



THE PUMA PINNACLE

Pine Grove Public School
 690 Lake Street, St. Catharines, ON L2N 4J5
 905-935-1901
www.dsbn.org/Schools/PineGrove

FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL:

Report cards are going home on Friday, February 9th. I had the pleasure of reading many great reports and was thrilled to hear about the progress of so many of our students.

A couple of Pine Grove community events for February include the Ice Dogs game on February 8, and our Annual Pasta Dinner and Penny auction on February 15th. We hope to see you all there.

Our Kindergarten Open House and Registration day is on February 1st from 10 – 6 pm. We look forward to meeting new students and families that will be part of our Pine Grove community for years to come. Also, we look forward to meeting some of our new Pumas who are younger siblings of some of our current students. If you know of any children in the Pine Grove area that were born in 2014, please encourage their parents to come on February 1st.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR JANUARY 2018

Congratulations go out to the students whom were chosen by their teachers for the month of December and January. The students were excellent role models for their peers on our Character Education trait, caring and perserverance.

TEACHER	INDIVIDUAL AWARD	LEARNER AWARD	COMMUNITY AWARD
Mrs. Halfyard	Hudson M.	Emme S.	Layla S.
Ms. Delahunt	Tavis B.	Cole M.	Abby S.
Ms. Quiquero	Gabriel E.	Thea T.-G.	Arden E.
Ms. Dowds	Ryerson M.	Maitland K.	-----
Mrs. Meleskie	Shyla B.	Lila H.	Jenessa H.
Ms. W. Snider	Alex M.	Inaaya A.	Riad E.
Ms. Whitesell	Olive H.	Addi B.	Cece B.
Ms. Clarke	Lily G.	Marwa M.	Evan T.-G.
Ms. Kond	Rosalie T.	Anson D./Sara E.	Caden M.
Mr. Leighton	Nicholas J./Ryersen B.	Zackary I.	
Mrs. Ferretti	Matthew J./Joanna Z.	Kieran U./Amari W.	Jenny L./Anna L.
Mrs. Mazzuca	Ella C.	Lily L.	Aidan M.
Mrs. Crane	Damari S.	Keenan W.	Erica H.
Ms. J. Snider	Jenna E.	Leo B.	Calista V.
Mrs. Penlington	Lea L.	Sophia S.	Levi J.



CHARACTER TRAIT FOR FEBRUARY...

Our trait for February will be **courage**. Courage is having the strength and ability to face challenges even when it might be difficult or unpopular. It means taking the initiative in that we act without being prompted by others.



EARLY RELEASE DAY / FAMILY DAY ...

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH is a P.A. Day for all DSBN elementary schools. Therefore, there will be no school for all students. There will be no classes for students or staff on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH due to Family Day; a statutory provincial holiday. We hope you enjoy the day with your family!



THE PROVINCIAL REPORT CARD...

The provincial report cards for students in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 will be coming home on Friday, February 9, 2018. On this report card, students in grades 1 to 6 will receive letter grades (e.g., A, B, C, D) and students in grades 7 and 8 will receive percentage grades (e.g., 72%) to indicate how well they are achieving the curriculum in each of their subjects.

The Learning Skills and Work Habits are the same as the ones that are on the Progress Reports. These are essential skills that will help students to be successful in both school and also as an active member of their community. The Learning Skills and Work Habits are: Responsibility; Organization; Independent Work; Collaboration; Initiative; and Self-regulation.



Finally, we hope that you are also pleased to see the excellent work that our teachers are doing to ensure that the comments are written in parent-friendly language. Each comment will identify strengths that your daughter or son is demonstrating and some next steps that will help their learning during the next term.

At any time throughout the year, parents/guardians are invited to communicate with your child's teacher about their child's progress and achievement.



FRENCH IMMERSION FOR SEPTEMBER 2018...

Students currently enrolled in Senior Kindergarten who are interested in French Immersion for Grade 1 are eligible to apply for the full time French Immersion program being offered at Dalewood Public School for the school year 2018-2019. **Registration opened on January 8th and will close February 20th** Application details and further information is available at www.dsbns.org - Parent Tab - Programs.



Make Change for Children 2018

You are invited to join the Make Change for Children Campaign! Do a collection and encourage your community to donate to the Education Foundation of Niagara's Student Financial Need Fund! All funds raised stay in Niagara and go directly to help our DSBN students in need.

Our Week of Change kicks off February 2018 but schools are encouraged to run a campaign anytime until the end of June 2018!

Get involved by contacting: efn@dsbn.org
efnniagara.ca
905-641-2929 x 37712



All funds stay in Niagara and directly help our DSBN students in need with shoes, warm winter clothes, food, field trip support & basic necessities!



FROM OUR PINE GROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL...

Don't forget our next **School Council meeting** which will be held on Tuesday, February 27 in the Library at 6:00 pm. All parents are welcome!



PIZZA, PITA PIT & MAC 'n CHEESE LUNCHES/LUNCH LADY LUNCHES...

Tuesday pizza days are now available to purchase on School Cash Online for April, May & June.



Wednesday, February 14, will be a Mac 'n Cheese Lunch. This hot lunch will be catered by Romby's Tavern & Smokehouse.

Starting Friday, February 23 we will have our first Pita Pit Lunch. Please see details on School Cash Online.

Lunch Lady lunches are available on **all Thursdays in February**. You may order online at www.lunchlady.ca.

We thank you for your continued support with lunch fundraisers.



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION...

Please remember that there is no supervision outside on the playground before 8:25 a.m. and after 3:00 p.m. Please do not send your child to school early unless he/she has a previously scheduled meeting or are arriving for the Y Daycare. All daycare children must enter through the daycare doors.

As well, once your child is dismissed at 3:00 p.m., he/she must walk straight home or wait at the gated Kiss and Ride area. There is no supervision on the playground equipment and its surrounding area after school hours. The playground equipment still remains closed due to the weather conditions.



THE MACDONALD CUP



The MacDonalD Cup, which was held in December, raised \$850 for the PPCLI Association. It was a great day with tremendous school spirit and teamwork. Ed MacDonalD would have been proud of us! The PPCLI started a fund a few years ago to help veterans returning home after being injured in battle and it is called the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund. It is part of the PPCLI Association and the focus is on the veterans. At the monthly assembly, Bruce Paxton, a member of the PPCLI Association was presented with the cheque from Pine Grove School and talked to us about what the funds will be used for. All the funds stay in Niagara to help local veterans in need.



PHILIP ROY, CANADIAN AUTHOR

On Wednesday, February 21st, Pine Grove welcomes celebrated Canadian author, Philip Roy. Philip Roy's books have been nominated for the Silver Birch, Red Maple, CLA, Hackmatack and Geoffrey Bilson awards, and his books have been consistently chosen by the Canadian Children's Book Centre for Best Books for Kids and Teens. Philip offers a very friendly and energetic presentation involving readings, discussion, displays of folk art, and Q and A. He always likes to bring along two of his folk art submarines for school visits. The first submarine is six-feet long and made out of recycled materials — 50 pairs of wooden crutches, 13 bicycle wheels, two canoe paddles, one old boat propeller, and 600 bolts. (He explains, "It's really a piece of folk art—an 'artistic expression' of a submarine—and is a terrific example of recycling old stuff into art.") The second submarine is smaller, and has a periscope (made from a meat-grinder!) Philip also brings along a helicopter made from recycled materials.

You can find out more about Philip's books by visiting <http://philiproyc.ca/books>, and read reviews by visiting <http://philiproyc.ca/reviews/>. Books will be available for purchase on the day of the visit, see last page of newsletter for list of books available to purchase & price.

Some of the books you can purchase on February 21 are:

\$10 Audio CD of Submarine Outlaw

\$11 Books:

Submarine Outlaw/Journey to Atlantis/River Odyssey/Ghosts of the Pacific/Outlaw in India/Seas of South Africa/Eco Warrior/Stealth of the Ninja/Blood Brothers in Louisbourg/Me & Mr. Bell/The Kingdom of No Worries.

\$12 Books:

Mouse Tales/Jellybean Mouse/Mouse Pet/Mouse Vacation/Les contes de Youpi

\$14 Book:

Freres de sang a Louisbourg



VACCINES AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN



At this time of year, Niagara Region Public Health conducts 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 suspension letter in the mail from Public Health next month. Please take a moment to ensure that your child's immunizations are up-to-date and that you

have reported your child's vaccinations to Niagara Region Public Health using ONE of the following:

- **WEBSITE:** www.niagararegion.ca
- **TELEPHONE (Immunization Report Line):** 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7459
- **FAX (a copy of your child's Immunization Record):** 905-688-8225

In most cases, we are missing vaccination information about your child's:

- booster dose of diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus and polio (DPTP/Quadracel) between the ages of 4 and 6; **and**,
- second dose of the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine.

If you are a parent/guardian not wishing to immunize your child, you will need to provide Niagara Region Public Health with an original legal exemption document (i.e., a statement of medical exemption, or a statement of conscience or religious belief affidavit). Please call the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425 if you have any questions or concerns.



MAD SCIENCE

Mad Science, the world's leading provider of educational and entertaining science programs for children is coming to Pine Grove School! They will be getting kids excited about science with fun, entertaining and exciting activities and demonstrations.

Students and teachers will be thrilled on 02/Feb/2018 when Mad Science comes to the school to do a Spectacular Science show. The assembly will be educational, entertaining and also the kick off to the Mad Science Club. The Club is a 6-week science enrichment program offered to the students. Students who join the Science Club will go on a voyage of discovery designed to support the Ontario Science and Technology curriculum. The topics will be different this year than when Mad Science was last at the school. The Club will take place on Monday, Mar 19, 26, Apr 9, 16, 23, 30 from 10:20 AM - 11:00 AM. Mad Science also performs Birthday Parties, Camps and Special Events. Give them a call at 905-937-1878 and watch out for them in Malls, at Fairs, Festivals and Scouts and Guides.

TRY AT HOME ACTIVITY - ZOOM BALL

Materials:

- Two 1 litre plastic pop bottles
- Scissors
- Optional: Coloured construction paper
- Masking tape
- Ribbons
- Two plastic ring six pack holders
- Two 2.4 metre strings • An adult helper

1. Ask your adult helper to cut the bottoms off of the two plastic pop bottles.
2. Fit the bottles together so there is a neck on either end. Tape the bottles together to form a football shape.
3. Cover the bottles with construction paper and ribbon if you want to decorate your zoom ball.
5. Take the six-pack holders and cut the rings apart to make four two-loop handles.
4. Thread the two strings through the bottles. 6. Tie a set of handles to the ends of each string.
7. Get a friend and you are ready to play. Each player holds onto two handles and pulls on the strings until they are tight. Slide the zoom ball to one end. When it is at your end snap your hands apart to send the zoom ball back to your friend. To catch the zoom ball, keep your hands together.

EXPLANATION:

The pushing action of the strings sets the zoom ball in motion. When the zoom ball reaches the other end of the strings, an opposite pushing action, your friend snapping the strings, stops the ball for a moment and then sends it in the reverse direction.



HELP WANTED:

We are looking for volunteers to assist in the Learning Commons! If you have 30 minutes to spare once or twice in the 10 day cycle Miss MacCrimmon would greatly appreciate your time. The job responsibilities would include reading with students, helping with book selection, shelving books, book repair and occasionally preparing books for circulation.

Please see Miss MacCrimmon if you have any availability.

Thanks!





PINE GROVE'S SIXth ANNUAL FAMILY PASTA NIGHT & PENNY AUCTION

**DINE IN
OR
TAKE OUT!**

Pasta Dinner includes:

- Pasta & Sauce (Gluten Free Option)
- Meatballs
- Drink (water & juice)
- Peanut-free ice cream will be available to purchase for dessert!

COST: \$10 adults/\$5 kids
AVAILABLE ON SCHOOL CASH ONLINE ONLY

WHEN: Thursday, February 15, 2018

WHERE: Pine Grove Gym (690 Lake St.)

TIME: 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Penny Auction Tickets \$10 per sheet
Mad Science Shows!

Auction items will be drawn after 7:00 p.m. Winners will notified by phone.



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR
KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

DURING YOUR VISIT YOU WILL:

See a
Kindergarten
classroom

Meet the
Kindergarten
Team

Register for
school

Get a fun
goodie bag
with learning
resources



KINDERGARTEN
KICKSTART

Thursday, February 1, 2018

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.