

McKay Public School



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

Principal: Mrs. Lott
Vice-Principal: Mrs. Ainslie
Secretaries: Mrs. Quesnel, Mrs. Labrie
Website: mckay.dsbnschools.org

OCTOBER

2: Photo Day
3: Cross Country,
Meet 2
5: World Teachers'
Day
8: Quebec Info. Night
for Intermediates
6:00 p.m.
11: PD Day
14: Thanksgiving
Monday, no school
15: DSBN Cross-
Country Meet
22: K-1 Pumpkin
Patch, SAC Meeting
6:30 p.m., SAC Mtg.
28: Warplane Museum
Trip - Gr.6
30: Sub Day (TBD)
Nov. 1: Random Act of
Kindness, Recognition
Assembly
Jun./Int.- 9:00 a.m.
Primary - 9:45 a.m.

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

September has passed so quickly with staff and students already engaged in great learning opportunities. The team at McKay would like to thank the parents, community and students for a very successful start-up. We look forward to learning and growing together this year and it is our commitment to share information, strategies and suggestions to help our students achieve success through the newsletter. Your child's academic and social development are important to us and we encourage open communication. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions or concerns.

Medical Reminder

Keeping our School Safe and Healthy

If you have a child with a Prevalent Medical Condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy), please let us know as soon as possible. We want to make sure that we have a current Plan of Care to support your child.

The Plan of Care form is a newer document that replaces the Emergency Action Plan. All parents of children with Prevalent Medical Conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit it to the school.

You can download the forms here dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions.

For more information, please contact the school.

CUPE Job Action

Schools will be open, and the instructional day will continue as normal. Student safety is a top priority. Please rest assured that we will continue to work together to ensure our schools remain safe places for all students.

If this situation requires us to reschedule school events, we will communicate with parents. We will continue to provide parents with timely communication about job action taking place at our schools.

Parents are welcome to visit our website at dsbn.org/job-action for up-to-date information.

Bicycles/Boards

Many students enjoy riding their bike, skateboard, or scooter to school. Please be aware that our policy and the recommendation of the Niagara Regional Police is that only students in Grades 4-8 be allowed to ride their bicycles to school. Students must wear a bicycle helmet and **walk their bicycle/board on and off school property**. All personal property is the responsibility of the student. Students must lock their bikes and scooters securely in the racks. The school cannot store these items in the school. All students should understand and obey the rules of the road and practice safe cycling/boarding behaviour.



Fitness and Nutrition Breaks

The second Nutrition Break is considered the lunch break and students are welcome to stay for lunch if 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 (1:30 p.m.). 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.

Halloween at McKay

October is an exciting month, as it brings Halloween, an incredibly fun time for our students. Please note that Halloween activities will take place throughout the day. Specific details pertaining to Halloween activities will be sent home closer to the event from your child's teacher (i.e., parade details and classroom activities). Students are invited to dress in their **school-appropriate costumes (those with a non-violent theme and still meet the school dress code)**. If necessary, props may be left at the office until needed. Please identify such items with your child's name. Students not taking part in these activities will have an opportunity to participate in an alternative program.



Did you know that October is Walktober?

Kindly refrain from parking in the parking lot across the street from McKay and in the parking lot off Killaly; alternatively, please consider walking or riding your bike to school!

No Nuts Please!

We have a few children and some staff in our school with severe nut allergies. We request that you do not send nut-based foods to school with your child. We know that you're caring parents and we appreciate your support with this very important matter.

Thank you!

School Advisory Council

We have great members on our School Advisory Council (SAC), and we are always looking for new members. You're encouraged to please come out to one of our monthly meetings to share your ideas on ways that we can support our students at McKay School. Hope to see you at our next School Advisory Council Meeting.

Next meeting:

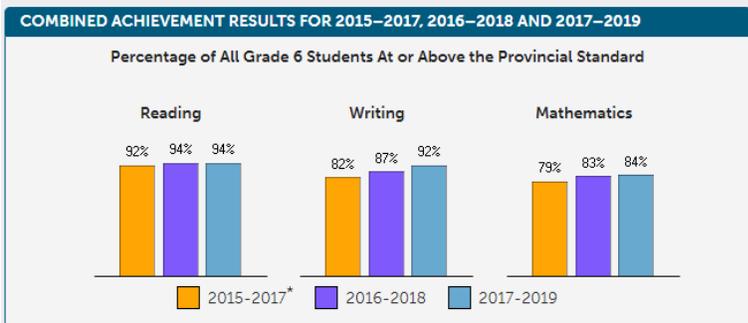
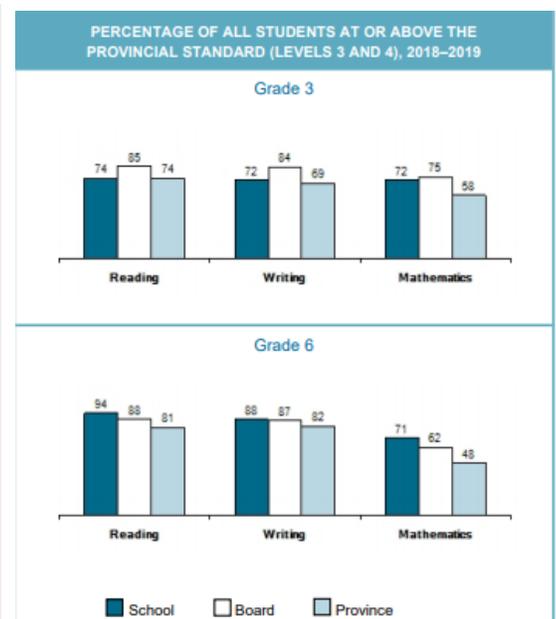
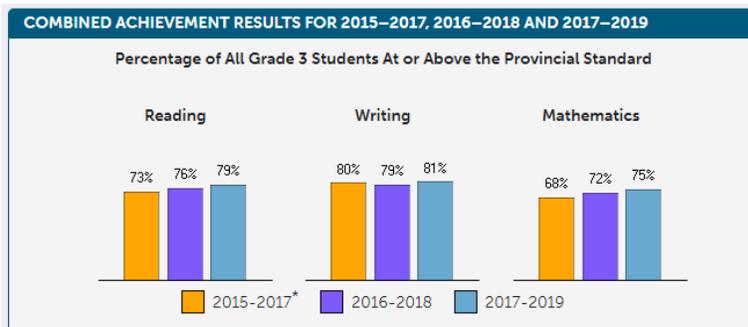
Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2019

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: McKay Staff Room

EQAO Results

As you can see from the graphic, our Grade 3 and Grade 6 scores continue with an upward trend over the past three years of data collection. This is a direct result of staff and students' exceptional efforts, goal setting, perseverance and grit. We would like to acknowledge and thank our families for their continued support. We appreciate you taking the time to be invested in your child's school life; the hard work is definitely paying off. Way to go Lions!



Terry Fox Walk

Our Terry Fox walk was a HUGE success again this year! We set 2 goals and were able to reach them both, bringing in just over \$4000 to donate to the Terry Fox Foundation. That means that over the last 19 years, we have raised almost \$55,000 for cancer research. WAY TO GO, LIONS! 3 staff members have volunteered to get their heads shaved this Friday to recognize the hard work and generous donations from our school community. Thank you for your hard work!

Soccer

The Junior Co-Ed Soccer tournament was held on September 26th at Centennial Park in Fenwick. All team members did a great job, working on improving their play throughout the day. The team faced two hard teams to start the day but held their heads up and continued to work hard. The third game ended with a 0-0 draw. They finished the day with a very exciting win against Glynn A. Green.

Great job Lions! Way to show your Lion Pride!

~Mrs. Rodrigue

Student Recognition Assemblies

We will continue to have monthly Student Recognition Assemblies at McKay; we will highlight and acknowledge those students who demonstrate the character traits valued throughout the DSN.

We value and honour all of the following traits:

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Caring, Optimism, Perseverance, Courage, and Cooperation. We will also recognize students who demonstrate academic excellence and effort. The assemblies will take place on the last Friday of every month. Through the use of our McKay Expectation charts, we have been promoting positive and responsible behaviour. Additionally, we continue to use some TRIBES and ZONES strategies to provide a supportive framework for our students.

Exciting News!!! We will also be recognizing students who had perfect attendance for the month. These students will receive a free pizza party for their impressive efforts!

Attendance Matters...

Starting in Kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.

Missing 10% (or about 18 days) can make it harder for children to learn to read.

Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.

What you can do...

Set a regular bed time and morning routine.

Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.

If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to the school (teachers, administrators, counsellors) for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.

Taken from: Reach Out and Read.Inc.



Intermediate Co-Ed Soccer



The intermediate coed soccer team had a great day on September 18th at their tournament. They started the day off with a 1-1 tie against Steele Street and a tough 0-2 loss against AK Wigg, the eventual first place team. Then they were able to pull off 1-0 wins against Richmond Street and Glynn A Green and finish strong with a 2-0 win against Gordon. All their hard work paid off during the day and we made it into the final match against AK Wigg where we lost 3-1. Congratulations McKay on a great second place finish! The best we've ever done at this tournament! Team members include: Tristan C., Dylan G., Landen G., Wyatt J., Kara V., Emma S., Carter K., Rylan B., Caitlyn W., Catharine B., Julia C.L., Brody M., Silas S.T., Mason S., Kolton A., Cadie K. and coach Mlle Walinga.

Calling all parent carpenters / woodworkers:

Do you have tools for woodworking and the passion for building? Mr. Tempest is looking for 10 cajons (box drums) to be built for the music room at McKay for students to use during class and at breaks. He will supply the wood you need for the project. If you are interested / willing to build 1 or more box drums, email him (steve.tempest@dsbn.org).



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 and a member of the DreamBox Client Success team will be in touch shortly.



Visit dreambox.com