



# December 2017 Newsletter



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Megan Milani  
Principal

## Principal's Message

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

December is upon us bringing with it much excitement as the holiday season draws near and preparations get under way.

We will be bidding Mrs. Martin farewell this month. Her temporary placement began more than 2 years ago and she has become a big part of the Knights family. I know we will all miss her. Thanks for all of your hard work Mrs. Martin! We will welcome Mrs. Goldwin, a secretary with the DSBN for the last 12 years, who will begin on Dec 11<sup>th</sup>.

We have other staffing changes to announce. Our Educational Assistants, Mrs. Fricke and Ms. Tonn-Smith have been placed at other schools. They were a great support and we miss them. We were fortunate to have Educational Assistant, Mrs. Smith (yes, another Smith at our school!) placed here. Welcome to Mrs. S. Smith. We are also lucky to have Ms. Cowan teaching for Mrs. T. Smith with the Grade 2s until the end of the month.

We look forward to welcoming you to join us for our Holiday Caroling on December 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 -7:00 p.m. in the gym. A big thanks to Mrs. Blackburn who is busy preparing for the night and warming up her vocal chords to lead us in song. Should be a great night. Hope to see you there!

The Kinders are busy preparing for their Holiday Concert on Dec 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am. The rest of our students will get to see the Concert during the dress rehearsal. Thanks to Mr. Derosie, Mrs. Kraus and Ms. McMahon for all of their work with this. Thanks to Mr. Kraus and his students who always play a big part in helping with the sound, lighting and preparation.

Thanks to Ms. Rowland and Student Council for arranging the fun for our 12 Days of Christmas. More information is in the body of the newsletter.

We are collecting non-perishables for Community Cares. We have almost a full bin of food ready to

donate. We will keep the bins on site until Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. Let's see if we can fill another bin!

Classes will be having celebrations on the last day before the break (**Friday, Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>** ) and with that often comes treats from home. Please be diligent about reading food labels. We are a **nut-safe school and have students who are highly allergic to nuts**. Refrain from sending foods with nut products.

Thanks for your careful attention to this. This is also a reminder that if you send soy butter (resembles peanut butter), we need a note from you verifying that it is soy.

We are having lots of fun, but we continue to work hard of course and are excited about student gains. We continue to focus on Math and Reading. Encourage your child to go on Dreambox every night for at least 20 minutes, read each night, and keep asking thoughtful questions. We are regularly reminding our students to keep working hard, never give up, and have an attitude of gratitude. Go Knights!

Wishing you all a peaceful, joyful and healthy holiday season!

Sincerely,

M. Milani

Principal

## News from the Office!

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Below you will find important dates and information of happenings here at Ontario. As always, feel free to visit or call the office if you have any questions.

- December 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> is the Santa Shop
- December 12<sup>th</sup> is our Family Holiday Carol Sing
- December 21<sup>st</sup> is the Kinder Holiday Concert
- Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> is the last school day of 2017-Enjoy your holidays!
- Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> is the first school day of 2018-Welcome Back!

## Family Holiday Carol Sing

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On December 12<sup>th</sup> we will be having a Community Holiday Carol Sing in the gymnasium. We invite all Ontario families to join us from 6-7 pm.

## Kinder Christmas Celebration

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The kindergarten classes will be having a special holiday celebration on December 21<sup>st</sup>, at 1:45 pm. A variety of songs will be performed in the gym for our family members, with light refreshments to be served after! Join us for the fun!



## Santa Shop

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Our Parent Council Members have been busy little elves setting up the Santa Shop again this year. Your child should have come home with a Gift list already. Please go through this list with your child and mark down the names for whom anyone he or she will be buying a gift. Please purchase your voucher on School Cash On-Line for your child to use for shopping or send the money for the gifts with your child on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Gifts will be sent home wrapped and ready to go under the tree for Christmas morning. We are always looking for extra help, so if you have some time to come and wrap presents then please call the office and let Mrs. Martin know when you are available.

## Breakfast Program

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Congratulations Ontario Public School! Our school was one of only ten schools chosen from across all of Niagara Region to receive groceries through Niagara Nutrition Partner's Santa Surprise Christmas Program. This program is sponsored by General Motors, and we are so lucky! A big thank you to NNP and GM, Mr. Phillips, Henderson's Pharmacy and Thorold South Allanburg United Church for supporting our Breakfast Club and Snack programs.

## Hot Chocolate for Sale 50 Cents

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The Kindergarten team will be selling Hot Chocolate for 50 cents on Thursday mornings at first break. This not only will warm up our students before they go outside but it will also help pay for the kindergarten students to go to Heartland Forest. The rest of the money will help to pay for new volleyball uniforms for our intermediate team.

Thank you to No Frills on Lundy's Lane for their generous donation of \$25 worth of hot chocolate.



## An Important Message about Inclement Weather Procedures

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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 cancellations and school closures will be available as soon as it is available through the following channels.

**Websites:**

<http://www.dsbn.org/inclementweather/>  
[www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca)

**Subscription Features:**

DSBN Facebook or Twitter

NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts

**Phone:**

Niagara Student Transportation Services 905-346-0290 Voice Auto Attendant.

**Radio Stations:**

CKTB (610 AM) St. Catharines

WAVE (94.7) Hamilton

CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton

CHML (900 AM) Hamilton

CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton

Y-108 (107.9) Hamilton

CHRE (105.7) St. Catharines

CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines

2DayFM (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/Fort Erie

K-LITE-FM (102.9) Hamilton

GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland

**Television Stations:**

CHCH - Hamilton

CityTV Breakfast Television

CTV Toronto

Cogeco Channel 10 (Jack.Custers@cogeco.com)

## Grade 1 French Immersion Registration Night

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Parents and Guardians of Senior Kindergarten students are invited to attend an information session about Grade 1 French Immersion at John Marshall School, 3910 St. James Ave. Niagara Falls, on Thursday, January 11 from 6 - 7 pm in the gym. Online registration begins January 8 at the DSBN website - [www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org)

## DSBN Academy - Is it a Good Fit for Your Child?

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The DSBN Academy is a Grade 6 to Grade 12 public school designed to support and empower students to be the first in their family to graduate from college or university.

The faculty and student body are committed to excellence and the belief that, with hard work, they can achieve their dreams. Come learn how our unique program prepares students to succeed at college and

university and how your child can benefit from the opportunities offered at DSBN Academy. All families are invited to attend a parent information session in your community. Please see below for dates, times and locations.

## Parent Information Sessions

January 15, 2018	<u>Harriet Tubman, St. Catharines</u>	6:30 - 7:30pm
January 16, 2018	<u>Diamond Trail, Welland</u>	6:30 - 7:30pm
January 18, 2018	<u>Valley Way, Niagara Falls</u>	6:30 - 7:30pm
January 23, 2018	<u>Dewitt Carter, Port Colborne</u>	6:30 - 7:30pm
January 25, 2018	<u>Senator Gibson, Beamsville</u>	6:30 - 7:30pm
January 30, 2018	<u>Peace Bridge, Fort Erie</u>	6:30 - 7:30pm
<b>February 6, 2018</b>	<b>Open House at DSBN Academy</b>	<b>6:30 - 8:00pm</b>

### Admission Requirements:

DSBN Academy recruits and enrolls students from all 12 municipalities within the Niagara Region. Eligible applicants must meet the following requirements, both at the time of application as well as at enrollment:

- Student must be entering Grades 6, 7 or 8 in September.
- Student would be the first in their family to graduate from a college or university program. If a sibling of the student has attended a post-secondary institution but the parent(s)/guardian(s) have not, the student is still considered a First Generation Student.
- Student must be achieving current grade level expectations or just below.
- Student has demonstrated the potential for achieving "good" or "excellent" learning skills, particularly initiative, independent work and responsibility.
- Student must be willing to attend a school location that may be out of his/her community.
- Student understands that there is a mandatory after-school program which includes enrichment opportunities and academic supports.
- Families must understand that it is a single track pathway beginning in grade 9 (Academic Level Only).
- Families understand that there is a parent engagement requirement of 15 hours each year.
- Applicants must submit a **completed** application to their current school by February 9, 2018.

## Magazine Fundraiser

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You can order or renew your subscription on-line at [www.gsp.ca](http://www.gsp.ca), then enter the code for Ontario School - 3740321

## JR Girls Volleyball

Congratulations to the junior girls volleyball team on a great season. The girls worked hard and every player showed true dedication and commitment to the team. Each player made tremendous improvement throughout the season and represented our school with pride and respect. Well done and congratulations to Hannah, Naomi, Leila, Hailey, Megan, Sarah, Mikala, Ashley, Kennady, Jocelynn, Jaylyn, Rhianna, Avery, and Taylor. Thanks Mrs. Thaler!

## JR Boys Volleyball

The Junior Boys Volleyball Team have had an excellent season and represented our school admirably. We are all so proud of the boys for the work they've put in and the sportsmanship they've shown. Now the boys are headed to the Championship game at Westmount on Monday, December 4th and have also already qualified to play in the DSBN Championship Tournament on December 14th. Go Knights!  
Thanks Mr. Kraus!

## Dreambox

Dreambox Club is here! Don't have internet? Are your evenings too busy? Problem solved! Each morning our walking students are invited to Ms. Cunningham's classroom at 8:30 am to work on Dreambox. To accommodate our bus students there will be a second Dreambox Club during the second part of 1st nutrition break in the library. Please note that students must be on time to participate in order to get the benefit of 20 minutes of uninterrupted learning. Can't wait to see you there!  
Thanks to Mr. Derosie and Ms. Cunningham.

## Pizza and Milk Orders



Pizza and Milk orders are available to purchase on School Cash On-Line on a monthly basis. Thanks to those who are already using School Cash On-Line. If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to sign up. Just visit <https://dsbn.schoolcashionline.com/>. It's easy, convenient and the preferred method of payment for the DSBN. If you have any problems registering, please don't hesitate to visit the office, we would be more than happy to help you!



## Student of the Month

Mrs. Kraus & Ms. McMahon	Grahm M. & Logan T.
Mr. Derosie	Jaxon H. & Sophia Z.
Mrs. Thaler	Charlotte M. & Kolten S.
Ms. Cowan	Niles S. & Stella W.
Ms. Cunningham	Arjun B. Anthony G. Garrett S.
Mr. LeBrasseur	Brodie D., Jackson Z. & Brody C.
Mr. Azzano	Ethan B., Kaleb L., Travis A. & Leland F.
Mr. Smith	Dylan K., Eli K., Justice C. & Cassidy J.
Mr. Kraus	Karyssa B., Justin G. & Grace S.



# The Twelve Days of Spirit!

## **The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> day of spirit- Friday December 15, 2017**

Door decorating- The theme is symmetry and/or congruence. We can't wait to see what your mathematicians come up with! (Optional)

Hat and scarf day! Wear your favourite winter scarf and hat to school to kick off our spirit week!

## **The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> day of spirit- Monday December 18, 2017**

Holiday Sweater Day- Last year we had a few creative students make their own sweaters by pinning holiday themes onto their existing sweaters

## **The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> day of spirit- Tuesday December 19, 2017**

Hallowistmas- Back by popular demand! Dress as your favourite holiday character!

## **The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> day of spirit- Wednesday December 20, 2017**

Kindergarten Dress Rehearsal 10:00

Holiday Colour Day! Wear your holiday colours (red, green, blue, white)

## **The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> day of spirit- Thursday December 21, 2017**

Pyjama Day! Come to school in your best holiday pjs and comfy slippers!

## **The 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> day of spirit- Friday December 22, 2017**

Volleyball (staff vs. intermediate girls' team) will this be the year the students win?

During First Break

Jersey Day- wear your favourite sports jersey or t-shirt!