

# Ontario Public School

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## December 2022

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we look ahead to the month of December, the holiday season, and the end to the year 2022, I find myself reflecting on the year. The year has brought continued change to our lives but it has also shown us how, when we work together, support each other, and focus on the positives, that anything is possible! Thank you to our amazing community (parents, students, and staff) for supporting each other to make Ontario Public School an amazing place to be.

There is so much beauty in the rich traditions of many faiths during this time. What is truly wonderful about this time of year is the common bonds we share, regardless of our beliefs. Whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Christmas or Khushali, family values and the feeling of kindness and helping others, is what we have in common.

Don't forget that there are many simple gifts to give, like a smile, a kind word, or a random act of kindness. On behalf of the staff at Ontario PS, we wish you a holiday season filled with joy, peace, and good health!

### DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

As cooler weather approaches, please be aware that children are expected to be dressed appropriately for the weather conditions every day. Coats, hats, boots and mittens/gloves are soon going to be necessary for your child to enjoy the outdoor fitness breaks and gym classes. Students will continue to have gym classes outside during this time. Students that are well enough to be at school are expected to be outside with their friends during fitness breaks as indoor supervision is not available during this time.

### ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL CALENDAR AND DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ontario Public School calendar is available on the school website. In addition to our school events, you will find a link to the DSVN Days of Significance calendar on the first of each month. [Click here](#) for more information about the DSVN Days of Significance calendar.



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Raffle Basket donations start.....Dec 2-14
- Food Drive starts.....Dec. 5
- Raffle Tickets go on sale.....Dec. 5
- School Advisory Meeting.....Dec. 6
- Picture retake day.....Dec. 9
- Raffle Tickets will be sent home...Dec. 16
- Pizza money due.....Dec. 16
- Pajama Day.....Dec. 16
- Hat Day.....Dec. 19
- Raffle baskets will be on display..Dec 19-21
- Kindergarten Winter Glow StoryWalk. Dec. 20
- Draw for the Raffle 3:45 pm.....Dec. 21
- Pizza Day.....Dec. 21
- Ugly Sweatpants Day.....Dec. 21
- Ugly Sweater Day.....Dec. 22
- Sports Jersey Day.....Dec. 23
- Last Day before winter break.....Dec. 23
- School Resumes.....Jan. 9

### WINTER BREAK

Winter Break is from Dec. 26 to Jan. 6 inclusive. We look forward to seeing our families on January 9, 2023 after a restful and healthy holiday.



## ONTARIO PS GIVES BACK! COMMUNITY CARE INITIATIVES

### Food Drive!

The Ontario Knight family has, over the years, consistently demonstrated the giving spirit through the annual food drive for Community Care. The incredible generosity of our families in years past is a point of pride for our Knight community. Our annual food drive will run the week of Monday, December 5 - Friday, December 9.

Community Care's website has asked for a few particular items, but all donations are appreciated. Items of need are

- Soups with protein
- Beans baked in sauce
- Canned pastas
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Spaghetti sauce
- Canned protein (tuna, chicken, etc.)
- Granola bars
- Diapers (size 4 and up)

**Macaroni Monday** (December 5) Canned pastas, kraft dinner, pasta sauces, pasta, etc.

**Tuna Tuesday** (December 6) Canned tuna, chicken, etc.

**Wash-Up Wednesday** (December 7) Deodorant, shampoo, creme rinse, soaps, etc.

**Thirsty Thursday** (December 8) Coffee/tea/hot chocolate/juice boxes

**Fill-Up Friday** (December 9) Any and all items!

## RAFFLE TO SUPPORT FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

### RAFFLE, RAFFLE, RAFFLE!!!!

**The Ontario Knight Raffle Is Back!!!!** Each class is partnered with another class or two and together, those classes create a magnificent raffle basket matching their theme with the items families/students donate. We are gratefully accepting donated items from Friday, December 2nd until Wednesday, December 14th for the amazing basket raffle. Please feel free to send the items in with your child. Check below to see the theme for each class.

Kindergarten 1 (Kraus), Kindergarten 2 (Phillips) Kindergarten 3 (Lirantzis) **Baking / Cooking**

Gr. 1 Thaler, Gr. 1 Gyugyei, and Gr.1/2 Salierno **Lego/ Board Games/Family time**

Gr. 2 Sokach and Gr. 2/3 Teakle **Movie Night**

Gr. 3 Cunningham, Gr.4 Glauser and Gr. 5 Blackburn **Arts and Crafts**

Gr. 5/6 Garrett and Gr. 6/7 Smith **Chocolate and Candy**

Gr.7 Bishop and Gr. 8 Kraus **Lottery Tickets**

- Raffle tickets go on sale for \$10.00 a sheet or three sheets for \$25.00 on Monday, December 5th until Friday, December 16th. There are 26 tickets per sheet. **The raffle draw will take place on Wed., December 21 at 3:45 pm**
- Ticket order forms were sent home on Thursday, December 1.
- Send the money and order form to school with your child. The tickets will be sent home on Friday, December 16th in your child's agenda.
- Baskets will be on display at the school December 19, 20, and 21 from 3:25-3:45pm.
- You can put your tickets into the raffle box of your choice between 3:25-3:45pm December 19, 20, or 21st **OR** you can send the tickets in with your child who can put the tickets into the raffle baskets for you.

## EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF NIAGARA (EFN) TEACHER TRIBUTE

Are you looking to show your appreciation to your child's teacher or school staff member but not sure how to do that during this time? Please consider making a donation in honour of someone through the [EFN Tribute Gift Campaign](#). Your gift makes an immediate impact on the lives of DSBN students - whether it's through helping with basic necessities, through providing scholarships, or by enhancing their learning environment. To learn more about EFN, please visit their website at [efnniagara.dsbm.org](http://efnniagara.dsbm.org).

## PARKING LOT SAFETY REMINDERS

Our parking lot is an incredibly busy place during morning drop off and afternoon pick up and ensuring the safety of our students is a primary concern.

1. Please remind your child(ren) to look both ways in the parking lot. Even though it might not be a street, cars are coming and going, so looking left and right for traffic is important.
2. Bus lines and car lines are separate and we ask that you kindly only enter and exit using the appropriate entry as marked. Please do not enter through the exit or drive through the bus lane.
3. Please be patient. Please wait until the car in front has moved prior to proceeding rather than trying to go around a car.
4. If your child can take a bus, please consider this option as this reduces the congestion from cars dropping off and picking up, making the parking lot safer for all our students.

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

There are times in Niagara when weather conditions are so poor that we must cancel student transportation, and/or close schools to preserve the safety of students and staff. The decision to cancel transportation and/or close schools is not taken lightly; a variety of factors are considered when making this choice. To learn more about how these decisions are made, please go to <https://www.dsbm.org/inclementweather>.

### Transportation Cancellations:

Information about transportation delays and cancellations are posted to <https://portal.nsts.ca/Cancellations.aspx>. When transportation is cancelled, every effort is made to communicate the decision by 6:00 am on the day of the cancellation. There are times when transportation is cancelled, but schools remain open. If, on those days you feel it is best for your child to stay home, please report your child's absence <https://dsbn.org/safearrival/> so we can make sure they are safe at home.

### School Closures:

When the decision to close schools is made, it refers to all schools. Every effort will be made to share school closure information before 6:00 am on the day of the school closure. You will find it on [dsbn.org](http://dsbn.org), all school websites, DSBN social media, and local media share the news widely as well.

## ANAPHYLAXIS – BE NUT AWARE!

Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening reaction to certain food substances. We have students in our school that suffer from a severe allergy which can cause an anaphylactic reaction. An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that in some cases, it can be life threatening. These children have a severe allergy to nuts. Prevention is the best approach. Therefore, we ask your cooperation in not sending any snacks or lunches containing nut products with your child.

## ANAPHYLAXIS – LATEX ALLERGY

This is just a friendly reminder not to send any latex products like balloons to school. We have a staff member with a severe anaphylactic allergy to latex. Thank you for your co-operation.

## SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our first School Advisory Council meeting was held on Tuesday, October 4th. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7:00 pm. New members are always welcome to join. Please contact the school if you would like to join. 905 227 2851. The meeting will be online via Microsoft Teams.

## DSBN SOCIAL WORKER SUPPORT AVAILABLE

Do you have questions about your child's mental health and well-being, such as anxiety, behaviour or self-harm?

Do you need support in accessing supports in the community?

Do you need advice for setting goals to help with regular school attendance?

Do you have any questions or looking for support regarding a certain aspect of parenting?

If these are some questions that you have, please speak with your child's teacher or Mr. Butler. All DSBN schools work with a DSBN Social Worker who supports families to provide an additional layer of support to help our students and families achieve success. Our DSBN Social Workers are an invaluable member of our Ontario PS team.

## DECEMBER SPIRIT DAYS

### “KNIGHTS WINTER SPIRIT” – DECEMBER 15 – DECEMBER 23

We are looking forward to showing our winter spirit leading up to the winter break. Canadian winters can be tough so we are gearing up for the break with a few fun-filled spirit days to get us in the mood to enjoy the break.

**Day 1 - Thursday, December 15 - Winter Wonderland Door Decorating Day**

**Day 2 - Friday, December 16 - Pajama Day**

**Day 3 - Monday, December 19 - Hat Day**

**Day 4 - Tuesday, December 20th - Media Literacy Day**

**Day 5 - Wednesday, December 21 - Sweatpants Day**

**Day 6 - Thursday, December 22 - Ugly Sweater Day**

**Day 7 - Friday, December 23 - Sports Jersey Day**

## EXTRA-CURRICULARS UPDATES

We are looking forward to offering a variety of extra-curricular opportunities for our Knights during the 2022-2023 school year. Here is what is currently being offered!

Activity	Day of the Cycle and Meeting Time	Grades for Student Involvement	Teacher Supervisor
Intermediate Volleyball Playoffs	Girls-Tournament Date - December 1 Boys Area 2 Final – Tuesday Dec. 6	Grades 7 - 8	Mr. Gill / Mrs. Garrett
Junior Co-Ed Volleyball Intramural	November 21 - December 23	Grades 4-6	Mrs. Thaler, Mrs. Gyugyei, Mr. Kraus

## SPECIAL LUNCH OPTIONS

We are going to have our second pizza day in December. Pizza forms will go home on December 12<sup>th</sup> and need to be returned by December 16<sup>th</sup>. Each slice will be \$1.00 and late orders cannot be accepted after December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Lunch Date	Lunch Option	Order Window
Wednesday, December 21, 2022	<b>Pizza Day</b> Little Caesars cheese pizza	Open December 12 and closes Friday, December 16, 2022

## DSBN eFLYERS

Many community events and activities are posted on the DSBN eFlyers website. I encourage you to take a look, on occasion, to ensure you do not miss any community events that might be of interest to you or your family. To view the eFlyers, please follow the simple instructions:

1. Log onto our website: [www.dsbns.org](http://www.dsbns.org)
2. Click on "Community" tab
3. Click on "eFlyer Request" and you may browse through the 'Recent eFlyers' to find offerings from a variety of community organizations.

## STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED

In our busy lives, events can sometimes be overlooked. Technology allows us multiple ways to connect with families. The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

### SCHOOL WEBSITE - Ontario PS.dsbns.org

Please take some time to visit the Ontario PS Public School website. Our website includes current newsletters, school calendars, code of conduct, school council information, a school year calendar, classroom websites, and bell times. Our website also includes the most recent Facebook posts and Tweets.

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** - All newsletters will be posted to the school website and sent via School Messenger through email on the first school day of the new month.

## PICTURE RETAKES – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

Our school photographer Pegasus apologizes for not sending out the individual proofs before our last retake day on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Ontario PS has asked for another retake day now that everyone has their child's proofs.

**Our second picture retake day will be on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>!**

## STUDENT RECOGNITION – PERSEVERANCE

During the month of November, Ontario PS students were recognized for their work as a learner for their learning skills and/or academics, as an individual for their character traits, and as a community member for contributing to the school and/or classroom. November's character trait was "Perseverance". The following students were recognized:

### November Student of the Month: Perseverance

K1 - Kraus	Ian c, Tarak D	Gr. 3	Evan C, Muhammed U, Autumn R
K2- Phillips	Levi M, Valbona J, Sofia P	Gr. 4	Henry L, Morgan B, Jacob Z,
K3- Lirantzis	Musa R, Oliver M, Thomas L	Gr. 5	Kyla H, Alana W, Kyra W
Gr. 1 -T	Abigail B, Malakai D	Gr. 5/6	Rayan A, Danica C, Shania W
Gr. 1 - G	Brayden L, Brett L, Avery S	Gr. 6/7	Elika L, Salma M, Jayah B
Gr. 1/2	Ishani R, Ayan M	Gr. 7	Jenna L, Kurtis F, Haylee J
Gr. 2	Raina F, Akshaj N	Gr. 8	Jariyah C, Caleigh E,
Gr. 2/3	Kylie Z, Maryn B		