

McKay School “Roaring Lion”

320 Fielden Avenue, Port Colborne, On L3K 4T7 905-834-4753



Dear Parents and Guardians:

September 2011

Our McKay Lions are off to a great start! Students are demonstrating enthusiasm for being back at school, renewing friendships and reaching out to welcome our many new students! All students were reintroduced to our CHAMPS approach to creating a safe and civil school. Our goal is to create a co-operative, peaceful environment for learning. What is CHAMPS? Champs will help classroom teachers to overtly teach students how to behave in every school situation. CHAMPS reflects the behaviour expectations that we expect from our students. The CHAMPS acronym is used to define our expectations for a variety of activities.

C-Conversation: Can students talk to each other during this activity?

H-Help: How can students get questions answered during this activity?

A-Activity: What is the task/objective of this activity? What is the expected end product?

M-Movement: Can and how should students move during this activity?

P-Participation: What does active and responsible participation look like for this activity?

(Similar to A and M)

We are looking forward to greeting all McKay families at our upcoming “Open House BBQ on

Tuesday September, 14, 2010. Please plan to attend wearing your favourite sports jersey or McKay Logo clothes.

Sincerely,
Mrs. R. Grenier, Principal.

Student Safety First - Leaving School at Lunch Hour

We are very concerned about student safety and we will take all necessary precautions to ensure that we provide a safe environment for our students.

Please take note of the following:

1. Students will be asked to produce a note signed by a parent if they wish to go off school property for lunch (unless the blanket form, included in the first day package, has been signed.)
2. Students are expected to use extreme caution when off school property and must return on time for class.
3. Parents are asked to discuss expectations with your child. Be sure to give your child guidelines as to what kind of food you wish them to buy. Please refrain from sugary drinks and candy, as on many occasions, that is what we see.

McKay's Milk Program

Students are encouraged to drink milk. Statistics show that many school-aged children do not get the recommended amount and this is an excellent way to help.

Milk (chocolate and white) is sold at the School Store for 75 cents on a daily basis. World Milk Day this year is on Wednesday, September 29th and all the JK/SK students are entitled to receive free milk on this day.

We are providing other "Heart Healthy Snacks" at the store including rice cakes, popcorn, orange slices, cheese and crackers, cinnamon raisin bagel and cream cheese.

OPEN HOUSE B.B.Q.

We will be holding our "Meet the Teacher" open house on Tuesday, September 14th. Hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages will be available for purchase. The event starts at 5:00 p.m., ending at 6:30 p.m. Please note that we encourage all families to dress in their favourite team jersey or McKay spirit wear. We are looking forward to a fun, casual night where families can have dinner together, meet new friends and be introduced to the McKay Staff. We will have selected sizes of spirit wear available for sale at the Open House.



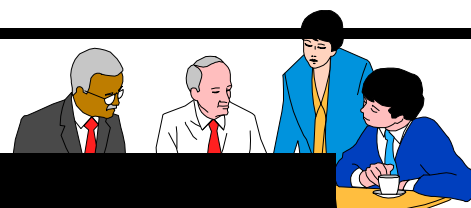
McKay's Float at the Wainfleet Fall Fair

Everyone at McKay is excited about entering the “McKay Lion’s Float” in the Wainfleet Parade on Thursday, September 23rd. This year’s theme is corn and we will be using our creativity to put together another winning float. Please plan to visit us at the fair at 5:00pm to help decorate the float and we will be ready to compete at 6:00. Everyone will be excited to part of this great event (more information will follow). If you attended last year you’ll remember how much fun it was! We hope to see you there!



Reminder

Parents and guardians are once again asked to finalize any necessary arrangements with their children before they leave for school each day or have it written in their organizers. Given our enrolment, the volume of requests asking us to deliver telephone messages to students is often overwhelming. Your understanding and cooperation is greatly appreciated.



P.A. Days -

there will be no school all day, our teachers will be involved in workshops.

- Friday, October 7, 2011
- Friday, January 20, 2012
- Friday, May 18, 2012
- Friday, June 8, 2012
- Friday, June 29, 2012

Early Release Days –

The Board has allocated the afternoon for professional development of teachers.

- Friday, September 23, 2011
- Friday, February 17, 2012.

Bus Students:

- ❖ The morning buses for **all** students will be running as usual.
- ❖ The afternoon buses will arrive at home **3 hours earlier** than usually. This means that buses will pick up the students at approximately 12:15 p.m. You can expect your child(ren) to arrive home about 3 hours early. Student supervision will be normal and they will be supervised until the

Important Dates 2011/ 2012

- * September 6th: First day of school
- * September 15th: Open House BBQ
- * September 23rd: Early Release day
- * October 5th: World Teachers Day
- * October 7th: PA Day
- * October 10th: Thanksgiving Day
- * November 18th: Early Release Day
- * Dec 26th – Jan 6 : Winter Holidays (return Jan. 9)

- * January 20, 2012: PA Day
- * February 2: Kindergarten Open House 4:00-6:00
- * February 20th: Family Day
- * March 9th – 16th: March Break
- * April 6th: Good Friday
- * April 9th: Easter Monday
- * May 18th: PA Day
- * May 21st: Victoria day
- * June 8th: PA Day
- June 28th: Last Day of school

Magazine Fund Raising Campaign

It's that time of year again, time to renew your magazine subscriptions. Order forms and electronic purchases are due Monday October 3, 2011.



Terry Fox Run

The entire school participated in the Terry Fox Run again this year, on Wednesday September 28, 2011. Remember to do your part in the fight against cancer.

Visitors to the School

Just a reminder, that all visitors are asked to check in at the office when you enter the school. Parents should be entering the school through the front doors (off Fielden Ave.) and signing in and out at the office. If you are picking up your child due to illness or for any other reason during the school day it is necessary for the office staff to be notified. It is for the safety of all students that we encourage entering the school to sign in at the office. At the end of the day, if parents wish to pick up their child, we ask that you wait outside your child's exit door and not in the hallway near the classroom. The hallways are narrow and the teachers are trying to get all of the students ready to go home with jackets and backpacks (and soon boots). We ask that buggies and wagons remain outside for safety reasons. We thank you for your cooperation in looking out for the safety of all our children.

Street Crossing

The City of Port Colborne hires Crossing Guards to ensure the safety of your children while crossing some of our busy streets coming to and from school. Please remind your children to cross with our crossing guard. We also encourage parents who pick up their children from school to use the crossing guard, especially if the busses are in the Bus Loading Zone. Students are reminded to walk their bikes and refrain from cell phone or headset use when crossing. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Agendas / Organizers

Student agendas or organizers are used by all the students from grades 1 to 8. We encourage students to have their agendas at school each day. Students will record assignments, tests and reminders in the agenda. Parents are asked

to check and sign agendas on a daily basis. This will ensure that parents are aware of any assignments or projects that must be completed. Help your child become responsible for their own learning. We would like to thank parents who pre-paid last year and encourage parents who have yet to pay to get the \$6.00 in to the teacher ASAP.

Library Volunteers

If you are interested in helping in our school library a few days a week, please contact Mr. Watson 905-834-4753

Weekly Pizza Days

Every Wednesday, McKay students can order pizza at \$1.00 a slice. Orders are taken the morning (9:00 a.m.) of each pizza day. We ask students to help support this Intermediate Division fundraiser. Grade 7 and 8 student and teachers distribute the pizzas to the classrooms upon delivery. We will also be offering veggie pizzas and encourage students to try this healthy version. After our recent survey the veggie pizza that we will be offering is with sauce, cheese and pineapple. Thank you to everyone who sent the survey back to the school and that helped make our final decision.

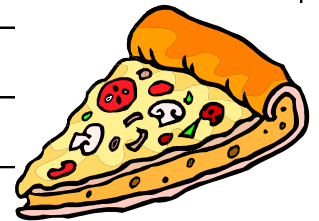
Breakfast Club Begins at McKay!

We are very pleased to inform the McKay families our Breakfast Club is up and running thanks to our wonderful volunteers! Research shows that children are able to concentrate and learn better when they have eaten breakfast. *If any parents would like to assist with the Breakfast Club (set up, clean up, serving) by volunteering any of your free time or if you would like to make a monetary/food donation, please call the school.*

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Our Character Trait for September is Respect. Take this short self evaluation and decide for yourself if you are a "respectable person". We will be focusing on helping our students learn about what Respectful behaviour looks like, sounds like and feels like. Our September Recognition Assembly will be on Friday, October 1 at 2:25.

Are you a Respectful Person?		
True	False	
		I treat other people the way I want to be treated.
		I am considerate of other people.
		I treat people with civility, courtesy and dignity.
		I accept personal differences.
		I work to solve problems without violence.
		I never intentionally ridicule, embarrass or hurt others.



Niagara Elementary Instrumental Music Program



will again be offered at McKay school. NEIM will be extending the “Early Bird Special” rate (for beginner students only) until Friday September 17th. Students can choose a musical instrument and the cost is \$275 (student provides musical instrument) or \$375 (musical instrument supplied by DSBN). Any questions call Sandi at 905-641-2929 ext 5229.

VOLLEYBALL

We had over 35 girls try out for the intermediate volleyball team and 14 were able to make the team this year. It was a tough decision and the tryouts were very competitive and BIG thanks you goes out to the girls who tried out for the team. Congratulations to:

Sky Lunn
Star Lunn
Jessica MCGregor
Daphne Mowat
Sandra Graves
Natalie Vurro
Breanna Harris
Sierra Konig
Jessica Riel
Savvanna Minor
Mackenzie Panunte
Cynthia Richardson
Cindey Gauvon
Hannah Donofrio

SCOCER

The season starts in at the end of October and the girls will be practicing everyday but fridays! Thank you for all of your efforts Mr. Benner!

- Primary Soccer kicked off with tremendous force this September. The *Transformer* teams played after lunch on Mondays and Wednesdays with the following results: **Megatron 0 vs Shockwave 0**
- **Optimus Prime 0 vs Sentinel 1**
- **Megatron 0 vs Optimus Prime 0**
- **Shockwave 0 vs Sentinel 2**
- **Megatron 0 vs Sentinel 1**
- **Shockwave 0 vs Optimus Prime 1**
- Finals will be Monday October 3rd....stay tuned

The students had much skill and fun. Outstanding plays during the games by Matteo, Abby Jason, Nina, Marcelo, Keonna and Courtney.

September, 2011 “Roaring Lion” Mystery Draw

() Yes, I have received and read the September, 2011 “Roaring Lion” newsletter.

Child’s Name _____ Gr. _____ Room # _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

(If you have more than one child attending McKay School, please make a facsimile of this ballot for each student and return to McKay School.)

Skill Testing Question (answer found in this newsletter). The OPEN HOUSE B.B.Q. is on:

Due to office by Friday, September 17, 2010.