



## McKay Public School

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

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

### OCTOBER 2017

#### OCTOBER DATES

3 – Quebec Info. Night  
(Gr. 7/8 @5:30 PM)

4 – Author visit  
(Gr.3-6 - AM)

5 – World Teachers’  
Day, Recognition  
Assembly, Cross Country  
Meet, EQAO pizza party

6 – PD Day- no school

9 –Thanksgiving Day

13 – Gr. 4/5  
Makerspace trip

16 – DSBN Cross  
Country Meet

17 – Picture Day

24 – SAC – 6:30 PM

27 – Spirit Day

**4, 11, 18 – Pizza Days**

25 – Sub Day

### 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.

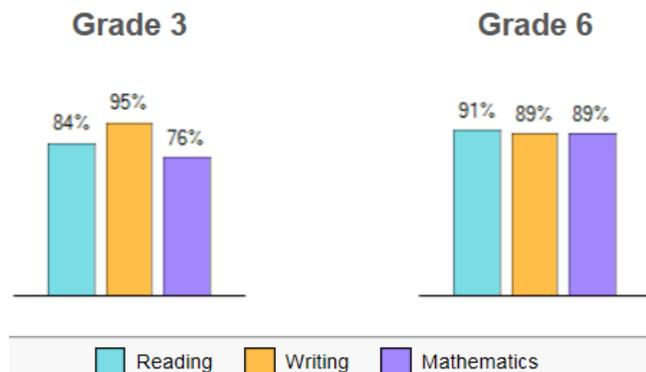
We look forward to learning and growing together this year and it is our commitment to share information, strategies and suggestions to help our students achieve success through the newsletter. Your child’s academic and social development are important to us and we encourage open communication. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions or concerns.



#### EQAO Results

As you can see from the graphic below, our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students from last year performed very well. This is a direct result of staff and students’ exceptional efforts, goal setting, perseverance, and grit.

Students at or Above the Provincial Standard (Levels 3 and 4)



## Just in case you missed it... School Organization 2017- 2018

A few changes have occurred since last year. We wish those who left the very best with their new endeavours and extend a warm welcome to some new and familiar faces.

### Kindergarten:

Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Weaver

Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Maddalena

Gr. 1/2: Mrs. Bidoski

Gr. 1/2: Mrs. McMahon

Gr. 2/3: Mrs. Hamilton

Gr. 3/4: Mr. Faragalli

Gr. 4/5: Mrs. Rodrigue

Gr. 6: Mr. Clarke-Louie

Gr. 7: Mr. Pelletier

Gr. 8: Mr. Mitchell

Gr. 1: Mme Jones

Gr. 2: Mme Tremblay

Gr. 3: Mme Suk

Gr. 3/4: Mme Jinks

Gr. 4/5: Mme Clarke

Gr. 5: Mlle Walinga

Gr. 6: Mme Neville

Gr. 7/8: Mme Minor

Gr. 7/8: Mme. Vanderlaan

### Educational Assistants:

Mrs. Detlor

Mrs. Ferland

Mrs. Morrison

Ms. Smith

Mrs. Vrbanac

### Caretaking:

Mrs. Crooks (head)

Mrs. Rozic

Learning Resource Teachers: Mrs. Augustine, Mrs. Hemauer

ESL: Mme Armstrong/Mme Glass (LTO), Mlle LeVasseur (Int.)

Prep: Ms. Frenette (Primary), Mr. Tempest (Music and Arts)

### Office:

Mrs. Serabian (Secretary), Mrs. Wickham-Jones (Secretary),

Mr. Reynolds (Vice-Principal), Mrs. Lott (Principal),

Instructional Coach: Mrs. Schuyler

Youth Counsellor: Mrs. Rossi

Social Worker: Mrs. Ralston

Lunch Supervisors: Mrs. Busch,

Mrs. Doherty, Mrs. Olecka



## Halloween at McKay

We are very excited about October, as it brings Halloween, an exciting 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 (i.e., parade details and classroom activities). Students are invited to dress in their **school-appropriate costumes (those with a non-violent theme and that 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.

## Halloween Safety

Some pointers to keep the trick-or-treaters safe:

- Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.
- Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic. Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. It is important they walk on the sidewalk, or walk facing the traffic if there is no sidewalk.
- Bright-coloured costumes make your child easier to see. You can use reflective tape on a costume to make your child more visible. Face paint instead of a mask helps them to see well. Have your child carry a flashlight.
- When they get home, check all of their treats carefully. Throw out any treats that aren't wrapped, if the wrapping is torn or loose, or if the wrapper has a hole. Remember that small treats can cause your child to choke.

## Staying Healthy...

At a young age, we all learn to share. We share our belongings, thoughts and ideas.

Although we usually encourage children to share, there is one thing that we'd prefer that doesn't get passed around this year: germs!

While being back at school gives children more opportunity to interact with each other and play together, there are some simple steps we can all take to help each other avoid coughs, colds and more serious types of infections.

**Wash those hands!** We recommend that students, and even parents, wash their hands with soap and water regularly. If there isn't a sink nearby, using a good hand sanitizer should do the trick.

**Cover all coughs and sneezes.** This will cut down on the number of icky things floating around in the air and landing on surfaces, making it less likely that children will breathe them in or touch them. If you have to cough or sneeze, do it into a tissue or onto your upper sleeve.

**If you're sick, stay home.** Although it is important to be in class, take some time, feel better and then come back when you're healthy, alert and ready to learn!

At McKay, we follow an infection control program to help keep both our students and staff healthy and in class. Our staff will be reinforcing proper hand washing techniques as well as cough and sneeze etiquette. In addition, all classrooms are equipped with hand sanitizers and our caretaking staff will disinfect our commonly used areas, such as desks and doorknobs, regularly.

## 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.



## Dress Code

We believe that student dress should be appropriate to an academic setting. To create a consistent approach to school dress, the following expectations pertaining to student dress are listed below:

- Halter and tube-tops, muscles shirts, see-through or mesh tops (unless worn with an undershirt) are not to be worn at school. Blouses, shirts or tops that reveal bare backs, mid-riffs or undergarments or that have or revealing necklines are not to be worn at school, in hallways, during class activities or on field trips.
- Shorts and skirts are to be of a length that is appropriate to a school environment and activity. Clothing must not reveal undergarments in the normal range of movement.
- Hats are to be removed when students enter the building.

Please refer to our Code of Conduct (in the Agenda) for additional information regarding the dress code.

## Fitness and Nutrition Breaks

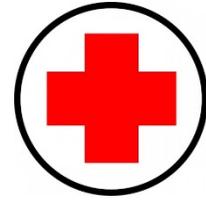
The second Nutrition Break is considered the lunch break and students are welcome to stay for lunch provided that they follow our simple rules:

- 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.

## Medical Reminder

Every year some parents request that medication be administered to their child by school staff. This may be done, provided that the parent has completed the "Authorization of Administration of Oral/Topical Medication" form, available at the office. This form must be updated yearly AND if your child is highly allergic, the parent and doctor must complete another form. Medication brought to school must be in properly labelled containers. **If your child suffers from a severe allergy, it is imperative that you complete an Emergency Action Plan for your child.** This form is available at the office. Please let your child's teacher know that you require a form and we will send a copy home immediately. Thank you.



## Reminder:

Friday, October 6th is a PA Day and Monday, October 9th is Thanksgiving. **There will not be any classes on these days.**



## Hooray for our Volunteers!

We have been very fortunate to have had so many volunteers in our building already. Our volunteers have assisted in so many ways (i.e., library, reading programs, and sporting event helpers) that enhance our students' experiences here at McKay. Your time and efforts are greatly valued and sincerely appreciated. Without your support, many programs would not be offered to our students. Thank you!!!



## Intermediate Soccer

A big "Congratulations" goes out to the Intermediate Boys Soccer team! They competed in their tournament on Wednesday, September 27 at Youngs Sportplex in Welland on one of the hottest days of the year! The boys came out strong and won their first two games against Richmond Street and Fitch Street. They then tied 0-0 against Gordon and fell short against A.K. Wigg. They finished the round robin with two 2-1 wins against Glynn A. Green and Princess Elizabeth. The boys went into the semi-finals as the 1st seed but a late goal by Gordon left them in third place overall. Most of these boys have been on the team since Grade 6 and have shown perseverance, hardwork, sportsmanship and skill throughout the years. Thanks for representing McKay well! Team members include Matteo Panunte, Jeffrey Panunte, Andrew Leblanc, Jacob Leblanc, Tyler Isherwood, Sawyer Prokopetz, Cole VanDuzen, Nolan Lubeck, Nico D'Amelio, Kyle Ross, Jordan Jacobi, Chase Kish, Nicholas Detenbeck, Dylan Isherwood, Ian Leggett, Dustin Kolosjai and honorary coach Connor Pelletier.



## FOOD... glorious food!

- Pizza will continue to be offered at McKay School on Wednesdays. Orders will be accepted through School Cash Online. Those that still want to pay cash, may purchase pizza if there are extra slices remaining. **Please note... we cannot guarantee that pizza will be available for all cash orders.** Cost is \$1 per slice and it remains a healthy option with whole wheat crust and pepperoni, or plain cheese.
- Sub Day orders are set up for School Cash Online.
- Milk will also be available at \$0.75 per day. Chocolate and white milk are offered on a weekly basis.
- Thanks to our volunteers: Mrs. Edwards, Mme. Tremblay, Mrs. Doherty Mrs. Royer, Mr. Donohue and Mrs. Skotniski for taking on the **Breakfast Program** again this year. We are pleased to be able offer a very nutritious breakfast for those students that may have missed it on their way in to school. Breakfast is so essential for sustaining energy levels that enable the students to be productive and engaged in school. Breakfast is available at 8:30am. Donations are always welcome!

### School Advisory Council

We have great members on our school council, 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, October 24, 2017

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: McKay Staff Room

Hope to see you there!

#### School Council Executive:

Chair: Mrs. Dodds

Vice-Chair: Mrs. Stansfield

Treasurer: Mrs. Yager-Aiello

Secretary: Mrs. Wall

Communications Manager: Mrs. Battle



## Junior Soccer Tournament

Cadie Kish  
Julia Clarke-Louie  
Kylie Danylow  
Tamia Lafayette  
Summer Schumacker  
Carley Scalzo  
Jane Murphy  
Tessa VanDuzen  
Caitlyn Wade  
Catharine Boitor  
Sam Tonnies

Brody Marton  
Silas Smits-Talving  
Samuel Porcino  
Dylan Gagnon  
Landen Gravelle  
Tristan Chevalier  
Ryely Kolosja  
Carter Kish  
Madix Pen  
Dameyn Brixhe

The Junior Co-Ed Soccer team tied their first game and lost the second game. During their practices, they were always committed, respectful, and working as a team. At the tournament, they showed excellent skill, teamwork and sportsmanship, and never complained about the pouring rain!

So proud of our Lions!

## DSBN Parent Involvement Conference

Join us for an evening of learning  
& FREE Workshops!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2017

4:00 - 8:15 PM at Eden High School

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Complimentary dinner & childcare available by pre-registration.



### Free Money for Your Child's Future!

#### *What is the Canada Learning Bond (CLB)?*

The Canada Learning Bond (CLB) is a government program that gives **\$500** in education money to **children born on or after January 1, 2004 whose families receive the Canada Child Benefit Supplement (family net income of \$45,916 or less or more based on number of children).**

Sound good? Keep reading...

- The Government will add **\$100 more every year** the child is eligible, up to age 15.
- **Each child could get up to \$2000 (plus interest) in RESP contributions!**
- **NO family contribution is required**
- **The Canada Learning Bond is retroactive for children born 2004 or after**

**Great! Here is How You Get Started:**

**Go to:** [StartMyRESP.ca/EFNiagara](http://StartMyRESP.ca/EFNiagara)

### Orange Shirt Day



On Sept. 29, we recognized Orange Shirt Day at our school. When Phyllis Webstad was just six-years-old, she was excited to go to a residential school for Indigenous children in a brand new orange shirt. However, when she got to school, someone took her new orange shirt away and she never saw it again. From that moment on, the colour orange came to symbolize that no one seemed to care—until recently. From now on, the last day of September is marked as Orange Shirt Day – Every Child Matters.

# The McKay Newsletter ...

Last year, we sent home hard copies of our newsletter only with the youngest child in the family AND only upon your request (see the form below). We will continue to do the same for this school year.

For your convenience, our newsletter is always posted on our web site and can be accessed at [mckay.dsbm.org](http://mckay.dsbm.org). If you would prefer to have the newsletter emailed to you, please include your email address below. Thanks for your support as we move towards an environmentally friendly option for communication.



\_\_\_\_\_ I will still require a hard copy of the McKay Newsletter, it will be sent home with the youngest child in the family.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would prefer that you send the McKay Newsletter to our email account at:  
\_\_\_\_\_ (please print clearly)

\_\_\_\_\_ No thanks, I will access the McKay Newsletter online @ [mckay.dsbm.org](http://mckay.dsbm.org)

Name of youngest child: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS WILL BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER SENT HOME UNLESS IT HAS BEEN REQUESTED.**