

McKay Public School



320 Fielden Ave.
Port Colborne, ON
L3K 4T7
905-834-4753
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Principal: Mrs. Lott
Vice-Principal: Mrs. McIntee
Secretaries: Mrs. Serabian, Mrs. Ilskens
Superintendent: Mr. Dickson
Website: mckay.dsbm.org

DECEMBER

Pizza Days: 5, 12
Sub Day: 19
Dec. 6: Choir @ Portal
Village – 9:30am
Dec. 10 -15: Candygrams
for sale
Dec. 11- 13: Mobile
Dental Clinic
Dec. 13: Choir @ Seaway
Mall – 11:45am
Dec. 15: Choir @ Guild
Hall – 7:00pm
Dec. 17-19: Shopping
Days in the Learning
Commons
Dec. 17: Recycling
Presentation, Christmas
Hat Day
Dec. 18: Dress in red &
white, Candy Cane Day
Dec. 19: Christmas Carol
Day (over PA system)
Dec. 20: Ugly Christmas
Sweater Day, Carol Sing
(1:45pm- 2:45pm)
Dec. 21: Christmas PJ Day

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE...

On behalf of all of the staff at McKay, we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season! Hopefully you will find some time to take part in winter activities and spend some quality time with friends and family members.

Special thanks to our School Advisory Council, staff and community members who came out to support our Holiday Event in November. It was a great day that included pancakes, book fair, raffle baskets, and photos with Santa. We raised \$1600, thanks to your generosity. Our school choir did an amazing job, bringing the festive cheer!

The last day of classes will be held on Friday, December 21, 2018. Classes will resume on January 7, 2019. We would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year!

Thanks to our community of volunteers...

The support from our community and parent volunteers has been overwhelming. We would like to thank the many individuals who help our students every day. We are blessed with a variety of volunteers who read and work with our students. Every day, we see parents and grandparent working with students in the hallways and in classrooms. We sincerely appreciate you taking the time to develop our students' confidence and literacy skills.

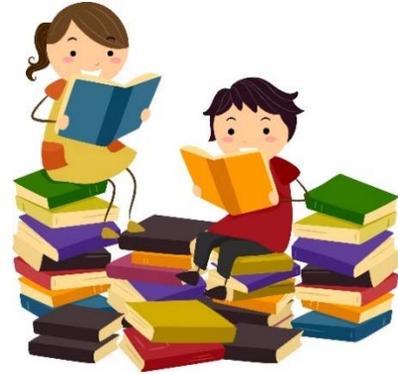
Many thanks to the parents who take the time to support all of our sporting events. Without your help, student participation would be limited. Special thanks as well to our coaches who give countless hours of their personal time in order to provide the students with a well-balanced school experience that fosters cooperation, respect, and responsibility.

We also have staff, parents, and grandparents who assist with our daily breakfast program. All of the time spent shopping, prepping, serving and cleaning is appreciated; because of this support, so many students are able to start their day off right.

We would also like to thank our staff members, who take the lead with different school initiatives which have supported many important programs and families within our own community.

Book Fair

A big thank you to our McKay families who supported our Book Fair. Sales were fantastic which resulted in \$1,800 worth of Scholastic books for our library and classrooms. Your continued support is much appreciated. Happy reading!



Eco Team

McKay joined the Ontario Eco Schools Program this year. We have an awesome Eco Team with representatives from each class who are super enthusiastic about the environment! During Waste Reduction Week, we held a campaign to reduce use of single-use water bottles, promote recycling, collect batteries, turning lights off and bringing litter-less lunches to school. We also picked up garbage around the school. Mme Clarke's class continues to collect used markers, mechanical pencils, ballpoint pens and highlighters, and Mme Suk's class will be collecting used batteries all year. We just completed a waste and recycling audit to see what percentage of our waste contains recyclable containers, paper and organic waste, that could be diverted from the landfill, if we recycled more efficiently. Next, we are looking forward to the Region coming to McKay on December 17, to do a presentation on how to reach this goal by recycling successfully!



For the Eco Team,

Mme Suk

DREAMBOX LEARNING MATH PROGRAM

McKay School has purchased DreamBox Learning's Math Program (K-6). This is an exciting and fun online math program that helps all students achieve better, faster math proficiency. Your child can access DreamBox from any computer, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is no software to download. All you need is a high-speed internet connection and Adobe Flash. Adobe Flash is free and is included with many internet browsers. You can also receive additional support by contacting DreamBox Client Care at 877-451-7845 or email support@dreambox.com. The link to use from home is <https://play.dreambox.com/login/42cv/mckay>.

Volleyball...

Big congratulations to the junior volleyball teams. They were the first to try out the new game of Triple Ball this season, which encourages more skill development. Our teams were able to improve their bumping and volleying and were even able to get three hits a side on occasion. Our junior girls' team finished strong in second place against Steele St. at their tournament on November 28th. Our junior boys' team also finished in second place against Winger on November 29th. Way to go Lions!



DSBN
DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD
OF NIAGARA

SAVE THE DATE FOR
KINDERGARTEN
KICKSTART
AT THE DSBN

See a Kindergarten classroom

Meet the Kindergarten Team

Register for school

Get a fun goodie bag with learning resources

NEW THIS YEAR!
REGISTER ONLINE
DETAILS COMING SOON

Thursday, January 31, 2019 • 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Fitness and Nutrition Breaks

The second Nutrition Break is considered the lunch break and students are welcome to stay for lunch provided that they follow our simple rules:

- Remain in your seat, no walking around during the eating portion of the break;
- No loud talking, be respectful of your neighbours;
- Clean up after yourself, dispose of garbage and make sure that your desk is clean;
- You must have written permission from your parent/guardian to leave the school property.

Students who leave school property are expected to return on time (1:35pm).

Failure to be responsible during the break or return on time, may result in students losing this privilege, temporarily or permanently; depending on the severity of the problem.

Staying Connected...

Communication between home and school is a large part of how we ensure students are successful. As a staff, we value the ability to work together with parents and families to ensure we are doing what is best for students. With the availability of technologies such as email, Class Dojo, Remind App, D2L and more, we hope that you feel better connected to our school than ever before. We are always pleased to receive your questions, comments, and suggestions. We would like all parents to know that we are committed to responding to all inquiries. We will continue to strive to work proactively with you to resolve all issues in a timely manner. As always, we appreciate your support and cooperation.

We would like to thank you for attending our parent-teacher conferences. These conferences are a wonderful opportunity for you to learn about what your child is doing at school as well as for us to learn more about your child. The Progress Report is an important indicator as to how your child is doing in each subject area. Please remember to take some time to set and review goals with your child and talk about all the great things that are happening at school. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

Student pick-up and drop-off

Regardless of whether students are late or leaving early, we ask that all students check in at the office. This enables the office staff to ensure that all students are arriving safely to class or being dismissed to the appropriate person.

Furthermore, we would like to request that parents/adults wait at the office at all times. If your child requires assistance getting to class, one of the office staff would be happy to escort them. Any information you would like to convey to teachers can also be conveyed by the office or through your child's agenda.

Once classes have started we want to minimize the disruption to other students that are participating in the instructional day.

School Advisory Council

We look forward to our next SAC meeting on Jan. 22nd, 2019 @ 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend!



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 available through the following channels:

Websites:

www.dsbns.org

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

WAVE (94.7 FM) Hamilton

CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton

CHML (900 AM) Hamilton

CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton

Y-108(107.9) Hamilton

CHRE (105.7 FM) St. Catharines

CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines

CKEY (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/Fort Erie

K-LITE-FM (102.9 FM) Hamilton

GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland

Television Stations:

CH – Hamilton

CityTV Breakfast Television

CTV Toronto

Cogeco Channel 10



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FRENCH IMMERSION

The French Immersion program offered at **McKay PS** is open to all students in Year 2 (Senior) Kindergarten. If you want your child to develop a high proficiency and fluency in Canada's two official languages, French Immersion has a great deal to offer.

FEATURES OF THE FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM:

- Development of French language skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing from Grades one to twelve;
- Designed to be a second-language program for children whose first language is NOT French;
- Current enrolment of over 2,000 elementary students;
- Certificate of French Immersion Studies awarded upon successful completion of the elementary and secondary immersion programs;
- Opportunity to challenge the Diplôme d'études de langue française (DELF) exam in Grade 12 ;
- Promotes understanding of different cultures;
- Provides additional opportunities for employment using French as the working language;
- Increased ability to communicate and interact with confidence in French.



Registration will open January 7th, 2019

For more information about French Immersion in the District School Board of Niagara visit www.dsbn.org/fi or speak to your school principal.

A Parent Information evening will be held on Thursday, January 10, 2019 at McKay Public School from 5:30-6:30pm.



Now, for parents of
**SENIOR KINDERGARTEN
STUDENTS** it's easier
than ever to say

“Oui!”
to French
Immersion
at the
DSBN

Did you know?
The DSBN offers a single-entry program in French Immersion starting at Grade 1.

Learning Another Language:

- Improves a student's ability to read, write and think critically
- Helps students use their first language more effectively
- Promotes understanding of different cultures
- Supports increased post-secondary and employment opportunities for students

Please **join us** at our information night to learn more about French Immersion.



MCKAY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Date: Thursday, January 10, 2019
Time: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Place: 320 Fielden Avenue, Port Colborne



Registration:
January 7 to February 19, 2019

How do I get more information?

Visit our website:
www.dsbn.org/fi



J'ai de l'importance à DSBN

On behalf of the District School Board of Niagara, parents are invited to attend the 2018-2019 Indigenous Education Advisory Council (IEAC). If parents are interested, please email indigenous@dsbn.org. Meeting dates are provided below.

November 15, 2018	12:00 - 3:30 p.m.	District School Board of Niagara
January 24, 2019	12:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Niagara Regional Native Centre
April 18, 2019	12:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre
June 6, 2019	12:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Thorold

Why DSBN Academy?

We're great believers in the power of education to help students realize their dreams.

College and university are excellent pathways for students to continue their journey as lifelong learners and prepare for rewarding and fulfilling careers.

In Niagara, students are not progressing on to postsecondary at the same rate as the rest of the province. In fact, young people in Niagara are attending university at rates nearly 10% below Ontario.

DSBN Academy was born out of the recognition that we could all use a hand up to reach our goals. And that's our mission, to provide students with the necessary support and encouragement to become the first in their family to graduate from college or university.

By taking the power of belief in themselves with the support and opportunity found at DSBN Academy, students won't need to ask themselves if they're ready for a postsecondary education. They'll be asking whether colleges and universities will be ready for them!



DSBN Academy

Achievement Through Opportunity



132 Lundy Street, St. Catharines
904-6708 • <http://academy.dsbm.org>



www.dsbm.org

DSBN Academy offers your child:

A Shared Belief

From Day 1, students are empowered to follow their dreams of college or university graduation. The faculty and student body are committed to excellence and the belief that, with hard work, they can achieve their dreams.

Dedicated Support

Every student at the Academy takes part in the Advisory Program. This group meets three times a week from Grade 6 all the way through high school graduation. Teachers in these groups mentor students, monitor their progress and help keep them on track to achieve their academic goals.

Peace of Mind

Transportation to the school ensures that, even if your family moves, your child will still be able to attend DSBN Academy and remain with their friends and favourite teachers.

A Focus on Success

Our school uniforms symbolize students' commitment to respect, enthusiasm, hard work and achievement.

Opportunity

Our extended school day includes mandatory Encore Programming that takes place between 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. These programs are important opportunities for students to develop self-confidence, social skills and leadership which will help them become strong candidates for college or university admission.

Is DSBN Academy a good fit for my child?

The DSBN Academy is a post-secondary immersion program designed to support and empower students to be the first in their family to graduate from college or university.

How can I get more information?

Contact your school's principal
Visit our school website:

<http://academy.dsbm.org>

Attend the Academy Open House in January

