



The Puma Pinnacle

DECEMBER 2018

Pine Grove Public School,
690 Lake Street, St. Catharines, L2N 4J5
<http://pinegrove.dsbns.org>

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

MR. BRAD DIGWEED— PRINCIPAL

Mark Your Calendar

3rd: Grade 7 & 8 Ottawa
Trip Info Night @ 6:00
p.m.

4th: Intermediate
Technovation

5th: Intermediate Girls'
Volleyball Final @ 4 p.m.
Eastdale S.S.

5th, 12th and 19th:
Grade 3 Swim to Survive

6th: Intermediate Boys'
Volleyball Final @ 5 p.m.
Eastdale S.S.

7th: Joy Day (afternoon)

10th: Intermediate Co-Ed
Volleyball Tournament

12th: Junior Volleyball
Tournament

12th: Grade 1 - 8
Holiday Open House

13th: Beauty & the Beast
Trip for Grades 3-6

14th: McDonald's Cup

14th: 3D to Heidehof

19th: Holiday Lunch

20th: Celebration
Assembly @ 9 a.m.

20th: KG Open House
@ 2 p.m.

21st: Carol Sing @ 9 a.m.

Message from the Office

Dear Pine Grove Families:

I want to first thank the students, staff, parent community and Mr. Goerzen for all of the support I received during my recovery. Being away for so long made me realize how much I already love Pine Grove!

I want to welcome Mrs. P. Lord to our team who is now our new head caretaker.

It has been another successful and busy month at the school. Students have been involved in many different activities including Volleyball, Me to We events, Eco-Club and the start of Basketball. We wish both of our Intermediate Volleyball Teams all the best as they both compete in the DSBN finals this week. I also heard that our Grade 1-2 Trip to see Jack Grunsky, the Scholastic Book Fair and our own Remembrance Day assembly were very successful events. We ended November with our Celebration Assembly where we recognized students for a variety of displays of excellence in academics, leadership, and community commitment. This is a great time of the year to pause to be thankful, reflect and give.

In December, we are encouraging families to come to Pine Grove on the 12th for our Grade 1-8 Holiday Open House. Staff will be hosting a variety of activities (e.g., Karaoke, Photobooth, Cookie Decorating, Mini-Sticks Hockey and others) at the school. The Kindergarten Open House will be hosted on Thursday, December 20th from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Both of these events will bring students, their families and our staff together. I strongly believe that a school is built around relationships and we need to strive to provide opportunities to meet, celebrate and laugh with one another. Personally, I hope to connect with many of you at these two events.

Finally, I want to take a moment to share my thanks for a great beginning to our school year. Pine Grove is a great place to work, learn and grow each day. I am thankful to our families for sending wonderful students that make each of our days meaningful. Our entire staff wish our families a safe, healthy and happy December and all the best to you for 2019.

Sincerely,

Mr. B. Digweed

Parent Council

Want to thank the community for supporting the Aviva Community Challenge. Because of the outpouring of support through votes, we secured \$15 000 for our playground. Our top 10 finish was quite outstanding and we should feel proud of the result that we achieved working together. The Parent Council will now be looking to raise the rest of the money needed for the playground and have a goal of a installation for the summer of 2019.

For those parents that have been out to our meetings, the Parent Council Social is on December 18th at Bugsy's at 6:00 p.m.



Students of the Month

Congratulations to all of our students of the Month for November. These students demonstrated excellence and/or leadership either as an individual, community member or a learner.

Teacher	Individual	Community	Learner
Dyck/Nevar		Ethan U.	Lynken J., Brynn W
Penlington/Futino	Clark H.	Gemma C.	Chance L.
Crane/McDougall	Logan S.	Luca P.	Jack B.
Halfyard	Jaxson M.	William C.	Yulia P.
Delahunt	Isaam A.	Hudson M.	Brad H., Caleb M.
Quiquero	Henry H.	Miss D.	Owen M.
Meleskie	Jack B.	Emily R.	Alex C.
Dowds			Ava M., Jake E.
Snider	Tola A.	Kyla R.	Callan N.
Whitesell	Dora L.	Kayla S.	Aydan Rose M.
Kond	Ella P.	Olive H.	Josh O., Noah M.
Leighton	Emir E., Andrew	Janae I.	
Ferretti	Sydney R.	Max D.	Amari W.
Keeping	Nick J.	Anna L.	Stephie F.
McNarry		Jessica E.	Sam H.

Hour of Code

Educators and students from across the DSBN and around the world will be participating in The Hour of Code from December 3rd until the 9th. Coding involves learning a set of instructions that enable us to tell a computer what you want it to do.

With the ability to code, students are learning a new language and teachers are preparing them for a future that will be responsive to the demands of the 21st century. We will be participating in the Hour of Code at Pine Grove during the first week of December. We encourage you to try some activities with your children at home such as Scratch, Scratch Jr (iPad) & Bits and Bricks.

Scholastic Book Fair

This November's Book Fair was a giant success thanks to the continued support from our Puma community. Collectively, we were able to raise \$5000 that will go towards purchasing much needed resources for our students in our school. A tremendous thank you to the family members of our students who so generously donated their time to help run the fair. We certainly could not have done it without your support.



The Forest of Reading

We are excited to kickoff with our Forest of Reading Book Club for students in Grades 5-8 before the Holiday Break. The Forest of Reading® is Canada's largest **recreational** reading program! This initiative of the Ontario Library Association (OLA) offers reading programs to encourage a love of reading in people of all ages. The students in Silver Birch (Grades 5 & 6, non-fiction and/or fiction) and Red Maple (Grades 7 & 8, fiction) will meet once a cycle to discuss the books until the conference in March. The students are expected to commit to reading 5 books in order to attend the full day and fun-packed conference at the Scotia Centre in Niagara Falls. For our young readers, we enjoy reading the Blue Spruce fiction picture books during our library time together!

Me to We

The Me to We Club are currently selling beaded Rafiki Bracelets and Fair Trade Me to We chocolate until December 7th. Every Rafiki makes triple the impact: they earn income for the artisans who make them, make meaningful impacts in Free The Children communities and help us fundraise for our 'Adopt a Village' program to bring a new school into a much needed community in India. Please see a member to support the cause. Also thank you so much for making our bake sales such huge successes for the past couple of weeks. We look forward to selling rice crispy squares on December 7th and at the Open House on the 12th. There will also be more healthy holiday treats on the December 21st.