



MEADOWVALE NEWS
63 Cecil Street
St. Catharines, Ontario L2N 4B3
905-935-4292



MR. PETER HAWKEY, PRINCIPAL

NOVEMBER 2011

WORK HARD..... HAVE FUN..... DO WHAT'S RIGHT

We must be having fun, because although we are working hard, I can't believe it is November already. On Monday, October 31 the students participated in many special Halloween activities. Our morning JK/SK children wore their costumes to school and had fun participating in activities planned by Mrs. Hunt. The rest of our classes walked to Henley House in the afternoon and treated the residents to a Halloween Parade.

Our focus for Social Skills has been TRUSTWORTHINESS and starting next week we will be focussing on RESPECT, the yellow pillar of our Six Pillar program.

The students are working on "Finding the Proof" and "What's Happening" to extend their answers in Literacy. To support them at home, ask them to make connections to previous experiences, to make predictions, and to visualize while reading. We strive to make our students thoughtful readers so that they can have the strategies needed to extend their learning throughout their lives.

P. Hawkey

MEADOWVALE WEBSITE

Have you had a chance to look at Meadowvale's website? If you have any questions about what is going on at Meadowvale or at the DSBN, chances are it is on the website. Items such as the newsletter, Meadowvale's monthly calendar, DSBN's yearly calendar (including all the holidays) volleyball schedules, etc. Thank you to Mr. Fournier for keeping us informed. (www.dsbni.org/Schools/Meadowvale).

PHOTO RE-TAKE DAY



Those students who require photo retakes will have the opportunity on Thursday, November 17.

LATES

A reminder that school begins PROMPTLY at 8:50 a.m. We appreciate your support in this matter! Let's try to be on time!

PROGRESS REPORTS & PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Elementary progress reports will be going home with all students in Senior Kindergarten to Grade 6 on **Tuesday, November 15**. Parent-teacher conferences have been scheduled for **Thursday, November 17**. More information will be sent home next week.



JK observations will begin in November. Parents will be notified of their date and time by their child's teacher.

Lest We Forget

MAGAZINE FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraiser. All orders have been sent to QSP. Congratulations to the following students who have futures in sales:

Taking advantage of double days:

Top Seller: Noelle G.-SK sold 15 for 30 points.

Runner Up: Skyla W.-Gr. 4 sold 9 for 18 points plus 2 more later on for a total of 20 points.

Honourable mention to Emily L.-Gr. 2 who sold 7 for 14 points.

Regular Days

Finley J.-S.K., 11.

Tyler S.-Gr. 5, James H. and Benjamin M.-Gr. 1, 9 each.

Have fun picking out your prizes!

MONEY

Meadowvale is a very busy school financially. Money is always coming in with pizza, milk, fundraising, trips, skating, etc. As you can imagine with 150 students, counting and processing the money is very time consuming for staff. We are kindly asking that you send in exact change and, except for emergencies, **NO** pennies. Thank you for your co-operation.

DSBN STUDENT FAMILIES IN ST. CATHARINES AND SMITHVILLE ARE INVITED TO PROVIDE A ONE-MONTH HOMESTAY FOR AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

International students are participating in
The District School Board of Niagara's
KOREAN WORLD CLASSROOM PROGRAM

International students in participating schools
in St. Catharines are in Grades 7 & 8

International students in participating schools
in Smithville are in Grades 4-6

The homestay timeframe is Jan 11–Feb 7, 2012

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION BEING HELD

Wednesday, November 9 @ 6:30 – 7:30 .pm.
at the DSBN Education Centre
191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines

- open to families in St. Catharines who ideally have a Grade 7 or 8 child themselves (other ages may be considered)
- open to families in Smithville who ideally have a Grade 4-6 child themselves (other ages may be considered)
- your child will build intercultural awareness and leadership skills as a host buddy

Registration for the information session is not required

**Please direct inquiries to:

Ligia Tobon
Canadian English Scholar Program
ligia_tobon@hotmail.com
905-354-6916
www.cespica.com

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures. At times when student transportation has been cancelled and schools remain open, the decision of whether or not to have children in school on that day rests with the parent or guardian.

Should you decide not to send your child to school in the event that transportation is cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call your child's school to inform them of your child's absence.

A key resource in any emergency is the DSBN Emergency Information form that you filled out at the beginning of the school year. Please let the school know of any changes in contact information or procedures you wish to be followed throughout the school year.

For secondary schools it may become necessary to cancel late buses. Notice will be provided via school announcements and on the websites and subscription features by 11:30 a.m.

Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will be available as soon as it is posted through the following channels:

Websites:

www.dsbnschools.ca

www.nsts.ca

Subscription Features:

DSBN Facebook or Twitter

NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts

Phone:

Niagara Student Transportation Services 905-346-0290 Voice Auto Attendant

Radio Stations:

CKTB (610 AM) St. Catharines

CHRE (105.7 FM) St. Catharines

WAVE (94.7 FM) Hamilton

CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines

CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton

CKEY (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/Fort Erie

CHML (900 AM) Hamilton

K-LITE-FM (102.9 FM) Hamilton

CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton

GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland

Y-108(107.9) Hamilton

Television Stations:

CH - Hamilton

CityTV Breakfast Television

CTV Toronto

Cogeco Channel 10



WINTER WEATHER MEANS WARM CLOTHING



With the arrival of cold weather, it is very important that all students come to school prepared to spend time outside at our fitness break and lunch. All students need to remember warm coats, hats, gloves and boots for outside play. Also, all students need a pair of indoor shoes to wear for physical education and in their classrooms.

MEADOWVALE SHARES

The 2011 holiday season is fast approaching. This time of year people are busy thinking about holiday preparations for their family and friends. This year at Meadowvale we would like to help others in the Niagara Region by starting a new initiative

"Meadowvale Shares for Community Care"

Throughout the month of November our school will be conducting a food drive in support of Community Care. Please help by sending your child to school this month with non-perishable food items. This can easily be done by adding a few extra items a week to your own grocery cart. In addition to the food items, we will also be collecting other items for community care on a weekly basis. Week one will start on November 14, this will be the week of warmth, week 2 is personal care items and week 3 new toys. Please refer to the attached Community Care Calendar and information sheet for more details. We would like to thank you in advance on behalf of Meadowvale and Community Care for your ongoing and continuous support of our initiatives here at Meadowvale School. Let's make this holiday season a bright one for other families in our community.

Parent Involvement Committee NEWS

The Meadowvale Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) held a meeting on October 24 to go over plans for the upcoming year. Our current fundraising goals for the year include classroom support, playground maintenance and assistance with school activities. The following events have been confirmed for the 2011-2012 school year, and we'd invite everyone to get involved with the planning:

- **NOVEMBER** - the "Fundscrip" program to purchase gift cards (with a percentage of proceeds going to the school) will be held again this year. Lisa Dilts will provide her time to run this program.
- **DECEMBER** - the Annual **Christmas Concert** is being planned... Staff and the PIC will be announcing details shortly!
- **FEBRUARY** - The popular **Dance-a-thon** will be held again! Heather Burgess will be coordinating the preparations, and is looking for help. Please let us know if you can assist her!
- **APRIL** - We will once again be hosting our popular **Trivia Night**, with great prizes and a silent auction. Krstina Dickinson, Karen Fletcher, Mirella Colantoni and Stephanie Whalen have started a committee for the event, but are looking for more volunteers... and they're always looking for prize donations!
- **MAY** - Students will have a chance to participate in the **Cake Walk**. Cheryl D'Costa and Wanda Bolhous will help to organize this event.

We are also planning upcoming visits to Cheeky Monkey's indoor playground, and will share details once dates are set.

The PIC has talked about a number of potential projects using the funds raised at these and other events, but we'd love for more parents to be part of the discussion. If you have thoughts, ideas or suggestions, please e-mail us at meadowvalecouncil@gmail.com Even if you can't attend regular PIC meetings, let us know if you're free to help out with special events or projects!