

McKay Public School

320 Fielden Ave.
Port Colborne, ON
L3K 4T7
905-834-4753
Website: mckay.dsbni.org

Principal: Mrs. Lott
Vice-Principal: Mr. Reynolds
Secretaries: Mrs. Serabian,
Mrs. Wickham-Jones
Superintendent: Mr. Dickson



Special Dates:

Remembrance Day Ceremony:
Friday, Nov. 10th at 9:45 am.
All welcome!

Parent/Teacher Interviews:
week of Nov. 13-16

P.A. Day: Friday, Nov. 17, no
school for students

Holiday Bazaar: Nov. 25

Pizza Dates: Nov. 8, 15, 22

Sub Day: Nov. 29

High School Open Houses:

- * Port Colborne HS
Nov. 27, 6:00pm
- * EL Crossley SS
Nov. 27, 6:30pm
- * Welland Centennial SS
Nov. 30, 6:30pm

November 2017



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 10th, at 9:45 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 9th. Parents and guardians will have an opportunity to discuss their child's progress. An invitation for an interview has been sent home from your child's homeroom teacher.

PD Day

On Friday, November 17th, 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 November 25th, (10:00am—2:00pm). Don't miss out on this great opportunity to purchase items for yourself, friends, and family members. If you're interested in being a vendor, please contact Mrs. Serabian at the school for details. Hope to see you there!



Giving the Gift of Music!

On behalf of the staff and students of McKay school, Mr. Tempest would like to personally express his gratitude and appreciation to Joe Zuvic. He and his family made an extremely generous donation of three cajóns (box drums) and three djembes to the music program. These were not left overs or hand-me-downs, but rather, brand new instruments purchased for use by the students of McKay. One of the most underappreciated human character traits is selflessness and it was effectively demonstrated by this thoughtful donation.

Joe, thank you for this donation and may your selfless act inspire more people to think of others before themselves.

From left to right: Karina Rozic, Lori Wiggins, Ivan Rozic, Joe Zuvic, Gerry Zuvic, Sime Zuvic, Ruth Rozic (Missing: Lillie Rozic)

Final Terry Fox Update

McKay Lions have something to roar about! Together, we have raised \$3,782.60 for cancer research. Thank you to all who have participated in this life saving event.

McKay would like to thank our top Terry Fox fundraisers: **Sadie Sarabian with a total of \$340 and Hudson & Willen Heikoop each raised \$100.**

Our top classes in each division are as follows:

Intermediate: Mr. Mitchell with a total for \$482.

Primary: Mme Jones with a total of \$261

Junior: Mme Neville with \$240

We are very pleased to announce we have exceeded our goal of \$3,000. Way to go McKay Lions!



On Tuesday Oct. 24th our school will be recognized by Terry Fox foundation for our continued participation in the Terry Fox Walk. We have been involved for 20 years now!! The top fundraising students and classes will be involved in this presentation. What an incredible honour for McKay School.

Did you know???

- We have fresh lunches that are available for students that have forgotten their lunch. These delicious meals are generously donated and made by Mrs. Cathy Kitchen (Mom to Mme Vanderlann) and the Christianview Outreach Centre. Sincere thanks for their time and efforts.
- We have been recently awarded with a grant from Staples and Tree Canada to plant trees and shrubs that are native to our area around our school property. Special thanks to Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Royer (Mom to Hayden and Mackenzie) for all of their hard work and dedication with this project.



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

DURING YOUR VISIT YOU WILL:

See a
Kindergarten
classroom

Meet the
Kindergarten
Team

Register for
school

Get a fun
goodie bag
with learning
resources



KINDERGARTEN
KICKSTART

Thursday, February 1, 2018
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Next meeting:

Monday, November 13, 2017

(to discuss Bazaar-final details)

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: McKay Staff Room



School Advisory Council

We have been meeting to discuss plans for our upcoming Holiday Bazaar on November 25 (10:00am - 2:00pm).

It's not too late to call if you're a vendor looking for a table at our event. Keep an eye for our Poinsettia order form. You can pick up your orders at McKay on the day of the bazaar. Hope to see you there!

Reminder:

- Progress Reports (Gr. 1-8) and Communication of Learning (Kindergarten) Initial Observations will be sent home on November 9th.
- Parent/teacher interviews will take place during the week of November 13 - 17. The school will be open later on Thursday, November 16 as needed.
- Friday, November 17 is a PA Day.

We Scare Hunger for Halloween!



On Halloween, the students in the Me to We club canvassed the neighbourhoods around McKay to collect non-perishable food items for the We Scare Hunger campaign. The students had a great time and our community once again stepped up to the challenge. We collected car loads of non-perishables which have been donated to the Port Cares Food Bank. Our grand total weight was 1072 pounds of food! Amazing!! Thanks to the Intermediate classes who helped deliver flyers and to the staff that drove the groups on Halloween to collect items.

The next Me to We initiative is the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. All classes have chosen the gender and age of the child they will be collecting items for, and a letter has been sent home explaining what items can be included in the shoebox. The due date for the shoeboxes is Friday, November 10th. Thank you in advance for your support of this worthwhile initiative!

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!



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 more information, talk to your school nurse or go to www.niagararegion.ca/health

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.

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
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

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



90th percentile

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

900 minutes in
a school year

282,000 words



50th percentile

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

180 minutes in
a school year

8,000 words



10th percentile

By the end of 6th 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)

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 that leave school property are expected to return on time (1:30pm). Failure to be responsible for their timely return, may result in students losing this privilege, temporarily or permanently, depending on the severity of the problem.

No Nuts, please

Just a friendly reminder that we have a few students and staff 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!



Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be arriving this month – Tuesday November 14 to Friday November 17. We invite you to share in this celebration of books and reading with us. Students and parents will have the opportunity to pick up some great reading materials at great prices directly from Scholastic.

The book fair will be open Thursday evening during Parent Teacher Interviews for family viewing and purchases. It will also be open for the Holiday Bazaar on November 25.

All proceeds will go into new books for our library.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact the school with dates and times you are available.



Volunteers Needed

Name:

phone #:

Date/Time available:
