



November 2009 Newsletter

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

On Wednesday, November 11 at approximately 10:30 a.m., Dalewood will hold its annual Remembrance Day assembly. Dalewood's talented choir will be performing along with selected members of the drama classes. There will also be guest speakers for the occasion. Parents and friends are invited to attend this very important ceremony. Seating will begin at 10:15 a.m.



We will be following a traditional school day on Nov. 11th. Students will have lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

P. A. DAY

Friday, November 13 is a Professional Activity Day for the District School Board of Niagara. There will be **NO SCHOOL ALL DAY**.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next School Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. All parents are encouraged to attend.

GRADE 9 PREVIEW DAY

On November 4 all Grade 8 elementary students in St. Catharines and Niagara-On-The-Lake will participate in the DSBN "Grade 9 Preview Day". This day is an opportunity for your Grade 8 child to experience "a day in the life" of a high school student. On this Grade 9 Preview Day, your child will be visiting Laura Secord or Governor Simcoe Secondary School based on your home address. Extended French students will be

attending Sir Winston Churchill on this day.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

The school year is off to a great start and so are some of our students. The following responsible students have been chosen to be the OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH.

- 7-1 Cameron Stewart
- 7-2 Andrea Bennici
- 7-3 Katie Mallory
- 7-4 Holly Morris, Brandon Sedman
- 7-5 Kelly Millar
- 7-6 Brandy Fulton
- 8-1 Tyler Hildebrandt
- 8-2 Hope Daniel
- 8-3 Lyle Gayder, Stephanie Murphy
- 8-4 Katherine Jones
- 8-5 P.J. Cole
- 8-6 Michaela Cowdrey, Austin Ruddle

Congratulations to all the above students.

BOARD GAMES FOR INDOOR RECESSES

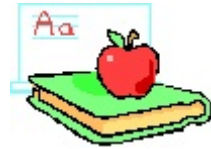
Do you have board games sitting in the closet not being used? Think of donating these games to Dalewood for our students to use during indoor recesses.

Wishing Mrs. Haddock a Fairwell

The staff and students of Dalewood wish Mrs. Haddock, our secretary, all the best and thank her for all of the hard work for our school. Mrs. Haddock has accepted a new position at Meadowdale. We would like to welcome our new secretary, Mrs. Cirilli. Mrs. Cirilli will be starting at Dalewood on Monday, November 16th, the next time you are at the school please stop by and welcome Mrs. Cirilli to Dalewood.

REPORTS AND INTERVIEWS

As we move into November, teachers are starting to look towards the end of the first term of school and to the writing of the first set of Student Report Cards. The 1st Term Report Cards will be sent home to you on Wednesday, December 2. Sit down with your child and look over the Report Card together. Highlight where you think he/she has done well and congratulate your child's efforts!



Discuss with your child areas that need improvement. Pay close attention to the Learning Skills on the second page as these skills are the pillars that allow children to be successful in school. This is the perfect time to set goals with your child for the second term. Post the goals in a visible spot such as on the fridge.

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for the evening of Thursday, December 3 and the afternoon of Friday, December 4. Shortly, you will be receiving communication from your son/daughter's teacher to make arrangements for the parent-teacher conference. Parent-teacher conferences are an important part of your child's education. Often there is a lot of information discussed in a parent-teacher conference in only 15 minutes. Here are a few tips to help make this year's parent-teacher conference a success:

Take Notes- Before the conference, jot down your child's areas of success and any concerns you have about your child. Write down the questions you have about his/her achievement.

Teamwork- Stay calm. If there are problems, focus on ways to work with your child's teacher on solutions. Children benefit most when parents and teachers are on the same page.

Next Step- Develop a clear action plan. Discuss how you at home and the teacher at school will follow up on issues raised. Maintain regular communication with your child's teachers to monitor progress.

Working together as a collaborative team will allow us to best support your child's learning needs.

COMMUNICATION MATTERS

Smart Talk From DSBN Speech-Language Pathologist

Some children may have difficulty answering certain types of questions. By changing the way you ask a question, you may get a better response. Try these suggestions:

Ask short, clear, and direct questions. Use simple grammar and ask for one idea at a time. Instead of "what happened at school today?", ask "what was the best thing that you did today at school?"; "what did you do in gym?", etc.

Give your child enough time to respond. Show you are interested in what your child has to say. Look at your child, nod your head and make comments. Recognize that some children take longer than others to compose their response. Wait for an answer to one question before asking another. Continue to keep eye contact while you wait.

Use different kinds of questions to give your child opportunity to answer with different levels of information. If you want short, factual answers, use questions such as yes/no, multiple choice, how many, who, what, and when. For an interpretation or an evaluation, ask questions such as how, what if, what do you think, why or what makes you say that.

Rephrase a question. If your child doesn't answer, model the type of response you are looking for. Your child may respond better to a directive instead of a question. For example, "I had an interesting day at work. We had a visitor....., tell me about your day."

ALLERGY ALERT

To help protect children with **severe allergies** to peanut/peanut oil/tree nuts (walnuts, hazelnuts) from having an allergic reaction and anaphylactic shock that can be life threatening, please **do not** send any products containing nuts or nut oil to school for lunches or snacks. If students go home for lunch, please ensure that they wash their hands before returning to school. A list of safe foods is available at the office.

Ottawa & Montreal Trips

Our trip registration for both Ottawa and Montreal continues, families that are interested in registering should visit the tour company's website at www.schoolvoyageurs.com and use the following trip codes:

Ottawa 906-77457

Montreal 657-77630

We have received several phone calls regarding the online registration and being put on a Wait-List. To clarify for you, School Voyageurs places all new registrants on a Wait-List until the registration is processed by the tour company. Once students are processed they will be transferred to the Trip List. Parents can either pay by credit card online or parents can make cheques payable to Dalewood P.S.

We are offering several fundraisers to help offset some of the cost of this trip. Currently we are completing a Christmas CD campaign. We are currently looking into several other fundraisers, more information will be coming out shortly.

INCLEMENT WEATHER . . .

Announcements on school closings will be made on the 7:00 a.m. newscasts on local radio stations. Please listen on mornings when you have concerns whether schools will be open. Some schools may be closed while others may remain open so listen carefully. Parents must use their discretion when sending their child to schools which remain open in severe weather conditions. Early dismissal due to inclement weather will also be announced on local radio stations. Review arrangements made with your child in the event of an early dismissal. Every effort will be made to ensure safety. **Please do not call the school. We need the phone lines available to contact parents.**



Parents Make a BIG Difference!

Did you know?

Teenagers who feel connected to their families are more likely to avoid the dangers of using drugs.

Did you know?

Parents who talk to their children and monitor

their activities can reduce the likelihood of their children using drugs. Parents sometimes don't realize they have a lot of influence on their teenager's behaviour.

Parents who want to learn how to talk to their children about drugs can visit www.parentactionondrugs.org and www.drugprevention.gc.ca or visit www.niagararegion.ca for more substance misuse information from Niagara Region Public Health.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

We now have a vending machine to purchase dairy products. The machine is capable of scanning the student card to pay for the item. If you choose this hi-tech method please send in a cheque payable to Dalewood and we will add that amount to your child's card. The machine will scan the card, deduct the amount from the card and dispense the item. Minimum amount to be applied to the card is \$5. Should you pay with your card you will receive a discount. Milk, yogurt tubes and cheese strings will cost 75¢ with the card or \$1.00 cash.



CROSS COUNTRY

Once again Dalewood was a powerhouse on the cross country scene. With a team of over 100 athletes strong, Dalewood dominated the area 4 cross country meets at Burgoyne Woods. Congratulations to the runners who qualified for the DSBN meet - 38 runners is an outstanding accomplishment! Our top DSBN runners were:

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| Bantam Girls: | Bantam Boys: |
| 7 th Jordan McLachlan | 6 th Zac Bowman |
| 24 th Emma Fedorchuk | 7 th Trevor Cotton |
| | 15 th Terrance Chan |
| | 21 st Tyler Walicki |
| Midget Girls: | Midget Boys: |
| 12 th Katherine Hughes | 5 th Brady Allen |
| 19 th Karen Tamayo | 6 th Justin Felker |
| 23 rd Alysha Anzik | 15 th Dylan Walicki |
| | 18 th Dalon MacEachern |

Thank you to Mr. Parkhouse and the students



from 8-1 for marshaling the DSBN meet, Mrs. Read who ran the scorers table, Ms. Sawicki for coaching and cheerleading at the final meet. Last but not least, thank you to Emma Lauermeier and Paola Dimas for their help throughout the season.

STUDENT COUNCIL CORNER

HALLLOWEEN DANCE

On Friday, October 30 Dalewood Dragons had their first dance of the year. It was a huge success! All of the Halloween costumes were spectacular, which made choosing the winners for our various contests extremely hard. Not only did we have prizes for the best dressed, we had different prizes for things like the most enthusiastic, or first one to break the ice. Our DJ this year was amazing. He had a good selection of songs, as well as a great light show. Finally, thanks Dragons for making the dance awesome!

DALEWOOD'S FOSTER CHILD

In November, we will be looking for donations and fundraising for our foster child. His name is Nazabuddin Ali and he lives in Nepal. So our plan is to do a "walk around the school in Nazabuddin's shoes." We are going to be placing footprints around our school and then sending him a Dalewood t-shirt that all our Dalewood Dragons who have contributed will be able to sign!

COMMUNITY CARE

In the near future Dalewood will be looking for canned goods to help support people that are less fortunate in our community. Hoping everyone can contribute to that!

BECOME A SNOW BUDDIE

Community Support Services of Niagara is asking for our students' assistance to help the elderly in our neighbourhood. The Snow Buddie program links students with seniors to assist with snow shovelling. Volunteers participating in this program are required to complete a training course. Further information is available at the Office or you can contact Laurie at 905-682-3800.

DALEWOOD VOLLEYBALL

The Lady Dragons have enjoyed a great start to their season. The team has grown both in skills and spirit greatly over the past month, and continue to push for improvement in both of these areas. In regular season league play, our girls have been victorious in all matches except one, and are currently tied for second place with Oakridge School. The team is looking forward to the exciting conclusion of their regular season, which includes a match against Oakridge. Playoffs for league play begin on Thursday, November 12. In addition to league play, the girls also participated in an invitational tournament on October 24 at Lakeport/Eden where they faced both local and out of area schools for a full day of volleyball action. Over the course of the day the team played 15 games against seven different schools and were ranked fourth out of the sixteen schools that participated in the tournament. The team looks forward to two more upcoming tournaments: the Provincial Cup, in Oakville, on November 13 and 14, as well as the DSBN tournament on Monday November 16. Best wishes Dragons! Thanks to Mme. Zamproga and Mr. Markham for helping Mrs. Cherney with morning practices and to Mrs. Lehne for bringing great school spirit and support to the Lakeport tournament. Special thanks to all of the player's parents who have provided transportation to our games as well as the student volunteer scorekeepers and linesman who have helped out at our home games. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

The Boys Volleyball team is currently undefeated to date with two games remaining our regular season. The team is playing at peak performance and is busy preparing for the Niagara Invitational Tournament on Saturday, November 7 and the Provincials in Halton Region, which will take place the following weekend, beginning Friday night. Information surrounding these two tournaments will be made available this week to players. Way to go boys! Thanks to all of our parent volunteers who have transported our players to away games and for their awesome support thus far at our matches. Special thanks as well to our devoted scorekeepers and lines officials who have made all of our home games a huge success.