

# McKay School

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# April 2011

Achieving  
Success  
Together!!

Hello Spring!!

We are certainly excited to welcome April!!



The DSBN has designated April 11 – 15 as Education Week with the theme being “Celebrating Community Partnerships”. We are very fortunate to work closely with many community partners to provide our students with a delicious breakfast every morning. Our community partners include No Frills, Food Basics, Sobey’s, Judy’s Bakery, Niagara Nutrition Partners, and Breakfast for Learning. We are also grateful for the generous donations we receive from parents, grandparents and members of the community, including a large donation from Youngs Automotive. We are also fortunate to have volunteers from the community to assist with our program, including Mrs. Gagnon, Mr. and Mrs. Rochon, Heather Filson and also the entire Busch family as well as many students at McKay who are always willing to help. Our community connection is vital at McKay. We participate in numerous student activities in our community with class visits to the library, banks and restaurants, Port Cares, “Out of the Cold”, Port Colborne High School, and Portal Village, to name a few.

Please be sure to keep the April calendar handy. There are many exciting events happening and we want to be sure everyone has the opportunity to participate.

We sincerely thank you for the fantastic support you demonstrate for our fundraisers and special events. Ongoing communication with the school is vital to ensure success for your child!



# McKay School Goes Paperless



As you may have noticed, we have been sending automated phone calls home. We are giving parents reminders of important events around McKay school without sending home paper notices. We are also encouraging parents to find school information on the schools website [www.dsbn.org/Schools/mckay](http://www.dsbn.org/Schools/mckay). **Starting in the new school year (September 2011)** we will be minimizing our paper usage even more. A paper copy of our school calendar will go out to every student at the beginning of every month. On the bottom of the calendar you will find the link for our school's website, which we encourage you to check frequently for updates and additions. We thank you in advance for your continued support in helping McKay go green.



## Biking to school

We encourage students to ride their bikes to school, once it is safe to do so. It is good exercise and better for the environment than having a parent drive. There are bike racks located on the north end of the play yard by the playground where bikes can be stored. Bikes brought to the school are not the responsibility of the school, so we strongly urge students to bring locks for their bikes to deter any theft. Under no circumstances are bicycles to be left inside as it poses a danger to people coming in and out of the school.



*While riding to school, if you are under the age of 18 you are required by law to wear an approved bicycle helmet when travelling on any public road. Cyclists over 18 are encouraged to wear helmets for their own safety, but are not required to by law (<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/faq/safety-test.shtml#helmets>). We want all of our students to arrive safe, so please wear your helmet and obey safe road rules!*

# Prom Project Niagara 2011



On Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>, Education Foundation of Niagara will be holding their annual Prom Project Niagara. This project is to assist young people in outfitting themselves for their High School or Elementary School Prom or Grad Ceremony. Students wishing to take advantage of this opportunity can go to Thorold Secondary School from 9:30 am – 2:00 pm on Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**If you have a gently used suit, dress, accessories or shoes and would like to donate to this wonderful project, there are drop off locations across Niagara. In Port Colborne, donations will be accepted at Lighheart's Dry Cleaners 388 King St. For more information please call the EFN office at 905-641-2929 ext 54103, visit EFN's website or email [efn@dsbn.edu.on.ca](mailto:efn@dsbn.edu.on.ca).**

## **STUDENT COUNCIL CORNER**

### **CELEBRITY DAY**

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, McKay was swarmed by the paparazzi! They came out hoping to capture shots of our McKay Lions dressed up as famous celebrities. We saw the likes of Lady Gaga, Alex Trebek, Artie from Glee, Kim Kardashian and more! With such famous celebrities filling our hallways and classrooms, McKay is sure to make the headlines!

### **EARTH HOUR**

On Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, McKay helped celebrate Earth Hour by turning off all unnecessary lights and electrical devices for the afternoon. Earth Hour was celebrated worldwide on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:30pm-9:30pm.

### **BUYOUT FOR JAPAN**

At McKay School, we think that it's very important to always think of those in need. With the recent earthquake and tsunami in Japan, we knew we had to do something! McKay's student council and Me to We club will be hosting the first-ever BUYOUT!!! That's right....students can BUY their way out of class!!! On Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, students will have the opportunity to buy a ticket to get out of class. The cost of the ticket will be \$5.00 and all proceeds will be donated to the Canadian Red Cross to help in their efforts in Japan. Students who "buy out" of class will head to the gym for the afternoon to watch a movie on the big screen.

So McKay lions, start saving now! Not only will you get an afternoon out of class, but more importantly, you'll be helping the people in Japan. Let's do our part to help those in need!

A special "Thank You" goes out to Mme. Vanderlaan for all her work with our Student Council. Her leadership and dedication is greatly appreciated. Our Student Council is very enthusiastic and they help to make our days at McKay fun! Bravo!!

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## We Are The Champions!!

The girls' intermediate basketball team won the DSBN championship against Richmond Street back in early March. The game was at Eastdale High School in Welland. McKay had a busload of fans there to support us. The girls had a slow start trailing by 7 points just before the end of the first half when Rebecca Fuaco stole the ball and scored in the dying seconds. She was fouled on the play and drained the foul shot to cut their lead to 4 points. With our fans cheering us on, we began the second half pressing hard and we quickly took a commanding 8 point lead. The Richmond team did not recover and we secured the championship and finished the season with a 14 - 0 win/loss record! Mr. Clarke and the McKay staff are tremendously proud of them.

*celebrating*  
**COMMUNITY**  
PARTNERSHIPS  
DSBN EDUCATION WEEK APRIL 11-15TH



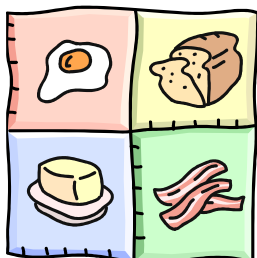
The 2011 DSBN Education Week Theme is "Celebrating Community Partnerships". From parent volunteers who assist in classrooms to agencies who coordinate a variety of programs including breakfast programs and after school activities to corporate partners who sponsor scholarships and so much more, our community partners complement the work of our schools to support student success.

We want to take this time to thank you, our community partners, for everything you do to help support our students and our school.

Working together, we make a difference. And that is truly Achieving Success Together!



## BREAKFAST Club



We would like to thank the community for the donations to our Breakfast Club. Without help from outside donations and the wonderful work from Mrs. Gagnon, Mrs. Busch, Mr. & Mrs. Rochon, Ms. Filson and our other fabulous volunteers, our breakfast program would not be possible. Our breakfast serves up a wonderful feast feeding many kids at 8:25 am, to help our students get moving in the morning.



## The Building Blocks of Success McKay Public heading to Waterloo Lego competition

### Lego Robotics

On January 28th our Lego Robotics teams participated in a fascinating event at E.L. Crossley High School. Teams from all around the region were competing, and our McKay kids, with dedication and persistence, placed among the stars.

The McKay Junior team took first place, and the McKay Intermediate team placed third.

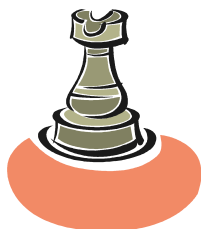
But the fight was far from over. The two winning teams, consisting of Krista Dafoe, Travis Bird, Blake Thompson and Stephen Koiter for the Junior League, and Noah Fuaco, Kaj Hemmingsen-Berriault, Devlin Mayne and Dylan Gullion for the Intermediate team, went on to the Regional Challenge on February 23rd at School Support Services in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The competition was fierce, but the McKay students worked hard. The McKay Junior team took first place, and the McKay Intermediate team took fifth place. First place winners were personally congratulated by our director, and are invited to compete in the provincial competition on May 2nd.

Way to go McKay! I have certainly enjoyed the way you have worked as a team. We wish you the best of luck at Waterloo!

## Area 2 Chess Tournament

Monsieur Chaffart will be coaching the McKay Chess Team this year. Our team will be competing at the Area 2 Chess Tournament on April 7<sup>th</sup> at Port Colborne High School. Team members who are successful at the Area 2 Tournament may be eligible to compete at the DSBN Chess Tournament on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Go Lions!!!



# *“Perseverance”* AWARD WINNERS

Class		Gr		Gr		Gr
Mrs. Robinson JK/SK	Caitlyn Rowling	SK	Kevin Capecchi	JK	Landen Gravelle	SK
Mrs. Edwards JK/SK	Cameron Brown	SK	Connor Lamontagne	SK	Alicia Paterson	SK
Mrs. Bidoski Grade 1 / 2	Erik Schoufour	1	Jeffrey Panunte	1	Braydon Camilleri	1
Mrs.Hemauer Grade 2	Sarah Serabian		Senzenina DeFreitas		Eric Marr	
Mrs.Buck Grade 3	Scott Verbeek		Malori Lee		Faith Ingebrigtsen	
Mrs. Arnold Grade 4/5	Kaitlyn Chambers	4	Kristen Walker	4	Sterling Schaub	4
Mr. Benner Grade 5/6	Curtis Bell	6	Devansh Patel	6	Carol Booker	5
Mr. Clarke Grade 7/8	Hannah Charuk	7	Jessica Dussault	8	Adam Augustine	7
Mr. Chaffart Grade 5EF	Xanda DeFreitas		Laura Pante		Alyssa Vanderveen	
Mme Neville Grade 6EF	Skyler Bohun		Morgan Davies		Mackenzie Minor	
Mme Vanderlaan Grade 7EF	JoJo Carbone		Lauren Horinga		Cynthia Richardson	
Mme Clarke Grade 8EF	Emily Fretz		Megan Smith		Jenna Midgley	

# Join the fun IN THE 2011 DSBN Road Race!



**DSBN  
ROAD RACE  
Learners in Action!**



**PenFinancial**  
CREDIT UNION  
let's grow together.

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**Sunday, April 17th, 2011**

DSBN Education Centre, 191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines

Proceeds to benefit Education Foundation of Niagara  
and Niagara Nutrition Partners

1km (10 am) Fun Run and 5km (10:30 am) Road Race for all ages

Barbecue & family fun fair for participants\*

Prizes for top finishers in each age category of the road race

T-shirts and participation ribbons for all who pre-register

School participation prize

Chip Time Results for 5km race

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For registration information, please refer to the entry form  
Race entry forms and volunteer forms are available at DSBN schools  
or online at [www.efnonline.ca](http://www.efnonline.ca)



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\* Minimal BBQ fee for non-participants with all funds raised going towards EFN & NNP

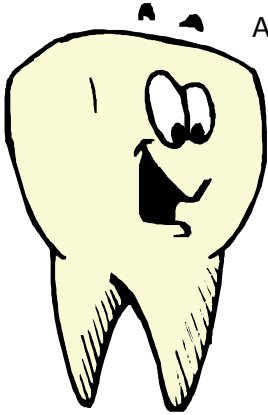


Niagara Nutrition Partners

**Achieving Success Together!**



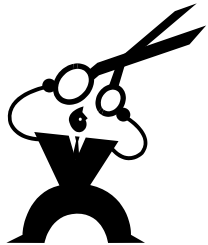
# April is Oral Health Month



Although preventable, cavities are the most common chronic disease of children aged 6 to 19 years. Cavities lead to difficulties sleeping, decreased school attendance, pain, discomfort, and infection. Fluoride is not added into our water supply. Therefore, it is recommended that all residents brush their teeth twice daily with fluoridated toothpaste to prevent cavities.

- Children three to six years of age should be assisted with brushing their teeth by an adult using a pea-sized portion of fluoridated toothpaste until they can tie their own shoe laces.
- Regular flossing is the single most important thing you can do to prevent gum disease. Most children will need help flossing until they are about 8 to 10 years old.

Niagara Region Public Health has two programs to assist children and youth with no insurance in getting the dental health care they need. For more information please call the Public Health Dental Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399.



McKay Public School

April, 2011 "Roaring Lion" Mystery Draw

(    ) Yes, I have received and read the April 2011 newsletter.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Gr. \_\_\_\_\_ Room # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

(If you have more than one child attending McKay School, you may make a copy of this ballot for each student)

Skill Testing Question (answer found in this newsletter).

Where do the students lock up their bikes?



Due to office by Thursday, April 7, 2011