



THE PUMA PINACLE

Pine Grove Public School
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905-935-1901
www.dsbns.org/Schools/PineGrove

JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

FROM MR. GLAUSER'S DESK

The staff of Pine Grove School would like to wish you a Happy New Year. We are looking forward to an awesome 2018 here at Pine Grove Public School. We are proud of the accomplishments of our students and look forward to many new great things in the New Year.

As we start 2018, teachers will be looking at their students accomplishments to this point as they prepare report cards which will be going home on February 9th. Your continued support at home is appreciated as it makes a difference in student performance here at the school.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER

TEACHER	INDIVIDUAL AWARD	LEARNER AWARD	COMMUNITY AWARD
Mrs. Halfyard	Owen M.	Henry H.	Carys R.
Ms. Delahunt	Phoebe B.	Scarlett J.	Grayson C.
Ms. Quiquero	Isabella C.	Adam L.	Payton D.
Ms. Dowds	Emily	Karson T.	-----
Mrs. Meleskie	Emma P.	Jenessa H.	-----
Mrs. Snider	Malik M.	Carter S.	Allie C.
Mrs. Whitesell	Jacob B.	Kayla S.	Jaxen S.
Ms. Clarke	Braedy C.	Anastasia N.	Quinton B.
Ms. Kond	Fabia Z.	Fatima M./Sierra S.	Shieh L.
Mr. Leighton	Julia K.	Emma R.	Andy Z.
Ms. Convery	-----	Jessica E./Charlie F.	Kian B.
Mrs. Mazzuca	Aidan M.	Alisha C.	Leena K.
Mrs. Crane	----	----	----
Ms. Snider	Henry Z.	Daxton J.	Zachary D.
Mrs. Penlington	Cadie C.	Leah M.	Reid T.

CHARACTER EDUCATION TRAIT...

The Character Education Trait for January is **PERSERVERANCE**. Perseverance means not giving up and trying even when others might quit or give up. We demonstrate the effort and determination to complete a task to the best of our ability and to stick to that task even when it is difficult.

JUNIOR GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

Congratulations to our Junior Girls volleyball team who went undefeated the whole season. Their hard work and dedication lead them to win not only the Area Championship, but the DSBN Championship. Miss Snider and Mrs. Doiron and the entire Puma community are so proud of them!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19TH IS A PA DAY FOR ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITHIN THE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA. THERE WILL BE NO CLASSES FOR STUDENTS ON THIS DAY.

PINE GROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our Holiday Luncheon on Wednesday, December 20 was a great success! We would like to thank everyone for supporting this community function. A huge thank-you to Mrs. Federkow, Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. Taylor and the many parent volunteers that assisted with the serving of the Holiday Feast. In addition to the luncheon, our Council put together some Holiday Baskets to support some of our Pine Grove families. We would like to especially thank Rob Shedden and Costco for donating turkeys for each basket. Again, Pine Grove Pumas showed their generous Christmas Spirit of giving.

Please mark on your calendars that the Pine Grove School Council is having a Bottle Drive on Saturday, January 6 from 9 am to 12 noon. This drive is to help support our new Nature Inspired Playground.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

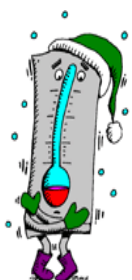
There are a few items up on School Cash Online. Mac 'n Cheese day on January 10 will come down on December 28. Pizza Orders for January, February & March comes down on January 4. The Ice Dog game on February 8 comes down on February 1. Please make sure you do not miss these items if you wish to purchase them. Thank you.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT...

The playground equipment will be out of bounds during snowy, slippery winter weather (including before, during and after school). Winter conditions can make the equipment slippery and unsafe. Let's keep Pine Grove a safe place for our children!



DRESSING FOR PLAY/ SCHOOL...



Please make sure that your child comes to school dressed for the weather. The children go outside for twenty minutes during both of our fitness breaks unless we are advised by the Niagara Regional Public Health Department of an extreme cold weather alert. As well, please make sure that your child has a pair of indoor running shoes for physical education class. Due to health and safety regulations, children without running shoes will not be allowed to participate in gym classes. Please label your children's clothing/shoe items.

KISS AND RIDE...



Our Kiss and Ride area can become quite congested with cars, especially during the winter with snow. When we have a snowfall, we unfortunately lose valuable parking spaces at Pine Grove School. If you are picking up your child in the Kiss and Ride area, please keep driving through until your child comes out of the building. Many parents are parking and waiting in this area. The designated area is a quick drop off and pick up area only. Please do not hold up traffic by stopping for your child outside the designated area. This is not safe for your child and the other children in the building. If you prefer not to use the Kiss and Ride area, then please find a parking spot and meet your child at his/her exit doors. We are trying to keep all Pine Grove School members safe.

ENTRY/DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Parents are reminded that students should not arrive at school for the day before 8:25 a.m. as there is no yard supervision available until that time. Students are not allowed in the school in the morning before the entry bell unless there is inclement weather and the yard duty teacher has made that decision. Students are then to enter through their regular entry/exit doors and proceed directly to their classrooms.

We are asking parents as well, to wait outside your child's dismissal doors at the end of the day. Primary students are dismissed out of the northeast doors; junior students from the centre doors and intermediate students from the northwest doors at the back of the school. Kindergarten students are dismissed from the doors on their side of the building. In the primary grades, we are trying to encourage independence in dressing and organizing personal belongings and the hallways outside of all the classrooms can become quite congested during bell times. Students are asked to use their assigned dismissal doors in order for us to be able to effectively monitor the front doors of the school.

If you would like to speak with your child's teacher, please write a note in your child's agenda to arrange a time convenient for both yourself and the teacher. If your child needs to leave early for an appointment, please write a note in your child's agenda to advise the teacher then come to the office; we will call your child from class and ensure they are properly signed out of the building. Thank you for your continued co-operation.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING...



Another reminder about making sure you have plans in place if the school should be closed for the day or close early due to inclement weather.

Information about transportation changes and school closures will be available on the websites, 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: www.dsbn.org, www.nsts.ca

Television Stations: COGECO Cable 10, CHCH Television, City TV, The Weather

Network

Radio Stations: KLite - 102.9, fm, CKTB 610 am, Htz 97.7 fm, CHML 900 am, EZRock 105.7 fm, Y-108 - 107.9 fm, Wave 94.7 - every attempt is made to provide the public with information on bus cancellations by the 6:00 a.m.

✓Make an emergency plan with your children to ensure a common understanding for arrangements, in the event that schools close early.

✓**Please do not call the school for information nor expect your child to call home. All our phone lines will be in use as we will not dismiss a student until we have contacted either parents or an emergency contact.**

✓Please remember that there may be times when the District School Board of Niagara cancels transportation. Unless you hear otherwise, schools will remain open when transportation is not available.

Please advise the office of any address or telephone changes as soon as possible so we can update your children's information.

AS FAR AS SENDING YOUR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL DURING SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS, THE FINAL DECISION IS YOURS!

DOGS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY



While we love dogs, it is also the policy of the DSBN that pets are not to be accompanying families on the school property when they drop off / pick up their children. Unless the dogs are kept in the cars, please refrain from bringing your dogs to the school.

SNOW SAFETY...

At Pine Grove School, students are aware that snow must be enjoyed in a safe manner. Snowballs and/or ice may not be thrown at any time. Children may not slide on the ice. All snow forts and snow people are community structures and must be inclusive. Students are also aware that what we build at Pine Grove; we don't destroy. Snow forts and structures must be respected.



The children are not allowed to throw snow on school property. Snow throwing jeopardizes the safety of other students and announcements will be made often throughout the season about snowball throwing. **We take this rule very seriously and every student has been made aware of it.** Any snow throwing will be regarded as deliberate defiance. Consequences for the first offence will be a loss of recess privileges and a note or phone call home. Repeat occurrences will result in a school suspension. Tough measures are warranted when the safety of all school members is at stake.

INFORMATION ABOUT 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.

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
Achieving Success Together

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.

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.

- 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 are a must to keep their feet warm and dry in the snow.
- 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 the DSBN website at www.dsbn.org or contact your school principal.