

# McKay School

320 Fielden St.  
Port Colborne, ON  
L3K 4T7

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Superintendent: Wes Hahn



## Special Dates:

Remembrance Day Ceremony:  
Friday, Nov. 11th at 9:55am.  
All welcome!

P.A. Day: Friday, Nov. 18, no  
school for students

Picture Re-takes: Friday, Nov.  
23am

School Council Meeting:  
Tuesday, Nov. 22, 6:30pm

Lockdown Drill: Nov. 29

Sub Day: Nov. 30

High School Open Houses:

—Port Colborne Secondary  
School—Nov. 29, 6:30pm

—Welland Centennial Second-  
ary School—Dec. 1, 6:00pm

## November 2016



### A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE...

October was a busy month with great things going on at McKay. We continue to be a very active school with many opportunities that promote respect, responsibility and academics.

### Remembrance Day Assembly

Mr. Tempest has graciously put together another thoughtful ceremony to recognize and show appreciation for those who served and paid the supreme sacrifice in all world conflicts. Our Remembrance Day Assembly will be held on Friday, November 11th, at 9:55 am. As always, family, friends and community members are welcome to attend. We invite all McKay citizens belonging to community service groups to wear their uniforms that day.



### Progress Reports

Students will be coming home with their Progress Reports on Thursday, November 10th. Parents and guardians will have an opportunity to discuss their child's progress. An invitation for an interview will be sent home from your child's homeroom teacher.

### PD Day

On Friday, November 18th, teachers will be involved in school-based professional development. There will not be school for the students on that day. Staff will focus on school growth plans and math initiatives.

### Christmas Bazaar

Our annual bazaar will take place here at McKay on December 3rd (from 10:00am—2:00pm). Don't miss out on this great opportunity to purchase items for yourself, friends, and family members. We are even planning to have photo opportunities with Santa. If you're interested in being a vendor, please contact Mrs. Serabian at the school for details. Hope to see you there!

## 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 DSNB 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.dsnb.org](http://www.dsnb.org)  
[www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca)

**Subscription Features:**

DSNB 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

YOU & YOUR CHILD ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A  
**KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE**

Thursday, February 2, 2017 - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



During your visit you will:

- See a Kindergarten classroom
- Meet the Kindergarten Team
- Register for school
- Get a fun goodie bag with learning resources



Children who will be turning 4 before December 31, 2017 are eligible to start Kindergarten in September 2017.



DSBN ACADEMY

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS



Date	Location	Time
Tues.Jan.10	Harriet Tubman, St. Catharines	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Thurs.Jan.12	Diamond Trail, Welland	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Mon.Jan.16	Valleyway, Niagara Falls	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Thurs.Jan.19	McKay, Port Colborne	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Tues.Jan.24	Senator Gibson, Beamsville	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Thurs.Jan.26	Peace Bridge, Fort Erie	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Tues.Jan.31	DSBN ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE	6:30pm – 8:00pm

**Picture Retakes**

If your child missed the last picture day or you would like their picture taken again, Pegasus photography will be returning on November 23rd in the morning only.



## Stop the spread of Infection

- ◆ Stay home if you are sick and return when you are well
- ◆ Wash your hands with soap and water or use a hand sanitizer
- ◆ Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or in your sleeve
- ◆ Keep your distance
- ◆ Get a flu shot

## WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME?

Please keep your child at home and away from others if he or she has any of these symptoms:

- ◆ Fever
- ◆ Diarrhea
- ◆ Vomiting
- ◆ Rash
- ◆ Frequent coughing or sneezing
- ◆ Yellow or green discharge from the nose, ears, or eyes
- ◆ Sore throat

Contact your family doctor for advice about care and treatment. For information, talk to your school nurse or go to [www.niagararegion.ca/health](http://www.niagararegion.ca/health)



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## Visiting? Say hi at the office!

Whenever you are coming to McKay, please be sure to stop in the office first to say hi. The safety of every student in this school is important to us. As a part of our Safe School policy all visitors **MUST** sign in at the office.

## 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.

## DREAMBOX LEARNING MATH PROGRAM

McKay School has purchased DreamBox Learning's Math Program. 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. The link to use from home is <https://play.dreambox.com/login/42cv/mckay> You can also receive additional support by contacting DreamBox Client Care at 877-451-7845 or email [support@dreambox.com](mailto:support@dreambox.com).

## School Advisory Council

We are very fortunate to have a group of wonderful and dedicated parents that are passionate about our students and school. Many thanks for their dedication and continued support. We are always hoping for more parents to join.

All parents are welcome to attend our meetings. We would love to have your input with regards to fundraising initiatives, as well as learning about the exciting opportunities and programs that are offered to your children.

### Next meeting:

Tuesday, November 22, 2016

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: McKay Staff Room

Hope to see you there !



## Breakfast Club

Did you know that next to parents and/or guardians, schools have the most impact on shaping children's eating habits or that children spend as much time at school as in any other environment? Research has found a strong relationship between nutrition and learning. Children who have access to nutrition programs in their schools or community perform better in the classroom. They are also provided with the chance to develop healthy eating habits that will stay with them in the years to come.

Your child has the opportunity to enjoy a healthy meal with friends at McKay! We offer a Niagara Nutrition Partners breakfast program each morning starting at 8:35am. If you're short on time but would like to show your support, we gladly accept **monetary donations** as well as **food donations** that meet our program requirements.

Thank you for supporting this worthwhile program!



## Staff updates

### Best wishes to Mrs. Thomson

Congratulations to Mrs. Thomson and her husband, they have recently welcomed an addition to their family, a beautiful baby boy. Please welcome Miss Demers for the balance of the year for Mrs. Thomson's maternity leave.



## No Nuts, please

Just a friendly reminder that we have a few students at McKay who have a severe nut allergy, anaphylaxis. Please continue to assist with the safety of our students by refraining from sending nuts or nut products to school. Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



## Holiday Skate

Once again, we will be inviting McKay families to participate in an evening of skating fun just before the Winter Break. Please keep an eye out for the flyer with all of the details.

## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A"  
reads **20 minutes**  
each day

3600 minutes in  
a school year

**1,800,000 words**



*90<sup>th</sup> percentile*

Student "B"  
reads **5 minutes**  
each day

900 minutes in  
a school year

**282,000 words**



*50<sup>th</sup> percentile*

Student "C"  
reads **1 minute**  
each day

180 minutes in  
a school year

**8,000 words**



*10<sup>th</sup> percentile*

By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

## Kindergarten... experimenting with shapes

