



PARNALL PIRATE'S TREASURE

THE NEWSLETTER OF PARNALL PUBLIC SCHOOL

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MR. R. SALTER, PRINCIPAL

JANUARY 2012

OLIVER!

The "Oliver!" cast has been working hard at memorizing their songs. We will continue to meet each Thursday at lunch for the month of January. Our first rehearsal at Governor Simcoe is **Monday, February 6th, 2012.**



a regular fountain as well as having the capacity to refill water bottles. Each time a water bottle is refilled, a counter keeps track of the possible number of bottles eliminated from the landfills and recycling stations. Thanks to the Earthworm Eco Club for starting this initiative.

CHESS CLUB



Mrs. Coveney will be running Chess Club on **Mondays** for Grades 3 - 6 at lunch in Room 22, starting **January 16th**. Come out to enjoy a fun and exciting game that challenges your mind!

WHERE CAN I GO TO FIND OUT ABOUT SCHOOL CLOSURES?

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures.

PARNALL SCIENCE FAIR

Participants are asked to bring their completed Checkpoints to Mrs. Coveney by **January 13th, 2012.** We would like to start preparing our speeches and boards as soon as possible.

Don't forget to circle the date for this year's fair on your calendar: **Thursday, February 2, 2012.**



We will have the judging in the afternoon and the Science Fair Celebration at 6:30 p.m. that same evening for everyone's families to see all of the projects.

Information about transportation changes and school closures will be available on the websites, social media, radio and television stations listed below as soon as it is available. Please do not phone the school for transportation or school closure information.

Websites/Social Media:

www.dsbniagara.org

http://twitter.com/D_S_B_N

<http://www.facebook.com/DSBNiagara>

Television:

Cogeco Cable 10
CHCH Television
City TV

Radio:

CKTB 610 am
CHML 900 am
EZ Rock 105.7 fm
Htz 97.7 fm
KLite 102.9 fm
The River 105.1 fm
Wave 94.7 fm
Y-108 – 107.9 fm
Z 101.1 fm

JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL UPDATE

Congratulations to the boys and girls volleyball teams who played extremely well throughout the playoff season. The girls defeated Oakridge to win the consolation championships and the boys also defeated Oakridge to win the league championship. Both teams showed tremendous growth over the season and all players worked hard to develop their skills.



Also, congratulations to the junior co-ed volleyball team who finished as consolation finalists at the DSBN co-ed tournament on Saturday, December 17th.

The team came together quickly and worked cooperatively throughout the day. They showed determination and gave their best effort! Team members were: Abbey Jarrett, Morgan Pagnotta, Kaitlyne Brady, Lillian Ranucci, Troy Holowchuk, Michael Mazzarella, Spencer Stone, Josiah Esau and Ethan VanZalen.

At times when student transportation has been cancelled and schools remain open, the decision of whether or not to have children go to school that day rests with the parent or guardian.

ECO NEWS

Parnall School has purchased a "hydration station" with funds provided by a grant through Metro's Green Apple Grant Program. The hydration station will be installed early in the New Year. It will replace one of the existing water fountains and will provide filtered and chilled tap water. It will work as

Should you decide not to send your child to school when transportation has been cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call the school to inform them of your child's absence.

WE ARE COUNTING DOWN TO KINDERGARTEN!

Children who will be four years of age or older by *December 31st*, are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten starting September 2012.

Going to school for the first time is a major step for children and their parents. At the DSBN, families start that journey together at the 'Kindergarten Countdown' open houses. Families can visit our school, meet the kindergarten teacher, and receive a gift bag filled with fun learning resources and information that will help children develop school readiness skills.

Mark your calendar for **Thursday, February 2, 2012 from 4-6 p.m.** for our Kindergarten Countdown open house. Visit www.dsbn.org and click on "Kindergarten Registration" for all the details!

COLD WEATHER ALERTS AT DSBN

Winter is a time of wonder for many children; many enjoy the crisp air, the freshly fallen snow and participating in a whole host of exciting winter sports and activities.

Although we feel it is important for students to spend some time outside each day exercising and socializing with their peers, there are times when bitterly cold temperatures and other inclement weather conditions require that we keep children inside.

Because Niagara is such a large geographical area, and weather conditions may vary from one municipality to the next, the decision whether or not to hold recess outdoors is made by the individual school principal. When making this decision, principals will often consult with neighbouring schools, talk with parents as they arrive in the morning, and if the decision to send children outside is made, will equip yard duty staff with walkie-talkies so that they can communicate with the office to sound the bells to bring students in earlier.

The health and well-being of our students is a top priority at the District School Board of Niagara, and if it is determined that the weather conditions pose a risk to their safety, students will be kept indoors. Extreme cold weather alerts issued by the Niagara Region are often good indicators that students will stay inside.

Even when temperatures are not low enough to necessitate an indoor recess, it still may be quite cold outside. Here are a few tips to help ensure that your child stays warm during the cold winter months.

- Try to send children to school with plenty of layers, such as long underwear, sweatshirts, sweaters and pullovers. Layering their clothing will allow them to add or remove items depending on the weather.
- Students should have a warm winter coat that repels the snow, sleet and rain, while blocking the wind.
- Warm socks and boots will keep their feet warm and dry in the snow and slush.

- Hats are one of the most important parts of dressing warmly in the winter. A thick winter hat will keep students from losing too much of that essential body heat.

- Put on a good pair of gloves or mittens that are water-resistant as well. Gloves will keep kids' hands toasty warm and protect their skin from becoming damaged by the wind and chill.

If you have any questions about our inclement weather procedures, please visit our website dsbn.org, or contact the principal.



YOUR FUTURE IS HERE!

Grade 8 students and their families are invited to attend High School Open Houses in January 2012. For a full list of open house dates, times and details, please go to www.dsbn.org

HOPE (HELPING OTHERS PARENT EFFECTIVELY)

The HOPE group's next meeting is January 18, 2012 at the St. Catharines Regional Child Care Centre – 179 Carlton Street, St. Catharines. The topic will be: Healthy Eating Tips for the Whole Family – Sandy Maxwell, Registered Dietician, suggestions for weight, sleep and physical activity concerns.

CHEEKY MONKEYS

Don't forget – "Parnall Night" at Cheeky Monkeys' Indoor Playland is on **Tuesday, January 17th** from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. This event is by invitation only. Invitations will be sent home soon. Be sure to invite your friends, neighbours and cousins, so EVERYONE can come and have a great time! See you there!

DECEMBER SUPER STARS

JSA1 – Mrs. Chiarelli

Bradley McHoul
Tanner Pare-Smith
Sydney Green

JSA2 – Mrs. Pringle

Lucan Watson
Emma Riches
Marissa Colbey

SESN – Mrs. Unger

Clayton Hirniak

1-1 – Mr. Pickett

Donovan Losier
Sam Doyle
Rilen McCallum

1/2 – Mrs. Penner

Grace Fancy
Hannah Richardson

2-1 – Mrs. Hughes

Connor Wilson
Julia Picard

3-1 – Mrs. Cosby

Aiden Mason
Claudia Rempel
Ethan Ruthven

3-2 – Mrs. Cogswell

Jared Dyck
Isaiah McPherson

4-1 – Mrs. Chuchman

Brady Abbs
 Zoe Hilliker
 Ethan Tyler

4/5 – Mrs. Tallman

Seojun Wang
 Mikka Hanneman
 Jack Hunter
 Ryan Seinen
 Noah Warren

5/6 – Ms. Erwood

Paige DiPaolo
 Eric Cunningham
 Connor Barr
 Taylor White

6-1 – Mrs. Coveney

Emma Birnie
 Breanna Harvey
 Troy Holowchuk
 Michael Mazzarella
 Ben Meier
 Spencer Stone

DECEMBER RESPONSIBILITY WINNERS

- JSA1** Ethan deBliciek, Rheece Hutley
- JSA2** Amelia van Vliet
- SESN** Abigail Janzen
- 1-1** Tyson Abbs, Alanna Germano
- 1/2** Catherine Boese, Jacob Brisebois
- 2-1** Ryder Klassen, Gavin Bogusat
- 3-1** Will Jarrett, Noah Parsons
- 3-2** Sydney Battel, Nolan Moskal, Ryan Segato
- 4-1** Tiana Holowchuk, Arianna McGowan, Skylar Tucker
- 4/5** Adrian Fochtberger, Sebastian Latham
- 5/6** Ethan Meloen, Larissa Atmekjian
- 6-1** Rachel Anderson-Fancy, Troy Holowchuk

The following students have received a special *Caring Award* for their kindness and friendship towards their friends during the Christmas Concert: Rachel Wyatt, Hunter Sedore, Emma Roberts, Kaileigh Wegener and Chloe Meloen.

CHARACTER TRAITS

The character trait for January is **Integrity**. We will be highlighting the qualities of this trait by reinforcing trustworthiness, honesty, making good choices and doing the right thing, even if it is not the easiest or most desirable.

FAMILY LITERACY DAY

January 25TH is Family Literacy Day in Canada. On this day, Canadian families are encouraged to read together, play together, and plan to continue to learn as a family all year long. This special day was created in 1999 by ABC CANADA, a charity that researches and promotes literacy in Canada. It is VERY important to set aside at least 15 minutes per day to read as a family. It takes 21 days to form a habit...start today by turning off the TV and reading together! For ideas on fun things to do to celebrate literacy with your family visit the website www.familyliteracyday.ca.

We will be celebrating Family Literacy Night at Parnall School on Wednesday, January 25th. More information will be sent home shortly.

**BOOK FAIR COMING SOON!**

We're having a Scholastic Book Fair in the school library beginning on *Tuesday, January 24th*. Books may be purchased at recess times and after school. We will also be opened during our Literacy Night that week. Details will be sent home next week. If you have any teenagers looking for ways to get their community hours, please call Mrs. Cornelius to book times.

FOREST OF READING CLUB

This month our Forest of Reading Clubs will begin for all ages at Parnall School. We will join kids all across Ontario by participating in the 2012 Ontario Library Association (OLA), Forest of Reading Book Awards. This program is a children's choice award. Students read from a selected list of recent Canadian books. Students who read a **minimum** of 5 books from one of the lists are eligible to vote for their favourite book. The OLA co-ordinates the election and the winning books receive the award.

The Blue Spruce Club includes all students from kindergarten to Grade 2 during Library classes. Grades 4 – 6 will be involved in an extra-curricular Silver Birch Club. The **Silver Birch Express Club** list is designed for students in **grade 4**. It includes fiction and non-fiction titles. The **Silver Birch** non-fiction and fiction lists are designed for readers in **grades 5 & 6**.

Participation in the Forest of Reading Book Club at Parnall Public School involves quite a commitment so it is very important that you think this through before making the commitment! You must commit to reading at least five rather "wordy books (you can read all the books if you want!), attending Book Club Meetings, participating in discussions and activities, and voting for your favourite book at the official polling station in our school library in April. Student contracts will be sent home by the end of the month.

* A special thank-you to all of the families who donated books to the Parnall Library. The students and staff appreciate your generosity!