

McKay Public School



320 Fielden Ave.
Port Colborne, ON
L3K 4T7
905-834-4753

Principal: Mrs. Lott
Vice-Principal: Mrs. Hemauer
Secretary: Mrs. Quesnel
Website: mckay.dsbn.org

APRIL

Pizza Days: 3, 10, 17
Hamburger Lunch: 24
8: Candy Jar Guess
from April 8 – 18
Easter Egg Colouring
competition from April
8-12, Junior basketball
9: Fana Soro, French
Cultural Show, Gr. 4-8,
Mad Science
11: Junior basketball
15: Young at Art Show
16: JK/SK Fluoride
varnish, Mad Science,
Gymnastics (Gr. 7/8)
AM-girls, PM-boys
17: Gymnastics gr. 3-6,
18: Jr. basketball
playoffs
19-22 Easter weekend
23: Mad Science, SAC
@ 6:30PM

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE...

March was a shorter month, with staff and students enjoying a well-deserved, spring break. Nonetheless, we still managed to create some great learning opportunities for our students. The students participated in the Mad Science assembly, kickstarting the weekly lessons which are well underway. As a result, a lot of our students have been involved in some hands-on inquiries in the world of science. Some of our junior students experimented with stop-motion animation; perhaps we have some future film makers amongst us! Scientists in Schools visited McKay as well. They provided both thought-provoking and enjoyable experiences for the kids. Our Coding Club members have been busy creating amazing and useful apps. They just recently presented their pitch and we are all eagerly awaiting the next phase of the technology competition. Finally, we are excited that our junior/intermediate choir has been invited to perform at the upcoming Young at Art Show at the DSBN Board Office on April 15.

We proudly continue to offer great opportunities for our students to engage in activities that foster literacy skills, inquiry in science, musical appreciation, global awareness and cooperation through extra-curricular clubs like the Forest of Reading, Chess Club, Student Council and Fair Trade. As you know, these opportunities enrich students' experiences at school; special thanks to the staff for their leadership and support with all of these wonderful events.

Spring has sprung and there is excitement in the air. Clearly, McKay continues to be a hub of activity! As always, we are so proud of the hard work, enthusiasm, and determination that we see in our students on a day-to-day basis. Way to go Lions!

EQAO Testing

As you may already be aware, EQAO is a mandatory test administered by the Government of Ontario to assess all students at the Grades 3, 6, and 9 levels. Focus is placed on skills in the areas of Language Arts and Mathematics. The students in grades 3 and 6 have been working long and hard to prepare for their upcoming EQAO testing which will take place over two weeks starting May 21 and ending on June 3rd. When scheduling special days, appointments, or vacations with your family, please avoid these dates. We appreciate your cooperation with this matter. If you have any questions about the assessment, please contact your child's teacher or call the office.

Fun Fair!!!

At our last meeting, the School Advisory Council (SAC) turned their attention to planning the upcoming McKay Fun Fair which is scheduled for Thursday, May 16th, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Please note that our next meeting is on Tuesday, April 23rd at McKay Public School beginning at 6:30pm. All are welcome to attend; we hope to see you there!



McKay Fun Fair:

Thursday, May 16th, 2019!

School Council is very excited to bring you our Annual McKay Fun Fair. This event will have great entertainment, food, raffles, and prizes for all ages.

The School Council is working hard to get ready for this awesome evening. Currently, we are looking for prize donations for our raffle table. We are also looking for volunteers to help with the games and events. Please call the school at 905-834-4753 if you are able to volunteer or make a donation. Thank you!

FAIR TRADE at McKay



Students on the Fair Trade committee had fun helping out at the Top Hat Ceremony, the official opening of the Welland Canal for the 2019 season. They served locally sourced food and Fair Trade beverages, and did a great job representing McKay Public School at this community event. Grade 6/7 students, Catharine Boitor and Madi Busby, presented a speech about Fair Trade, what it is, the benefits, and what it means to be a Fair Trade School. The Mayor and other dignitaries were impressed!

Students on the committee have been working during their breaks to create presentations to deliver to Primary and Junior classes next month. They have some fantastic ideas so far! We're looking forward to spreading the word about Fair Trade.



Parking at McKay

We are hoping that with the warmer weather coming, that we will have more families opting to walk their children to school. If you **must** drive, please refrain from parking in spaces that are designated as staff parking (primary parking lot). Additionally, please be courteous of others by not taking up more than one space and avoid blocking the flow of traffic. Thank You!

Cell Phone Policy

At McKay, we recognize the fact that many of our students bring cell phones to school, and that parents may prefer that their children have phones with them on the way to and from school for safety reasons. We certainly support anything that contributes to the safety and well-being of our students. We also take into consideration that cell phones can have a negative impact if they are misused in the school environment. A student with access to a cell phone during a lesson can become distracted from his or her learning, and there have been numerous accounts of students texting parents and other students during class.

Our policy is to allow students to bring cell phones to school, provided that the phones remain out of sight and are not used on school property without teacher approval. If students have their cell phones out, without teacher knowledge or consent, they will be collected and returned to the student at the end of the day. Repeated instances of inappropriate cell phone use will result in contact with home. Additionally, parents will be required to collect the phone from the office; it will not be turned over to the student or an older sibling. If a student needs to call home, they will be allowed to use the school phone. Parents should call the school directly if they need to contact their child(ren).

Thank you for your support!

Chess Tournament

On April 1st, we proudly sent the members (grades 3-8) of our dedicated Chess Club to DeWitt Carter Public School for the annual Chess Tournament. Special thanks to our parent drivers and volunteers. The team had been practicing at breaks for the last number of weeks and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and tenacity. We would like to thank these students for demonstrating extraordinary commitment over this past season. Best wishes to those who continue to play with passion.

A few students performed well enough to move onto the next level of competition on April 9th at Harriet Tubman in St. Catharines.

Congratulations and best of luck to: Blake Marton, Emerson DeFreitas, Rowan Smits-Talving, William Somers, Sam Tonnies, Silas Smits-Talving



French Cultural Event: Fana Soro

Students from grades 4-8 core French and Immersion have a wonderful opportunity to participate in a unique French cultural event on April 9. In this dynamic and interactive performance, Fana Soro, a hereditary master musician of the Senoufo People, shares the musical traditions of his home country to showcase the soaring melodies, driving rhythms and spirited dances of ancient West African performing arts. For additional information on the performance, please visit <http://www.prologue.org/performance-items/fana-soro/>.



Fana Soro – Prologue to the Performing Arts

Yamo! Yamo! Greetings from West Africa! – Performance “Yamo!Yamo!” (“Hello!How are you doing!” in Baoulé) from the charismatic ambassador of West African culture!In this dynamic and interactive performance, Fana Soro, a hereditary master musician of the Senoufo people, shares the musical traditions of his home country to showcase the soaring melodies, driving rhythms and spirited ...

www.prologue.org

Kindergarten Registration

It's not too late to register for Kindergarten at McKay PS. If your child turns four before December 31, 2019, please come in to the school and register for kindergarten. We would be happy to provide you with a tour and a registration package. Alternatively, you can call the school for more information.

Niagara Region Child Care Registry One application. One list.



January 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) is currently in the process of determining the viability of before and after school child care programs at all schools.

If you currently use or plan to use before and after school child care, it is important that you register or update your child care needs on the Niagara Region Child Care Registry, OneHSN portal at <https://niagara.onehsn.com>.

Once you've logged in, please choose the specific school site from the drop-down menu (e.g., **DSBN – School Name**) within the registry portal.

You must register or update your child care needs each year. This must be completed no later than **March 8th, 2019**.

Please be advised that child care will only be established in schools where there is sufficient, demonstrated need for a viable child care program. If the data provided by the applicant does not show sufficient numbers, these schools will not have child care.

The registry is available in both English and French. Attached are a set of detailed instructions.

If you have any questions or require support regarding the Niagara Child Care Registry, OneHSN, please contact Jackie Galloway at the Niagara Region at 905-980-6000 Ext. 3817. If you require support from the school board, contact Geraldine.Davies@dsbn.org.

PROM PROJECT NIAGARA

Sat. April 6, 2019
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

education foundation of niagara

Locations:
DSNB Academy
 130 Louth St., St. Catharines
Beamsville District SS
 4317 Central Ave, Beamsville
Fort Erie Race Track
 230 Catharine St., Fort Erie

DANNEL TRANSPORTATION
 ~ Bus Pick-Ups ~
 Niagara Falls - Stamford SS
 Westlane SS
 Welland - Centennial SS
 Eastdale SS

PenFinancial Credit Union
 Presenting Sponsor

A one day fun
 free formal wear extravaganza
 for EVERYONE!

[promprojectniagara](#)

Best wishes...

We wish the very best for Mrs. Serabian in her new position as the secretary at Steele St. Public School. Throughout her 6 years at McKay, she was able to see her children graduate and be an integral part of the daily activities at McKay; playing an active role on our School Advisory Council. We will miss her!

Second Break/Leaving the School

Just a reminder... students must have written permission from their parents prior to leaving at second break (12:55- 1:35pm). Students are advised to return to the school by 1:30pm, without outside food and drink. Thank you for your cooperation.

Gr. 8 Graduation

Just a reminder that our Gr. 8 Graduation is planned for Tuesday, June 25th. A letter has been sent home with information about ticket requests and specific details pertaining to this very special event. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the office.



World Autism Day

On April 2nd, staff and students wore blue to spread awareness and show their support for Autism Awareness Day – Raise the Flag! Lessons and conversations took place in our classrooms emphasizing that our differences, are what make us all special!



MS Read-A-Thon

We are so proud of students and our community. We would like to acknowledge and thank you all for your impressive contributions to the MS Read-A-Thon this year. We are proud to share that our school raised, \$1263.00; which is enough money to purchase an electric scooter for a person who has been affected by MS. Thank you again, for all your generosity!

From the Eco-Team...

Bag2School will take bags of used clothing/textiles. Our school is hoping to collect as many bags of used clothing as we can, to support this initiative and the environment. Please considering dropping off your used textiles to McKay between April 15 through to the April 18.

We sincerely appreciate your support!

80% of UNWANTED CLOTHING is DUMPED IN LANDFILLS

ONE YEAR OF TEXTILE WASTE WOULD FILL **35 THOUSAND** OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOLS

CLOTHING IN LANDFILLS RELEASE GREENHOUSE GAS AS THEY DECOMPOSE

MAKING ONE PAIR OF JEANS EMITS THE SAME AMOUNT OF CO₂ AS DRIVING A CAR **72** MILES

HEY GUESS WHAT? **ALMOST 100% OF TEXTILE WASTE IS RECYCLABLE**

Please drop off bag between April 15th -18th thank you
* at Mrs. Barker's office

Bag2School is working with your organization to increase awareness of the importance of textile recycling and help achieve your fundraising goals by diverting your unwanted clothing from landfill. All items are reused where possible with only a small portion recycled (those items beyond their useful life). NO items are dumped in landfill. Your school/organization has arranged a collection so the more you bring in the more you will benefit the environment and the bigger your fundraising payout will be!

What we accept

All mens' woman's and children's clothing

footwear	mittens	towels	backpacks
outerwear	scarves	purses	soft bags
hats	belts	handbags	linens

**Please do not include heavily soiled, wet clothing or hard goods*

It's simple!

- Put unwanted clothing in bag or box
- Bring them to school
- Donations are collected and weighed
- School receives payment for fundraising goal!

Comments or questions please contact us direct!
855-260-3863 (toll free)
info@bag2schoolfundraising.com
www.bag2schoolfundraising.com

bag2school
then easy and fun fundraising solution