



November 2, 2020

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- *Random Act of Kindness - Nov. 1*
- *International Inuit Day - Nov. 7*
- *Treaty Week Begins - Nov. 9*
- *Remembrance Day Ceremony - Nov. 11*
- *Raise the Flag for Louis Riel Day - Nov. 16*
- *Bullying Prevention Week - Nov. 16*
- *PA Day - Nov. 18*
- *Progress Reports Home - Nov. 19*
- *Interview Evening - Nov. 25*

November NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM OFFICE



When parents are engaged in their child’s learning, the child will do better at school. With this in mind, November is an excellent time to reflect on how we are working together to support your child’s learning.

All students will receive their Progress Report Card on Thursday, November 19, marking the mid-way point for Term 1. Please take some time to review, with your child, their strengths and next steps that have been identified in the progress report. On the evening of November 25, you will have the opportunity to discuss your child’s progress to date during the parent-teacher conferences. Please note that parent-teacher conferences will be conducted through MS Teams or with phone calls this year. Information will come out shortly in regards to booking a time. If you have any concerns or questions at other times, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher.

DREAMBOX LEARNING

DreamBox Learning Math is an online program with educational games that are individualized for your child, adapting the curriculum just for them. It’s a fun, effective math learning environment. Unlike other math games that often sacrifice learning for entertainment, DreamBox delivers a rich, tailored learning experience. All of our students from Grades 1-5 have access to a DreamBox account. Please contact your child’s teacher for further information.



DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER



As cooler weather approaches, please be aware that children are expected to be dressed appropriately for the weather conditions every day. Coats, hats, boots and mittens/gloves are soon going to be necessary for your child to enjoy the outdoor fitness breaks and gym classes. Students will continue to have gym classes outside during this time. Students that are well enough to be at school are expected to be outside with their friends during fitness breaks as indoor supervision is not available during this time. Classroom teachers will be opening up lockers, hooks and cubbies for student use for outdoor clothing items. Backpacks, lunches, and other personal items will continue to be stored on the back of your child’s chair.

PD DAY

Wednesday, November 18 has been designated as a PA Day for the District School Board of Niagara.

PINK SHIRT DAYS - BULLYING AWARENESS

The DSNB Pink Shirt (Every) Day Kick-Off Campaign is taking place November 16 to 20, 2020 during Ontario’s Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week. Any day is an appropriate day to have a Pink Shirt Day throughout the school year, but we will be acknowledging February 24th, 2021 as Pink Shirt Day to celebrate a positive school climate.



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



PARKING LOT SAFETY REMINDER

Parents please be aware of the parking lot and available spaces. Cars are not to be left unattended if they are not in a valid parking spot. Leaving your car unattended in an invalid parking space blocks the laneway and cars that are already parked. If you need to leave your car, please park on Rykert Street or one of the side streets across from Westdale. Thanks for your understanding in keeping our parking lot safe for our students.



TREATIES RECOGNITION WEEK



Ontario has designated November 9-13, 2020 as Treaties Recognition Week with the goal of promoting education and awareness about treaties and treaty relationships. DSNB joins with other school boards across Ontario in encouraging schools to support learning about treaties as an important aspect of our province's history.

PARENT'S ROLE IN KEEPING KIDS SAFE

Everyone has a role to play in keeping families safe and reduce the spread of COVID-19. It is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to assess their children on a daily basis before sending them to school. We ask parents to use this link: [Ontario Ministry of Education Covid-19 School and Childcare Screening Tool \(https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/\)](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/) to screen their child(ren) daily. The screening tool will provide direction and information to determine if students should attend school, remain home, or seek medical advice. Additionally, parents must have a person available to pick up their child right away, should they become sick during school. We thank our parents for being diligent with following the screening guidelines and being available to pick up your child when needed!



THE ELEMENTARY PROGRESS REPORT

On November 19th, your child will bring home their Elementary Progress Report. The format was created after years of consultation with parents/guardians, teachers, principals and students across the province. Although it looks much like the Report Card, the Progress Report has a very different intent. The purpose is to share early and specific feedback on your child's development of work habits and the learning skills.

Reporting on the Progress Report is about looking forward and setting a course for the learning journey ahead. Based on the evidence that teachers see, as well as what teachers know about learning at this grade level, the report communicates the path your child is on toward achieving the grade level expectations by the end of the year. The Progress Report does not include letter grades or percentage marks for academic subjects; it instead identifies whether your child is progressing very well, well or with difficulty. For subjects in which your child is Progressing with Difficulty, the teacher will discuss specific next step plans needed for success.

We look forward to partnering with you and your child for a year of great learning and growth.

