



March 1, 2018

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- 'I Matter' Assembly - March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 p.m.
- MADD Presentation - March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. (Grade 7 & 8)
- March Break - March 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>
- Chocolate Bar Fundraiser Ends - March 20<sup>th</sup>
- Grade 8 Spirit Building at SWCC - March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 p.m.
- Grade 7 Students Visit to Collegiate - March 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.
- Pita Lunch - March 28<sup>th</sup>

# March

# NEWSLETTER

## A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE



Recently, our Grade 3 and 6 students took part in some mid-year EQAO assessments in both Language and Math.

The purpose of this was to help staff determine students' areas of strength and need. While the students were completing the assessments their teachers were busy monitoring the strategies the students were using to solve problems. Some examples are; how long did the students take?, what manipulatives did they use (and were they the right ones to use)?, calculator use, re-reading the question and making sure that they gave all the necessary information, were the problems read to them?, etc.

Once the assessments were complete the teachers met to do some moderated marking (making sure they all agree on what answers should look like at each level) and they also looked at the data/results to set a plan for the areas they need to work on with the students between now and the assessments in June.

The staff involved found the process to be helpful and informative. We hope that from the information gained through the mid-year assessments we will be able to adapt our instruction to make gains in the June EQAO assessments.

## CHOCOLATE BAR FUNDRAISER

Our Chocolate Bar Fundraiser begins Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup> and will run until Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. There are many prizes available for students to win by participating in this fundraiser. Grade 7 & 8 students will be able to reduce the cost of their end-of-the-year-trip by selling bars. Proceeds will be used to help purchase a new Kindergarten playground in the near future. We are looking forward to your support with this fundraiser.



## DREAMBOX REMINDER

Did you know that every student at Westdale has a DreamBox account and that your child can access the program from home? DreamBox is an adaptive math program that is geared towards your child's individual learning. The DSBN recommends that students complete on average 3 to 5 lessons per week. It is important to note that on average, 1 lesson takes approximately 20 minutes to complete. Needing to get supper ready or your child's lunch for school? Have your son or daughter log onto DreamBox and work through a lesson. Should you require logging in information - please contact your child's teacher.

Contact us at:  
 Phone: 905-682-9284  
 Email: wes@dsbn.org



Twitter @westdale\_ps

## FEBRUARY'S 'I MATTER' WINNERS

### As an Individual

Ella Z.            Rylan P.  
 Abigail L.        Andre P.  
 Shonaci H.        Carter W.  
 Max J.            Justine L.  
 Easton P.

### As a Learner

Khayden P.        Owen B.  
 Keanna C.        Madisyn R.  
 Joshua A.        Rylan M.  
 Averie C.        Arisha H.  
 Madeline Q.  
 Nick H.            Noah C.  
 Mikayla W.

### As a Community Member

Hayven A.        Marcus C.  
 Georgia A.        Kate M.  
 Finn M.            Jakob Z.  
 Sabeeh K.



# I Matter At Westdale



We are pleased to announce that we raised over \$400 from our Candy Gram sales for Valentine's Day. The money will be going to EFN's "Make

Change for Children" which helps to raise funds for basic student necessities like food, clothing, field trip access, and other essentials. Thank-you for your support in being the change and making a difference in DSBN students' lives.

## MARCH IS NUTRITION MONTH

Fruits and veggies are not only absolutely delicious but they are nature's fast food! Ready to eat and most come in their own "to-go" packages, produce makes the perfect snack for kids to grab and go. They need minimal to no preparation and buying ones in season means you can save some money and shop smarter.

Think you can't get much produce on a tight budget? Here are some tips to make shopping for produce more easy and affordable:

- Don't shop when you're hungry and carry a list. You'll be more likely to stick to your budget and nutritious food choices.
- Look for washed and bagged salads, baby carrots, celery hearts, broccoli and cauliflower crowns, cherry tomatoes, and shredded cabbage in your grocery store
- Buy fresh produce, like peaches or bananas, in varying degrees of ripeness to allow for some ripening towards the end of the week
- Canned and frozen vegetables can be convenient choices
- Spend most of your time in the produce, bread, meat and dairy sections
- Use store flyers to help you find specials

See more at: <http://www.halfyourplate.ca/produce-is-affordable>



Get inspired with recipe ideas from **Cookspiration** and serve up a nutrition tip a day with **eaTipster!**



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The Intermediate Boy's Basketball team fought hard all season long throughout league and tournament play. The team experienced great success during regular season play as they finished with the third best record overall but unfortunately lost out in semi final action. The team then travelled to the DSBN tournament where they narrowly missed out on a spot in the playoff round. As they look back on their season, the boys should be proud of their developments made as individuals and as a team. Mr. Nevar would like to personally thank all of the boy's for what was a very enjoyable season.



## Mentors at Westdale

We are pleased to say that our mentor program has been going well and runs every Tuesday during first break thanks to Mr. Sentance. Some of our younger students are partnered with older students. Together in the library, students get to play different types of board and computer games. This has been a great opportunity for our older students to take on a leadership role at Westdale.

## Yoga at Westdale

Starting Thursday, March 1st students in Grades 6 & 7 will be participating in mindful meditation through yoga as part of their physical education program. This is a four week program and will happen on Thursday and Friday mornings during Period 1 and Period 2.



## Pita Lunch

Are things getting a little busy and you need more time to make those lunches? No need to worry. Westdale's next pita lunch will be on Wednesday, March 28th. Orders can be placed through School Cash Online.



## 'I Matter' Assemblies

It has been awesome to see all the students come together and be rewarded for their efforts at Westdale. Please make note that our next 'I Matter' assembly will be this Friday, March 2nd at 1:30 p.m. After Friday's assembly, our next one will be on Friday, April 6th at 1:30 p.m.



## SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

School Cash is an online portal that allows you to pay for any school service, product, or event all online. The system is active and we recommend that you can register by visiting our school website on the School Cash Online button.

Registration should take less than five minutes.

### **Register:**

- Visit [www.dsbn.org/schoolcash](http://www.dsbn.org/schoolcash) and select "Register Now"
- Complete the three registration steps
- **NOTE:** *You must create your profile using your name and not your children's*

### **Confirm Your Account:**

- You will receive a confirmation email from School Cash Online
- Click on the link provided
- Sign in to your account using your email and password



## UPDATES USING REMIND

We are asking our parents to join the "Westdale Families Remind" group.

### **Instructions:**

- Using your cell phone, enter this number - 289-812-3838
- Text this message - @westdalef

The "Remind" app will keep you informed of upcoming events happening at Westdale.



## WESTDALE'S TWITTER PAGE

You can also follow Westdale events on Twitter. Follow us at - @westdale\_ps



## FINAL THOUGHT

**"There are always flowers for those that want to see them" - Henri Matisse**