



October 2 2017

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- Terry Fox Walk - Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> - 1:30 p.m.
- Cross Country meet - Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>
- 'I Matter' Assembly - Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> - 1:30 p.m.
- PD Day - Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>
- Thanksgiving - Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>
- Photo Day - Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> (all day)
- School Council mtg. - Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- Oct 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> - Fall Fair (details coming soon)
- Halloween Parade - Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> - 9:00 a.m.
- 'I Matter' Assembly - Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1:30 p.m.

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



# October NEWSLETTER

## A MESSAGE FROM OFFICE



It's hard to believe that the first month of school has already come and gone. Our classes have settled in nicely and the students are hard at work in their new learning environments.

Thank-you to all the families that joined us at our open house last month. We appreciated the opportunity to meet everyone.

The month of October will provide us with many new challenges and the opportunity to expand our learning. Please remember that student success is a team effort driven by open communication and a committed effort by all.

Have a wonderful long weekend and an even better Thanksgiving with your loved ones.

## HALLOWEEN PARADE

Students in ELKP to Gr. 5 are invited to dress up for our Halloween Parade on the morning of **Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**. We will parade through the school and around the school yard (weather permitting) and then back to homeroom classes. The parade will start following announcements. Our Gr. 6 to 8's will be hosting a Halloween dance in the gym during the last block.



## HAPPY THANKSGIVING

There will be no school on **Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**, as we celebrate Thanksgiving.



## SCHOOL PICTURES

Individual pictures will be taken on **Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**.



## 'I MATTER' ASSEMBLY

We will be having our first 'I Matter' assembly on **Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>** at 1:30 p.m.

## PIZZA

Pizza days will start this month with the first day happening on **Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup>**. Pizza days will happen on every Thursday of the month.



## SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Please note that most purchases for items sold at the school will be done solely through "School Cash Online" (pizza, milk, etc.). Please see pg. 5 for information on how to sign up.

## SEPTEMBER'S 'I MATTER' WINNERS

<u>As an Individual</u>		<u>As a Learner</u>		<u>As a Community Member</u>	
Katelyn L.	Heaven H.	Autumn R.	Pierson G.	Liam M.	Ahmed F.
Parker J.	Deepshi S.	Maila B.	Ashley A.	Adam H.	Violet R.
Owen C.	Teodora B.	Favor H.	Shaylene Y.	Avary B.	Jacob R.
Paul N.	Cameron N.	Austin C.	Empress S.	Caitlynn S.	Gabrielle D.
Selina Q.	Seth B.	Shariq A.	Makayla W.	Sienna H.	Shay-Leigh L.
Kiersen E.	Amye B.	Ian M.	Jakob Z.	Kate M.	Samantha B.
Noah C.	Jaime C.	Nathan L.		Owen H.	Malak A.
Madeline Q.	Addison K.			Max C.	



### **PARKING LOT SAFETY POLICIES:**

- Give the right of way to pedestrians.
- Do not stop in the entry area to let passengers out; pull in and park in a designated parking place.
- Do not park in the fire lanes or designated bus zones.
- Do not leave the car unattended with engine running.
- If the parking lot is full, consider parking on Rykert St. or a side street.
- Be patient and courteous.



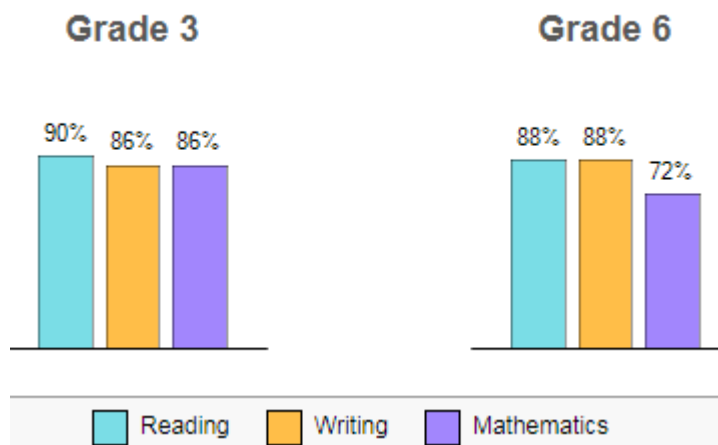
## Westdale EQAO Results

The 2016/2017 EQAO tests results for grade 3 and grade 6 students have been release by the *Ministry of Education*. The assessment of the Reading, Writing, and Mathematics at the Grade 3 and Grade 6 level focus on the Ontario Curriculum expectations. These assessments provide both individual and system data on students' achievement. This data assists staff in establishing a School Improvement Plan with a narrowed focus to ensure student success.

The **Grade 3** results are as follows: Reading 90%, Writing 86%, and Mathematics 86%.

The **Grade 6** results are as follows: Reading 88%, Writing 88%, and Mathematics 72%.

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



## When should I keep my child home?

Please keep your child at home if he or she has any of these symptoms:

- Fever
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Rash
- Frequent coughing or sneezing
- Yellow or green discharge from the nose, ears, or eyes

Contact your family doctor for a diagnosis. Your doctor will advise you about care and treatment if a communicable disease is diagnosed. For more information, please contact the Infectious Disease Program at 905-688-8248 ext. 7330 or 1-888-505-6074 or [www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca)



## Sports Update

### Cross Country

A team of 32 dedicated runners have been practicing 3 mornings a week since the third day of school to prepare to participate in two cross country meets. The first meet was held on September 28th and our second race will be held October 5th. The students are all very excited about running and have shown dedication and perseverance, pushing themselves to go a little further each day. Way to go Wildcats!



## Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club is up and running thanks to our dedicated staff and parent volunteers. The breakfast club runs every morning between 8:20 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the office. The breakfast club at Westdale has been a success thanks to generations donations made from our community. If you are able to donate to the breakfast club please contact the office.



## Pita Update

Our next pita day is Wednesday, October 25th. Pita orders can be placed online through School Cash Online. For those that are not signed up, there is also a paper order form that will go home. Please note that we are strongly encouraging all our parents to sign up for School Cash Online (see info on next page).

## Outdoor Equipment Needed

During fitness breaks, we have students that choose to play different activities requiring sporting equipment (i.e. soccer balls, basketballs, etc). Using our Westdale's gym equipment for this is not an option, as we need to keep this equipment in tact. If you have an old soccer ball/basketball that you are no longer using, please consider donating it for students to use during outdoor break. Donated sporting equipment can be dropped off at the office.



## DreamBox

We are pleased to announce that all students at Westdale have access to DreamBox. DreamBox uses an adaptive engine to determine learning pathways for each student in mathematics.

The DSBN recommends that each student complete an average of 5 to 7 lessons per week.

DreamBox helps with computational fluency, reasoning, and problem solving in math. DreamBox helps students continue to develop strategies to aid them with using mental math and the program is aligned with the Ontario Curriculum.



## 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



## Getting Updates with

### "Remind"

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

### **Instructions:**

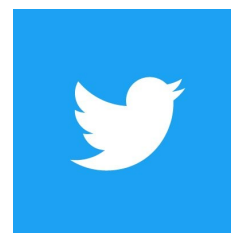
- Using your cell phone, enter this number - 289-812-3838
- Text this message - @westdalef

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



**Grade 8 Students and Parents:****Save the Date!**

Starting high school is a huge step in a student's life. While it's definitely an exciting time, it also brings with it many questions, such as "What's life in high school really like? What programs and options are available to help me achieve my goals?"

A great way to have your questions answered is to attend an open house. Grade 8 students and their families are invited to attend High School Open Houses from November 27-30.

Details about open houses will be shared with parents/guardians mid-October.

**High School Open House Dates and Times:**

- Sir Winston Churchill Secondary: November 27 - 6:30 p.m.
- St. Catharines Collegiate: November 28 - 6:00 p.m.
- Eden High: November 30th - 6:30 p.m.
- Laura Secord Secondary: November 29

**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)

**Final Thought**

"If you stumble, make it part of the dance. It's okay to make mistakes."

