

# McKay Public School



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

### Looking back...

It was an amazing year at McKay and we would like to thank the many people that make our school a great place to be. This year at McKay, staff and students worked diligently at achieving our academic school goals set out for the year.

In addition to working with our instructional coach, many staff members engaged in mathematics-based Collaborative Inquiry Learning opportunities that incorporated rich problem-based tasks and high-yield teaching strategies. We are looking forward to September, when we will use the data gathered throughout the year to determine our focus for next year.

In addition to our academic goals, we worked toward our goal of supporting students' well-being. Through a variety of initiatives and programs organized by staff, students and our youth counsellor (i.e., Community Club, Zones of Regulation, Alert Program, Friends for Life, PALS, sports teams, and recess clubs), students were actively engaged in activities that promoted cooperation, collaboration, and empathy for others.

### Classes for September...

The staffing process for the next school year has started and will continue throughout the summer. Preliminary class lists are generated during this time of year. **Any class placement requests that have been submitted to the office in writing, will be considered for the fall placement.**

As a school, we work to organize class placements to ensure that our students are placed in the best academic environment to promote student success.

Registration week is August 27 to August 31; the office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The school will be closed on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and will re-open for the first day of school on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

We are looking forward to another fantastic year at McKay next year. Thank you for your continued support. We hope that you all have a safe and wonderful summer!

## JUNE

- 5: French Immersion Open House (Gr.1)
- 7: Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart Event
- 8: PD Day, no school
- 12: Quebec trip for intermediates
- 13: Welcome to Kindergarten Open House
- 14: DSBN Track & Field Meet
- 21: Volunteer Tea
- 26: Gr. 8 Graduation
- 27: Year-End Awards Ceremony
- 28: Talent Show, Last Day of School

## Year End Recognition Assembly

On Wednesday, June 27th at 9:00 a.m., we will recognize the Grade 8 Graduation award winners, as well as our Primary, Junior and Intermediate individual award recipients. Parents, as always are welcome to attend.

## Hooray for our Volunteers!

We appreciate all of the hard work our volunteers have done in order to make our school a wonderful and fun place to learn. We would not be able to offer many of the program opportunities if we did not have the support of our volunteers (e.g., breakfast program, parent drivers, helpers in the classrooms, coaches, and council members, just to name a few). To show appreciation for your support, we would like to invite you to join us for a Volunteer Tea on Wednesday, June 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon in the Learning Commons.

We hope to see you there!



## Talent Show

The annual talent show will take place on the last day of school, Thursday, June 28. It will start just after recess (11:15 a.m.) and is scheduled to end by second break. As always, parents are invited.

## Here comes the sun...

The sun is shining and it's time to get outside to play! Before you run outside, make sure you remember your 5 S's...



**Slip:** on some clothes that will protect your skin from the sun (loose-fitting and tightly woven are best);

**Slop:** on some sunscreen that is at least SPF 30 and filters UVA & UVB rays (broad-spectrum). Put sun-screen on 20 minutes BEFORE you go outside, so it can soak in. Don't forget your ears, nose and feet if you are wearing sandals! Lips should also be protected with SPF 30 lip balm;

**Slap:** on a wide-brimmed hat to protect your face, ears and neck;

**Seek:** shade when outside between 11am-4pm;

**Slide:** on some sunglasses that have 100% UVA & UVB filters;

Attention moms, dads, coaches and caregivers: sun damage can happen quickly, so make sure your child remembers sunscreen for lunch break, gym class, track and field and other outdoor activities.

## Graduation

To our graduates, we wish you the best of luck in high school. You have made an impact on many lives at McKay School. Set goals for yourself and strive to achieve them despite potential obstacles. Every success will be yours. To all, have a great summer and remember to come back to visit in the fall. Graduation: Tuesday, June 26, 2018



## Retirement

It is with a heavy heart that we announce, that after many years in education, Mme Neville has decided to retire. Although we are very happy for her to begin the next phase of her life, we will miss her energetic approach to everything that she does. We have appreciated her dedication to the profession and genuine care for our students in all of her years at McKay. Mme Neville has provided many families with wonderful memories having taught a few generations here at McKay. We wish Mme Neville heartfelt congratulations on reaching this milestone in her career and we wish her a healthy and happy retirement! You will be missed!

♥ Welcome to  
Kindergarten

**Kindergarten Registration - Spring Open House**

**Wednesday June 13<sup>th</sup>, 4 - 6pm**

**First Ride Program 5pm(ish)**

If you have Junior Kindergarten aged children at home or know someone who does (who live in our school area), please ask them register now for the 2018-2019 school year. Also, please let any new families to the neighbourhood that they should register their children at our school as soon as possible.

## Bell Times for 2018-2019

Entry bell: 8:50 a.m.

Classes begin: 8:55 a.m.

First Break: 10:35 - 11:15 a.m. (40 minutes)

Second Break: 12:55 -1:35 p.m. (40 minutes)

Dismissal: 3:15 p.m.



### Moving?

If you plan to move from the McKay area, please inform the office as soon as possible so that we can adjust class assignments accordingly. Thank you.

## Appropriate Dress Code for Warm Weather

With the warm weather here, we ask that you please review appropriate dress at school with your child. You can refer to our school Code of Conduct that is located in your child's agenda.

**Extra Clothing:** In an effort to limit calls home and interruptions at work, we encourage parents to consider providing your child with extra socks, t-shirts, shorts, etc., during this time of year.

Although we try to make appropriate decisions to limit the students play on the field when it is extremely wet outside, sometimes accidents happen.

**In general**, it is expected that clothing covers the student's front and back and has appropriate covering over the shoulders and midriff and should not reveal undergarments. Clothing is to be of a length that is appropriate to a school environment and activity and that does not reveal undergarments in the normal range of movement (i.e., length of shorts or skirts).

**Dressing for success means that no staff member or student should be showing undergarments at any time.** If the dress attire is not appropriate then the individual will be asked to change their clothing. Alternatively, clothing will be provided by the school if the student doesn't have a change of clothes available. If inappropriate dress remains a problem, parents will be contacted. Thank you for your cooperation.



## **Welcome to Grade 1 French Immersion Open House**

**Tuesday, June 5th, 3:30-5:00 p.m.**

We are excited to welcome your child to our Grade 1 French Immersion Program next year. Please consider joining us for the Open House. We will have some activities, treats and information to share with our families.

## What is Lyme disease?

Lyme disease is an infection that is caused by a bite from a blacklegged tick infected with the bacteria that cause Lyme disease. Blacklegged ticks are very small and can range in size from a poppy seed to a small grape (when engorged). They are found on the ground, in tall grass and bushes, and they attach themselves to animals and humans passing by. The risk of getting bitten by a tick is greatest from spring to fall, but ticks can be present during mild winters.



## What should I do if I spot a tick on my skin?

1. With fine tip tweezers, grasp the tick's head as close to the skin as possible.
2. Slowly pull the tick away from the skin until it releases. Do not twist or crush the tick. Ensure all the mouth parts of have been removed, otherwise the bite can become infected.
3. After removing the tick, wash the area with soap and water. Check your body thoroughly, including the groin area, armpits and hairline. It's not unusual to have more than one tick attached. Tick bites are usually painless, so they may go unnoticed. If you think the tick is blacklegged or if you cannot identify the tick, it can be submitted to Niagara Region Public Health for testing.
  - All ticks must be submitted in clear, dry containers or double Ziploc bags
  - In cases where blacklegged ticks are identified, the tick will be tested for the bacteria that cause Lyme disease. There is no cost for tick identification and testing.

## How do I prevent a tick bite?

1. Wear light-coloured clothing to help spot ticks;
2. Use insect repellents that contain DEET or Icaridin. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions;
3. Do daily full body checks on yourself, your children and pets after coming in from the outdoors;
4. Cut your grass and dispose of leaf litter where ticks can live;
5. Outdoor workers should shower or bath within two hours of being in forested or long grass areas.

## How is Lyme disease spread?

Not all blacklegged ticks carry the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. Ticks get the bacteria from feeding on infected mice, chipmunks, and birds. Cats and dogs can get Lyme disease, but cannot spread it to humans. Pets can carry infected ticks into your home so check your pets regularly. Lyme disease is not spread from person to person.



# Prevent Summer Slide with DreamBox Learning®

Find out what a difference 60–90 minutes  
a week can make for your student

## Keep students engaged and learning all summer long.

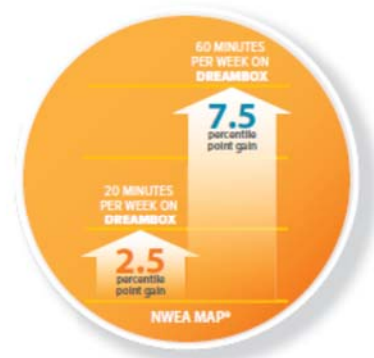
Choose the online math program that's not only fun, but also proven to prepare your student for the future. DreamBox, an online math instructional program for K–8, combines a rigorous, standards-aligned curriculum with an engaging, game-like environment that continuously adapts to meet students at the right level of learning. Accessible on a variety of devices, DreamBox gives parents and guardians the ability to encourage learning at home (or on the go), while offering insights into your student's progress through an easy-to-use control panel.



## Set weekly goals to maximize achievement.

A recent Harvard Study found that **for every 20 minutes a student spent on DreamBox** their Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®) score **increased by 2.5 points**. We recommend students spend a minimum of 60 to 90 minutes per week on DreamBox—at school or at home—and complete 3–5 lessons per week.

To achieve their weekly lesson goals, we suggest students set up multiple sessions of DreamBox throughout the week and complete at least one or two lessons every time they log in. For tips on how to set weekly goals view the [best practice guide](#) on the DreamBox Teacher Hub website.



**DreamBox Weekly Usage Recommendations:** Use for 60–90 minutes. Complete 3-5 lessons.

## Monitor your student's progress from home.

If your student has a DreamBox Learning account through their school, you can easily set up parent access from home so you can monitor their progress. [Click here](#) to learn how to get started.



## Encourage your student to follow these basic usage guidelines to get the most out of DreamBox.

**Finish lessons completely.** It's okay to make mistakes along the way, just be sure to complete each lesson you start. DreamBox assesses user comprehension and adapts accordingly.

**Work independently.** Getting help from others can advance students beyond their current abilities and lead to frustration.

**Click the Help/Hint button when needed.** No other tools are needed—DreamBox lessons are designed for students to think through problems without the use of pencil and paper.



## 24/7 access is easy as 1-2-3!

Your child can access DreamBox from any computer—anywhere, anytime:

1. Go to <https://play.dreambox.com/login/42cv> and click on your student's school.
2. Enter your child's user name and password at the login.
3. Click on the DreamBox icon and you're ready to start learning!



Questions? Review the [DreamBox basics online](#) or email [support@dreambox.com](mailto:support@dreambox.com) and a member of the DreamBox Client Success team will be in touch shortly.



Visit [dreambox.com](http://dreambox.com)



## 2018 BACK TO SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

On Monday, **August 20, 2018** Niagara Student Transportation Services (NSTS) will post specific back to school transportation arrangements for each student enrolled, including bus route numbers, stop locations and times.

Please visit [www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca) and sign-in to the secure parent portal to get your child's student transportation information. To sign-in to the portal you will need your child's Ontario Education Number (OEN) which can be found on their report card. While signed-in, please subscribe to the delay and cancellation module for direct and timely emails regarding student transportation that impacts your child's bus route.

Eligibility information is also available through the portal including walking directions if your child lives within the walk zone of the school and is not eligible for transportation service.

Changes to home, pick-up or drop-off addresses must be made through your child's school. During the summer you may notify NSTS of address changes so we can make sure a bus stop is available for your child to start the school year, however, NSTS is not authorized to change student address information.

With the availability of the secure parent portal, *NSTS will not mail student transportation notices* with the exception of Kindergarten students or new students to the system who do not have an OEN to sign-in to the portal.

Please contact your school or NSTS if you have questions regarding your child's transportation arrangements.





## School Bus Rules

The NSTS website contains links to school bus safety videos for Kindergarten, Primary and Intermediate students.

At the Stop	Be 5 to 10 minutes early and stand on the inside of the sidewalk/ shoulder away from the roadway.
When the Bus Arrives	Line up in a straight line, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the doors to open, and never touch the outside of the bus.
Getting on the Bus	Get on the bus one at a time, hold the handrail as you climb the stairs, and go directly to your seat and get settled.
Riding on the Bus	Sit with your back to back of the seat and your bottom to the bottom of your seat with your school bag on your lap and use your quiet speaking voice so that the bus driver can concentrate on driving.
Getting off the Bus	Stay in your seat until the bus comes to a complete stop, only get off the bus at your school or at your bus stop, look for your parent/ guardian before you get off the bus if that is your routine, and always tell the bus driver if you do not see your parent/ guardian at the bus stop waiting for you if that is your routine or if you missed the stop.
Crossing in Front of the Bus	Watch and wait for the bus driver to signal to you to cross the road once it is safe to do so.

**See you on September 4, 2018! Have a safe and happy summer!**

