



STEVENSVILLE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2012



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Principal's Message...

- * Welcome back to an exciting New Year. I hope your holidays were filled with good cheer!
- * Throughout the winter we will continue to focus on supporting all learners to reach their potential. As a follow up from our student/parent/teacher conferences we will be sharing a formal Term 1 report card on Feb 9th.
- * Now is a perfect time to continue the great work you do at home to encourage student success at school.

Counting Down to Kindergarten!

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!

Registration criteria:

Children who are four years of age on or before the last day of December 2011, may attend Junior Kindergarten in September. Children who are five years of age on or before the last day of December 2010, may attend Senior Kindergarten in September. Documents certifying the date of birth (birth certificate, birth registration certificate, baptismal certificate), Health card and up to date record of Immunization is required. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call the school. If any of your neighbors have children this age, please let them know that it is

REGISTRATION TIME and Stevensville Public School is a GREAT SCHOOL!



Important Dates:

- January 13th - Gr. 4 & 5's Skating
- January 17th - RCBHS Gr. 8 Open House
- January 18th - Gr. 1 & 1/2 's to Great Canadian Superstore
- January 19th - FESS Gr. 8 Open House
- January 26th - Gr. 8 Grad Photos-Library
- January 27th - Gr. 6-8 Skating

Your Future is Here!

Grade 8 students and their families are invited to attend High School Open Houses. Ridgeway Crystal Beach High School is having their Open House January 17th 2012 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm and Fort Erie Secondary is having their Open House January 19th 2012 from 6:40 - 8:30 pm For a full list of open house dates, times and details, please go to www.dsbn.org.

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.



LEGO CLUB...

Congratulations to the Lego Club for placing 5th out of 24 teams last weekend. They had the second highest score of the tournament. They won the award for outstanding Robotic Solutions. Great job everyone, and thank you to Mr. Kells for all your time you have spent with these great boys. Matthew P, Trevor C, Curtis P, Alex W, Liam B, Owen S, Matt S, Ben S and Eric S. Way to go Hawks!



Junior Boys Volleyball...

Our Stevensville Hawks Jr boys volleyball team were well represented by Ethan V, Evan G, Hunter Z, Jonah D, Carson E, Caleb F, Andrew V, Matt F, Wyatt H, Kyle B, Dakota L, and Avery S. The team this year played well against other schools in the Fort Erie Family of Schools. They showed strong determination, good skills, and most importantly, teamwork and as a result came in 1st place in League play and won the Area 1 A Championship. They continued on to the DSNB Tournament and met up against some fierce, strong competitors. Their experience was memorable. Our Junior Team will lose some outstanding players to our Intermediate Team next year, but the players left behind, and hopefully some new recruits, will continue the Hawk Spirit. **WAY TO GO HAWKS!**

Christmas Concert...



Thanks to all those who attended the Christmas Concert. We had a wonderful night and were able to send many canned goods, hats and mittens to COPE.



Works of Art

The Wonder of Winter, hosted by St. John's Stevensville United Church, is a display of student artwork from neighbouring schools in our area. Some of our students have added their work to the Gallery. If interested in visiting, the opening days are Wednesday, December 21st and Friday, December 23rd. Doors are open from noon until 8:00pm. The gallery will be open Dec. 24 through December 31 (closed Christmas Day). Admission is free!



***MERRY CHRISTMAS &
HAPPY NEWYEAR***

Character in Action - Caring

What CARING means at Stevensville:

- Treat others in a good way
- Include others
- Be nice
- Put other peoples' needs before your own
- Take pride in your work
- Help someone in need
- Good deeds
- Encouragement
- Be a good friend



What CARING looks like/sounds like:

- Talk nicely/respectfully
- Use your manners to show you care about others respecting you
- Say thank you
- No put downs
- Help people in trouble/hurt
- Listen to friends problems and try to help them
- Play nicely
- Share
- Bring in canned goods, shoeboxes, teddy bears
- Raise money for a school in Kenya
- Show interest in others around you
- Stand up for people who need help from a bully
- Say good job, give praise
- Include people in your games at recess

Congratulations to the following students who demonstrate caring!

Kindergarten: Shayna N, Gabiel P, Dora G, Taiya G,

Primary: Kelly T, Taylor W, Kya P, Maci W, Owen G, Owen S, Jamie W, Lily E, Coe H, Simon J, ErikaB, Micah S

Junior: Bronte D, Kylia R, Sarah B, Cole Z, Chelsea S, Adriel C, Ethan V, Tyler H

Intermediate: Noah G, Shannon B, Mathieu V,

Also, a huge thank you to our students who continue to show effort at school.

Kindergarten: Caitlyn M, Aidan N

Primary: Levi G, Blake T Sydney F, Daniel H

Junior: Leah C, Sean H, Cole A, Mackenzie M, Emma G, Bailey M, James P, Sarah V, Hailey A

Intermediate: Elijah P, Brenden G, Rea K, Mathew P, Austin W

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.

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

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

A key resource in any emergency is the DSBN Emergency Information form that you filled out at the beginning of the school year. Please let the school know of any changes in contact information or procedures you wish to be followed throughout the school year.

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.dsbnet.org

http://twitter.com/D_S_B_N

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

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

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.

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.

“Hey Parents! Do you know what your kids are watching?”

Young people look to celebrities for reassurance about their fashion and behaviour. The evidence is clear....

The more youth see smoking in movies, the more likely they are to start smoking.

Ways to Protect our Kids

1. **Be aware** of what your children are viewing and learn which movies have smoking in them.
Updates available every Thursday at facebook.com/hookedbyhollywood.
2. **Talk to your children** about tobacco and movies and teach them to be media aware.
3. **Show your support** to get tobacco out of youth-rated films in Ontario at smokefreemovies.ca.
4. **Spread the word** to other parents and join the discussion on facebook and twitter.

www.smokefreemovies.ca

facebook.com/hookedbyhollywood

Vaccines and elementary school children

Niagara Region Public Health is conducting an annual review of vaccination records for all elementary school children in the Niagara region. **If the vaccination information we have on file for your child is NOT complete, you will receive a letter and questionnaire from us in the mail later this month (January, 2012).**

- Please follow the instructions for reporting your child's vaccinations to us, as outlined in the letter. Various options for reporting are available.
- If your child is overdue for one or more vaccinations, you will need to make an appointment with your child's doctor to get your child vaccinated. You can also make an appointment for your child at one of Public Health's General Immunization Clinics by calling 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.
- If you are a parent/guardian not wishing to vaccinate your child, you will need to provide Niagara Region Public Health with an original legal exemption document.

Students under 18 years of age attending Ontario schools must have proof of immunization against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella (German measles). We are required to have this information by law (*Immunization of School Pupils Act, 1990*). **Please provide us with your child's missing vaccination information by March 8, 2012 or your child may be suspended from school.**

For more information, please call the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.