



Pine Grove Public School

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www.dsbns.edu.on.ca/schools/pinegrove



MARCH 2010 NEWSLETTER

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY

Responsibility was the Character Education Trait we focused on during February. The following students were recognized during February's Student Recognition Assembly by their teacher for showing responsibility and taking ownership for their actions and/or academics.



Mrs. Nowell - Aaron, Olivia

Mrs. Dyck - Joseph, Matthew, Janika, Maya

Mrs. McConnell - Kasia, Alysa

Mrs. Shepard - Payton, Rheagan, Abby, Lilly

Ms. Delahunt- Emily, Emma, Danielle, Riley

Mrs. Meleskie - Danielle, Iain, Anna, Cole

Ms. Whitesell - Bayan, Alexandria, Alex, Shane

Ms. Kond - Cailen, Jarrett, Catharine, Halle

Mr. Leighton - Emma, Tanna, Jane

Ms. Whitesell's class will be hosting March's Student Recognition Assembly on Friday, March 26th at 9:00 a.m. Please mark this date on your calendar!!!

CHARACTER TRAIT FOR MARCH

Our trait for March will be **TRUSTWORTHINESS**. Being trustworthy means others can count on you to do what you say you will do.

Puma paws are awarded to students who display the character education trait of the month with both their teachers and other students. Names are then put into a basket and draws are made during morning announcements for a character education treat!

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Pine Grove School Council? If so, plan on attending our get together at Boston Pizza on Ontario Street on **Monday, March 1, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.**



DANCE-A-THON SUCCESS



This year's dance-a-thon was a hit!! Students in JK/SK to Grade 6 got to boogie part of the day away on February 10th, all for a great cause - to help raise funds for their school. And raise funds they did, a whopping \$2,604.65 - almost \$1,000. more than last year! Congratulations to Mrs. Shepard's Grade 1's who were our class leaders with total pledges of \$574.75 and thoroughly enjoyed their ice cream sundae party to celebrate! Our School Council thanks you for your continued support!

MARCH BREAK

Please remember our March Break begins on **Monday, March 15th**. School will resume again on **Monday, March 22nd at 8:45 a.m.**

MAKE CHANGE FOR CHILDREN



The Education Foundation of Niagara is a charity organization which provides much needed funding for projects at DSBN schools. They recently held a Make Change for Children campaign to provide funding for their Poverty and Emergency Relief Fund which responds to emergency requests by schools on behalf of DSBN students in need. This initiative supports the extraordinary, and sometimes emergency, personal and school-related needs of individual students brought about by financial hardship. The Foundation has reserved funds to allocate to students who fall within this category to pay for winter clothes, proper footwear, bus passes, field trips, basic school supplies, team uniforms, cafeteria vouchers etc.

Pine Grove students, through the purchase of glow items at the Dance-A-Thon, were able to donate \$211.56 to this worthy cause. Way to go Pumas!

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Our students in Grades 4 to 6 worked very hard this term to prepare and present their speeches. Four representatives from each class were selected to present their speech in the gym during the first week February. The following students represented their class in the speech finale...Matt, Kate, Mackenzie, Hannah, Cailen, Noah, Alexis, Jack, Lauren, Jack, Jordan and Catharine.

Congratulations to Jack who represented Pine Grove School at the Grantham Optimist competition and to Lauren who represented our school at the Port Dalhousie Legion.

BROCK UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICS COMPETITION



The Brock University Caribou Mathematics Competition for Grades 3 and 4 and 5 and 6 students in Ontario is held three times per year. The contest is conducted and completed online.

The goals for this project are to:

1. provide challenging math activities for students in Grades 3 to 6 in Ontario
2. Show that mathematical puzzles can be fun and that competing in mathematical contests can be fun!

The test is free. The only restriction is that the test must be administered by school staff at school to ensure fair competition. 580 students across Ontario competed in the competition. Pine Grove has three students who placed in the top 100...

Cole placed 26th, Ryan D. placed 61st and Kira placed 97th.

100 students in the DSBN completed the test. Our results were as follows: Cole—3rd, Ryan—4th and Kira—6th.

Our next completion dates at Pine Grove will be on Wednesday, April 21st for Grades 5 and 6 and Wednesday, May 19th for Grades 3 and 4.

REPORT CARDS



Term 2 report cards will be sent home on Friday, March 26th. Please make sure and complete the Parent Response Form and return it to your child's teacher with your comments.

PIZZA LUNCHES

Thank you to our parents who helped count and record our pizza orders for February / March's pizza days, as well as coming in on Fridays and handing out the pizza and milk to the children.



Pizza days in March will be the 5th, 12th and 26th. If you are available to help us with our lunches, please make sure to complete the section on your child's order form. We thank you for your continued support with our pizza lunches.

LOST AND FOUND

Please encourage your child to check our lost and found bins that are located outside the office. There are numerous items waiting to be claimed such as hats, mittens, running shoes and clothing articles.



BASKETBALL TEAMS



Our girls and boys basketball teams have been busy practicing for the 2010 season with Ms. Kond, Mr. Lampman and Mrs. Meleskie. Our team

members are as follows:

Girls - Nicole, Jane, Isabel, Mackenzie, Robyn, Ajah, Emily, Dahabo, Vanessa, Aryezon and Celina, Nadine and Hannah

Boys - Matt, Harry, Matt, Warsame, Tyrell, Jack, Angelo, Matt, Malcolm, Jared, Austin and Evan.

Schedules will be sent home with team members once game dates have been finalized.

IS YOUR CHILD UP-TO-DATE ON HIS/HER IMMUNIZATIONS?

The Immunization of School Pupils Act requires every Public Health Unit to have one of the following on file for each child attending school: an up-to-date immunization record, or a legal exemption document (a statement of medical exemption, or a statement of conscience or religious belief affidavit).

In mid-March, suspension orders will be mailed to parents/guardians of those elementary school children who do not have complete immunization records (or legal exemption) on file with Public Health. **Parents have until May 3, 2010 to provide the necessary information to Public Health (otherwise their child will be suspended effective May 4, 2010).**

Parents may contact their health care provider to obtain immunization records and/or immunizations. Public Health also offers immunization clinics. **To book an appointment for your child or for more information call 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.**

IT'S COLD AND FLU SEASON

To prevent the spread of germs, we are encouraging the children to wash their hands frequently during the school day. If your child is not feeling well, and especially if he/she has a fever, please keep him/her home for the day. If your child is well enough to

come to school, then he/she is well enough to go outside for the fitness breaks. The fresh air will make your child feel better.

THE PARENTING CORNER

From L. Hasenack - DSNB Youth Counsellor

With March Break soon upon us we, as parents, need to think of and help guide our children in making good decisions in spending their time off from school. (and not drive us crazy) Balance in life is key and here are some ideas for you to help your child manage their time so that it is not just a "screen" (T.V., computer, DS, texting, video games) filled week. Research also tells us that physical based activities help us with our over all health, emotional well being and academic success. May some of these ideas work for you and your family. Children love the time we spend with them.

1. Go for walk.....have a destination.....the Market, library, Park, arena to skate, Pet store, Corner store for a treat, include the dog.....enjoy the journey.....make a list of all the things you see and hear.....talk about it.....value everyone's input.
2. Plan indoor and outdoor scavenger hunts.....let the kids plan one for you too.....enjoy the challenge they give you.....laugh at yourself.
3. Make a jar filled with activities your family can do together.....everyone adds to it with reasonable and no cost ideas.....take turns drawing one out and do it.....kids count on us following through.....helps them to feel valuable.
4. Plan the day or weeks menu together.....let them help cook, (great time to practice "picking your battles" - ignore the mess they make and enjoy the process - show them how to clean up later) set the table, serve the meal together at the table.
5. Bake and enjoy muffins, cupcakes or cookies together.
6. Embrace any snow we may have.....shovel together, make a snowman, get out the sled and find a hill together.....laugh with each other.
7. Colour or do a word search together. Play a board game. Have a dance party.....read jokes to each other.
8. Have a house cleaning challenge but keep it fun and enjoyable. (who can clean their room the quickest or clean the house together with a reward for all at the end of the task) Compliment each child for something each and every day.
9. Paint on newspaper.....mix colours.....make a fun mess.
10. Play I Spy.
11. Let them have a friend over to play.
12. Write a letter together to family you don't get to see much.....walk to the mailbox together.

Whatever you decide to do, enjoy your time with your children this coming March Break.