



THE PUMA PINNACLE

Pine Grove Public School
690 Lake Street, St. Catharine's, ON L2N 4J5
905-935-1901
www.dsbni.org/Schools/PineGrove



OCTOBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



We are off to a great start at Pine Grove Public School for the 2016-2017 school year. The students have settled nicely into their classrooms and have been working hard and achieving success with the tasks that have been required of them in their new grades.

We had a great turn out of Pine Grove families and friends who attended our Open House last month. I was able to connect with many of that night and just a reminder that volunteers are always welcome at Pine Grove School. If you are interested in helping out in your child's classroom, please write in a note in your child's agenda for his/her teacher.

We just received our EQAO scores for the Grade 3 and 6 Assessments done last spring. Our results are as follows (% of students achieving or exceeding the Provincial Standard):

Grade 3: Reading 76, Writing 76, Math 68
Grade 6: Reading 83, Writing 88, Math 79

C. Glauser,
Principal



RESPONSIBILITY IS OUR CHARACTER EDUCATION TRAIT FOR OCTOBER

The Character Education Trait for October is **Honesty**. Honesty means being a sincere, truthful and trustworthy person who accepts responsibility for their own actions and doesn't blame others. You are being honest when you tell a friend the truth, keep a friend's secret or admit you made a mistake.

Our October Student Recognition Assembly will be held on October 28th in the gym at 9 a.m. All parents are always welcome to attend any of our assemblies.



PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY / THANKSGIVING

Friday, October 7, 2016 is a Professional Activity Day with the District School Board of Niagara. There will be no classes for the children on this day due to staff involvement in workshops and meetings on developing our school growth plan.

Monday, October 10, 2016 is Thanksgiving Day. There will be no classes for students or staff.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR SEPTEMBER 2016

Congratulations go out to the Students of the Month who were chosen by their teacher for September. The students were excellent role models for their peers on our Character Education Trait this month, **RESPECT**.



Teacher	CHARACTER TRAIT	PUMA PRIDE AWARD
Mrs. Dyck	Whag K.	Colton E./Cooper V.
Mrs. Penlington	Emily S.	Claire W./Isla C.
Mrs. Halfyard	Emily F.	Adam L./Thea T.G.
Ms. Quiquero	Shyla B.	Jack B.
Ms. Delahunt	Haroon A./Trenton M.	Ben V.
Mrs. Snider	Cayden	Teddy B.
Mrs. Meleskie	Jett M.	Allie C.
Ms. Dowds	Ella P.	Thomas T.
Mrs. Whitesell	Rahill D.	Jack G.
Mrs. Kond	Julia K.	Nick J./Braedon M.
Mr. Leighton	Sydney R.	Charlie F./Kian B./Emma W.
Mr. Niven	Adigun D.	Jazlyn S.
Mrs. Mazzuca	Megan O.	Mitchell K.
Mrs. Crane	Ian C.	---



PINE GROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL



Please join us at our next School Council meeting on **Tuesday, October 25^d** at 6:00 p.m. Babysitting will be provided. We would love to see some new faces and hear your ideas!



Spirit Wear – our spirit wear initiative last year was such a huge success that we are offering it to our families again this year. You may order your spirit wear at any time by logging on to <http://www.bigbearspiritwear.com/pine-grove>. **This will be your chance to show your Puma Pride!**



FUNDSCRIP!

Buy gift cards and help get resources for our kids!

We have begun a new fundraiser which is available now! Fundscrip! What is Fundscrip? Well, anyone who wants to help support the school council initiatives can buy gift cards. You get full value of what you pay for the gift card – they have all kinds! For groceries, gas, gifts and more! Simply order and use gift cards for items on which you would spend money anyway, and the companies give a percentage back to the school. You can order the gift cards online and have them delivered. Each time you order cards the school receives money back – its that simple!

So – planning teacher gifts? Buying groceries, have some birthday parties coming up? Order your gift cards through our Fundscrip group and give back to the school at the same time. Visit www.fundscrip.com.



OCTOBER IS INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

Lace up your shoes or snap on those bike helmets for an active trip to school. If you live far from school, park a few blocks away and walk part of the trip. If you ride a bus, take part by walking to your bus stop.

Here's a quick trivia question to have fun with at the dinner table tonight. Walking and wheeling to school can improve:

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------|---------------------|
| A) Health | B) Happiness | C) Stress Level |
| D) Grades | E) Safety | F) All of the above |

If you said F, you're correct! Walking and wheeling to school has many benefits and those are just a few. (Source: activesaferoutes.ca)

Tips to remember when walk or biking:

- Look left, right and left again when crossing the street
- Never run or dart out into the street or cross between parked cars
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them and watch out for cars that are turning or backing up
- It's always best to walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible
- Cross streets at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks
- Watch out for cars coming out of driveways and alleys
- If what you are doing has wheels, protect your brain – always wear a helmet
- When riding your bike, ride in the same direction as the cars are driving

Tips from www.parachutecanada.org



Indigo love of reading foundation

Adopt a School

From now until October 10th, for every two books given online, the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation will give an extra bonus book to Pine Grove's school library! We have been recipients from the Adopt a School foundation before and have been grateful for their support in providing us the chance to offer the books the students adore and which motivates them to read.

To show your support please go to: <https://adoptaschool.indigo.ca/eng/signup>, register with an email and password then search for Pine Grove Public School, St Catharines. Once you arrive at Pine Grove's page click donate now!

Thank you to Mrs. Boyd for help in organizing the campaign and so much for your support as well!

Miss MacCrimmon

Introducing the Pine Grove “Me to We” Club!

Pine Grove is very excited to have it's very own “Me to We” Club for students in grades 6-8. The focus of the club is to help the students make a positive contribution within their school, family, community and the larger global community. The students will meet once per cycle during fitness/nutrition break to plan events such as school spirit days, eco-friendly initiatives and ways we can reach the greater global community. Our first two initiatives include:

Litterless Snack and Lunch Day: Thursday, October 6th, 2016

There are many reasons why litterless lunches are a good thing! Besides the environmentally-friendly component, a proper litterless lunch plan is healthier as it cuts out pre-packaged food and can save you money in the long run. It also teaches children to be conscious about the waste they create and the food they put into their bodies. On Thursday, October 6th we are asking students pack a litterless lunch and snack. We are hoping this action will create awareness that will have a lasting effect after this day!

TRICK OR EAT!

On Halloween members of the “Me to We” Club will be participating in “Trick or Eat” putting a new spin on the annual night of giving! Trick or Eat Day is a national day of action, for young people to come together and actively show that they want to make a difference on the issue of hunger in their communities. On Halloween look out for some students who will be canvassing for canned goods and pre-packaged foods in your community!



SCHOOL PICTURES

Your child/ren's individual and class pictures were taken by Edge Imaging the third week of school. The picture proofs with the order form should be coming home shortly. **Retakes of individual student pictures, some class pictures and sibling photos will be done on Thursday, November 3rd.** If you wish a retake, please indicate “RETAKE” on the original proof package and return to your child's teacher. All proof packages must be returned to the school regardless of whether you are placing an order. A sibling photo order form has been sent home as well, please complete and return if you wish a sibling photo to be done.



PIZZA LUNCHES



Again this year, we will be offering the opportunity for parents to order pizza lunches for their child. To support our school community and neighbourhood, our pizza provider again this year will be Pete's Pizza which is located on Lakeshore Road in the North End Plaza.

The first pizza day will be Friday, November 4th. No order forms will be sent home this year. **ONLY SCHOOL CASH ONLINE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Orders will be done by month and will be posted on School Cash Online from the first week of the prior month until the last Wednesday of the prior month.

Pizza days are a school fundraising initiative and monies raised from these lunches help subsidize our class trips, transportation costs, and to purchase learning resources for your child's classroom. Please mark these dates on your calendar and remind your child so they know whether or not to expect a pizza lunch.



THE LUNCH LADY



Our School Council is pleased to again be offering hot lunches through ***"The Lunch Lady"***. Order forms for October were sent home mid September. Orders received past the due date will be accepted for the following week's lunch. Please mark these dates on your calendar and remind your child so they know whether or not to expect a Lunch Lady lunch.

Two of our reasons for offering The Lunch Lady program are the wide variety of healthy lunch options they offer, and the ease online ordering or cancellations. By using their online service, you can order at any time and are guaranteed your child's order, as well as being able to cancel "the day of" if your child is off ill or has to be absent for any reason. We have experienced issues in the past with lunch orders being misplaced or not handed in and children therefore, not receiving a lunch. The ease of online ordering has eliminated this issue. Please visit www.thelunchlady.ca to register your child and receive more information.



A FEW REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

We ask that parents make sure their children are organized with all the things they need to take to school for the day before children leave the house in the morning. However, we do understand some mornings can be more hectic than others. Please help keep our children and staff safe by reporting to the office once you enter the building. All visitors must be buzzed in and are then asked to stop at the office to let us know how we can help you. We will gladly deliver forgotten homework, lunches, running shoes, etc. during our fitness/nutrition breaks however, we will not interrupt classes to do so. Please do not deliver items to your child's locker.



As well, we must know the whereabouts of each and every student every day at Pine Grove. If your child is going to be absent, a quick phone call informing us would be greatly appreciated. Our answering machine is on 24/7.

Finally, we do send lots of order forms, letters, etc. home that must be completed and returned to the school, sometimes with payment. We would appreciate it if you would have your child give this paperwork and money to their teacher rather than handing it in at the office. Homeroom teachers do track the return of necessary forms, payments, etc. Thank you for your co-operation.



PARKING LOT/KISS AND RIDE

Our Kiss and Ride area and parking lot gets very congested and busy at the beginning and end of each day. If you are picking up your child after school, we suggest that you arrive by 2:55 p.m. to find a parking spot or make arrangements to pick up your child in the drive through Kiss and Ride area. The area by the orange pylons is strictly a drop off area prior to 8:40 a.m., a pick up area at 3:00 p.m. and a fire route during the school day. It is very important for the safety of our students, staff and parents that you do not double park and leave your car to go and pick up your child. Also, a reminder to parents to not park in the bus loading zone in front of the school.



SOCCKER NEWS



The junior team played in a fantastic tournament. The weather was beautiful and the kids made it to the final with giving up only one goal! Outstanding defence! Unfortunately, we came up a little short against St. David's, losing 3-1. Mr. Leighton would like to thank the parents for driving, cheering and supplying the team with water! Junior Team Members: Jordan, Jackson, Cameron, Owen, Noah, Matt, Luke, Max D., Max L., Emma, Sierra K., Chelsea, Maddy, Maya, Jessica, Sydney, Charlie, Rhylenn, Siera & Anna H.

The intermediate team had a tough go in their tournament, losing all 3 games. The team definitely had their chances, but we just couldn't seem to put the ball past the goalie! Mr. Leighton was very proud of their sportsmanship and effort level. Again, thank you to parents for driving! Intermediate Team Members: Ben, Dylan, Owen, Aidan, Kevin, James, Chad, Adigun, Sauliman, Mitchell, Connor, Emma, Rachael, Megan, Sophia, Katie, Payton, Lilly, Rheagan, Samantha & Jaz.



2016-2017 ELEMENTARY PROGRESS REPORT

On November 6th, your child will bring home their Elementary Progress Report. The format was created after years of consultation with parents, teachers, principals, and students across the province. Although it looks much like the Report Card, this report has a very different intent. The purpose of the Progress Report is to share early and specific feedback on your child's development of work habits and learning skills as well as his/her progress towards achieving the curriculum standards by the end of the school year.



Traditionally, when reporting to parents about their child's progress, teachers have prepared by *looking back* over the work done. The teacher evaluated your child's progress from the beginning of the school term to the current point in time, and reported on the highlights of achievement as they compare to overall curricular expectations. Teachers continue to report on Provincial Term One and Term Two Report Cards in this manner.



Reporting on the Progress Report is about *looking forward*. The purpose is to set the course for the learning journey ahead. Based on the evidence teachers see, as well as what teachers know about learning at this grade level, the report communicates the path your child is on towards achieving the grade level expectations by the end of the year. For students who are on a modified Individual Education Program, the teacher uses those modified goals when determining whether a child is progressing well, progressing very well, or progressing with difficulty.

All subjects that are part of your child's program in the first weeks of school will be assessed according to the following indicators:

Progressing Very Well: In the first weeks of school, evidence shows that the student is demonstrating consistent progress and is on track to meet and/or surpass the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

Progressing Well: In the first weeks of school, evidence shows that the student is demonstrating consistent progress and is on track to meet the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

Progressing With Difficulty: In the first weeks of school, evidence shows that the student is experiencing difficulty towards meeting the provincial standard set for the end of the year. For subjects in which your child is Progressing With Difficulty, the teacher will discuss specific next steps plans needed for success. We look forward to partnering with you and your child for a year of great learning and growth.



LOST AND FOUND

Please encourage your child to check the bin for any lost items or stop in yourself; the bin is located in the foyer where the kindergarten's enter. We are overflowing already! Items not picked up will be donated to local charities on a regular basis.



TERRY FOX RUN

Thank you to all families who contributed to our annual Terry Fox Run held in September. Over \$600 was donated to the Terry Fox Foundation on behalf of Pine Grove School. Way to go Pumas!



HALLOWE'EN ACTIVITIES



On Monday, October 31st, students will take part in many special activities. The primary students will be walking to Heidehof Home for the Aged in the morning to visit the residents and show off their costumes. We are looking for parents to help supervise this walk; more detailed information will follow. Our afternoon will consist of a Hallowe'en Parade at 1:45 p.m. Parents are welcome to dress up and join us for our Hallowe'en walk.

Please note that we have not scheduled a pizza lunch for the Friday of Halloween due to the number of students who go home during the lunch break to get ready for the afternoon festivities. Please make sure your child has a lunch on this day if they are staying at school.

Please help us keep Pine Grove a heart healthy school by keeping Hallowe'en treats and candies at home. Remember to send in healthy nutritional foods to school with your child everyday for our nutrition breaks.



HALLOWEEN

SAFETY

Some pointers to keep the trick or treaters safe from the Niagara Regional Public Health:

- Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.
- Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic. Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. It is important they walk on the sidewalk, or walk facing the traffic if there is no sidewalk.
- Bright coloured costumes make your child easier to see. You can use reflective tape on a costume to make your child more visible. Face paint instead of a mask helps them to see well. Have your child carry a flashlight.
- When they get home, check all of their treats carefully. Throw out any treats that aren't wrapped, if the wrapping is torn or loose, or if the wrapper has a hole. Remember that small treats can cause your child to choke.
- You might want to offer an alternative to sugar based treats. Stickers or multi-coloured pencils can be a nice surprise in place of, or in addition to, traditional treats.



CHANGE IN CROSSING GUARD TIMES

We have been advised by the City of St. Catharines that crossing guard hours in the Pine Grove School area have been changed effective September 30th.

The guard at Lake Street/Lakeshore Road will be on duty 8:00 – 8:40 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. There will be NO crossing guard in attendance over the lunch hour.



FLU SEASON IS HERE!

Washing your hands prevents the spread of germs and reduces your risk of getting sick. Wash your hands after:

- coughing or sneezing
- blowing your nose
- using the washroom
- playing with pets
- playing outdoors
- and before preparing meals and eating

Use warm water and soap, lather and scrub for at least 15 seconds. Have children sing the ABC song, so they scrub for long enough. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are safe for children and can be used when you don't see any dirt. For more information, talk to your school nurse.



Hey Super Parents!

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER!

Join us for an evening of learning with FREE workshops for DSBN parents

REGISTRATION, FOOD & CHILD CARE are FREE!



PARENT POWER!
DSBN PARENT INVOLVEMENT CONFERENCE 2016

Mark It On Your Calendar:

WED. NOV. 2, 2016

4:00 pm - 8:15 pm at Eden High School
535 Lake St., St. Catharines

Register online at www.dsbns.org/pic
OR speak to someone in your school office for assistance

Early Bird Draw
Register Before October 3, 2016
and you could WIN \$500 of support
for your School and School Council!



**I Matter
At DSBN**

The DSBN Parent Involvement Committee invites you to join us for an evening of learning, sharing and networking with a focus on ideas for all DSBN parents and School Councils.

Session Topics Include:

Mental Health, Special Education, Mathematics, Kindergarten, Transitions to Secondary & Post Secondary... and so much MORE!

4:00 - 5:15 Light Dinner and Vendor Fair
Cafeteria and Gym 108
5:15 - 5:25 Opening Remarks
Cafeteria
5:45 - 6:45 1st Session
6:45 - 7:15 Vendor Fair and Refreshments
Gym 108 and Cafeteria
7:15 - 8:15 2nd Session

Information about Child Care:

PRESCHOOL CHILDREN: Certified Early Childhood Educators will be available at Sven H. Dohnberg Centre. Enter the Eden High School parking lot (facing Lake St.), the child care centre is on the right.

SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN: Children will be supervised by qualified teachers in the Eden Gymnasium.

★ CHILD CARE IS AVAILABLE BY PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY. ★

★ Child care will be provided from 4:00pm to 8:15pm. ★

★ A light dinner will be provided for the children. ★



PARENT POWER!
DSBN PARENT INVOLVEMENT CONFERENCE 2016

Register online at
www.dsbns.org/pic