



McKay Public School

320 Fielden Ave.
Port Colborne, ON
L3K 4T7

905-834-4753

Website: mckay.dsbnschools.org

Principal: Mrs. Lott

Vice-Principal: Mr. Reynolds

Secretaries: Mrs. Serabian,

Mrs. Wickham-Jones

Superintendent: Mr. Dickson

SEPTEMBER 2017

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE...

Welcome Back!

We hope that everyone had a relaxing summer. It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the 2017-2018 school year at McKay Public School! As always, we have returned from the break re-energized and ready to work together with you to make McKay the best possible environment for your child(ren).

We value the communication that we have with our parents. If you have a concern, please feel free to stop in for a chat or call the school. Please be assured that we will continue to do our very best to support our students because our children deserve the very best that education has to offer.

The beginning of the school year is always an exciting time for teachers and students alike. We are looking forward to a positive and productive year.

To keep our records up-to-date, please verify, complete and return all of the forms that were sent home on the first day of school. Each student (Gr. 1-8) will receive an agenda which is used as an organizational and communication tool for McKay students; the cost is \$5.

We are so excited to have A Child's World Day Care at McKay. They are conveniently located down our lower hallway and offer before and after school care for children ages 4- 12 years. If you are interested in securing a spot for your child(ren), please register on the One List at <https://niagara.onehnsn.com/>

Meet the Teacher - Pizza Night

We hope to see everyone at our upcoming event on Tuesday, September 19th. Pizza order forms have been sent home, however, don't hesitate to call in to the school if you want to order pizza. It's not too late. For those families that have ordered, tickets will NOT be distributed. Staff will have class lists at each table with orders listed. **Pizza will be served in the gym from 4:30 - 5:30 by staff.** Water will be available (free of charge). **From 5:30 - 6:30pm parents will be invited to visit and tour their child(ren)'s classroom.** We hope to see you all!

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 hearty 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

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

Prep: Mrs. 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

Information Packages

Today your child will bring home a number of important forms which need to be completed. Please return the completed and signed forms to your child's teacher as soon as possible (by Monday, September 18th, please).

It is vital to keep student information up to date throughout the year. In the unfortunate event that your child takes ill or is injured, we will make every effort to reach you, but we also need additional names and numbers in case we cannot contact you. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Accidents Can Happen...

Is your child insured for medical or dental costs in case of an accidental injury? The District School Board of Niagara does not provide medical payments coverage for students. If you have no other coverage, it is important that parents/guardians purchase this coverage to ensure that medical or dental costs are covered in case of accident. Reliable Life Student Accident Insurance forms have been sent home with each student to assist you in getting coverage. Or you can visit www.insuremykids.com to apply online. It costs as little as \$8 per student for one year of basic school day/school activity coverage.

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 neck lines 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. They 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.



No Nuts Please! We have several 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!



Student Recognition Assemblies

We will have monthly Student Recognition Assemblies at McKay; we will highlight and acknowledge those students that demonstrate the character traits valued throughout the DSBN. We value and honour all of the following traits:

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Caring, Optimism, Perseverance, Courage, and Cooperation. We will also recognize students that demonstrate academic excellence and effort. The assemblies will take place on the last Friday of every month. Our school focus is promoting positive, responsible behaviour and we have implemented some school-wide **TRIBES** and **CHAMPS** strategies to provide the framework for our students.

As always, parents are welcome to attend.

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.
- 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. Our program has already started up. 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, September 26, 2017

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: McKay Staff Room

Hope to see you there!

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. 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

Name of youngest child: _____ Class: _____