:30 am – 1:00 pm |
| Wainfleet | Wainfleet Arena | 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm |
| Niagara-on-the-Lake | Meridian Arena | 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm |
| *Niagara Falls | TD Rink at the Brink | 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm |
| Port Colborne | Humberstone Arena | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm |

**free skate and helmet rentals at Niagara Falls only*



Foster Families Needed

Open your hearts and your home to local children and youth in need.

For more information on providing safe and temporary care for children in need

Call 905-937-7731

www.facsniagara.on.ca