



Stampeder Express

Smith Public School

18 Oakes Rd N, Grimsby, ON L3M 4B1 (905) 945-8014
Email: smi@dsbn.org

From the Principal's Desk

Coming Soon!

Please watch for next month's newsletter as our "Junior Reporters" will be spicing things up! A group of our students will be following school events throughout the month and reporting on them in our next newsletter.

Report Cards

First term report cards are also being sent home on February 9th. Please take time to carefully read these report cards before discussing them with your child. These reports include both strengths and next steps for improvement, so please take time to celebrate the successes with your child.

All of our students have worked extremely hard in many areas throughout the term and they should be congratulated for their efforts. Most of the next steps for improvement are things that will be addressed on an ongoing basis throughout second term. The comment sections at the bottom of pages 3 and 4 are an excellent starting point for these discussions. Please also remember to tear off, **sign and return the bottom of page 4**. There are no formal parent-teacher interviews being held for this reporting period. Please be sure to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns regarding the report card. Teachers will always make themselves available for these discussions, as we recognize the value of ongoing communication between home and school.

IceDogs

Our students have a wonderful opportunity that is being planned by one of our Smith School parents. Order forms will be coming home for a game between the Niagara IceDogs and Kingston Frontenacs on Sunday, February 26th in St. Catharines. The game begins at 2:00pm, and our students have the opportunity to participate in a Smith School Family Skate prior to the game from 12:00 until 12:50pm.

Some of the players from the IceDogs will be visiting the school one morning to talk with the students about the importance of education, healthy eating and being physically active.

February 2012

Special points of interest:

- [Principal's Message](#)
- [Kindergarten Countdown](#)
- [Silver Wishes Campaign](#)
- [Inclement Weather](#)
- [Picture SELL-OFF](#)
- [Notices](#)
- [Calendar](#)



Smith School as an educational community strives to challenge our students to reach their academic and social potential. Parents and teachers work collaboratively to provide students with the necessary tools and skills for individual growth. We are committed to creating learning experiences that will lead to life-long mutual respect.

Smith School Website: <http://www.dsbns.edu.on.ca/Schools/Smith/>



KINDERGARTEN COUNTDOWN

WE ARE COUNTING DOWN TO KINDERGARTEN!

Children who will be four years of age or older by December 31, 2012 are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten starting September 2012.

Going to school for the first time is a big step for children and their parents. At the DSBN, families start that journey together at the 'Kindergarten Countdown' open houses. Families can visit our school, meet the kindergarten teacher, and receive a gift bag filled

with fun learning resources and information that will help children develop school readiness skills.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, February 2, 2012 from 4-6 p.m. for our Kindergarten Countdown open house. Visit www.dsbn.org and click on "Kindergarten" for all the details!

Can't make the Open House? No problem! Call the school at 905 945-8014 and we would be happy to set up an appointment to register your child.

SILVER WISHES CAMPAIGN FOR THE WEST LINCOLN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



It's that time of year again. Time to bring in your change for the annual "wishes" campaign for West Lincoln Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. We will be asking students to bring in their change from the 6th until the 24th of February. (Top class will receive a prize.) This past year, money raised by the campaign went towards the purchase of a Vital Signs Monitor.

Thank you for your support.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures. When student transportation has been cancelled and school remains open, the decision of whether or not to have children in school on that day, rests with the parent or guardian.

Should you decide not to send your child to school in the event that transportation is cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call the school to inform them of your child's absence.

Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will be available as soon as it is available through the following.

Websites: www.dsbn.org; www.nsts.ca

Radio Stations: CKTB (610 AM), WAVE (94.7 FM), CKOC (1150 AM), CHML (900 AM), CHAM (820 AM), Y-108 (107.9), CHRE (105.7 FM), CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM), CKEY (105.1 FM), K-LITE-FM (102.9), GIANT FM (91.7 FM).

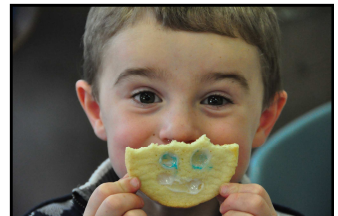
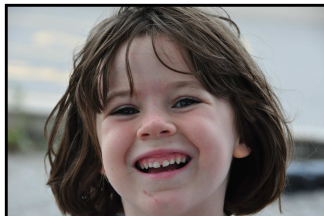
Television Stations:

CH - Hamilton, CityTV Breakfast Television, CTV Toronto, Cogeco Channel 10.



PICTURE SELL-OFF

During the week of **February 21-February 24th** we will be selling photographs of the students that were taken from the beginning of the school year until January. Pictures prices: \$2 each. All proceeds will go towards electronic equipment for the classrooms.



BEWARE! Of any products containing peanuts or traces of peanuts. Please check granola bar ingredients before including them as a lunch item. Smith School has SEVERAL students of different ages that have a very SEVERE REACTION when they are exposed to nuts. Please help us by being diligent in what you send to school.



All students and parents are asked to be fragrance free while at Smith School We appreciate your cooperation with this request.



Thank you.



DSBN NEWS

FREE Group Triple P Parenting Sessions in Niagara For Families with Children 2 - 12 years of age
Spring 2012




Seminar Date	Location	Time	Facilitators
Thursdays March 8 - May 3 (no class during March Break week)	St. Catharines Quest Community Health Centre 145 Queenston Street, Suite 100	9:30 am - noon	905-688-8248 ext. 7555
Mondays March 19 - May 14 (no class Easter Monday)	St. Catharines Ontario Early Years Centre (OEYC) 25 YRCA Drive	6 pm - 8:30 pm	905-688-8248 ext. 7555
Tuesdays March 20 - May 8	Welland Ontario Early Years Centre (OEYC) 12 Young Street	9:15 am - 11:45 am	905-688-8248 ext. 7555 <i>(Child care is available)</i>
Saturdays March 24 - May 12	Thorold Niagara Region Headquarters 2201 St. David's Road Cambridge West - Conference Room 4	9:30 am - noon	905-688-8248 ext. 7555
Tuesdays March 27 - May 15	St. Catharines St. Catharines Regional Child Care 179 Carlton Street Niagara Falls	6 pm - 8:30 pm	905-688-8248 ext. 7555
Thursdays April 5 - May 24	Niagara Falls OEYC - Mary Ward School 2999 Dorchester Road	6 pm - 8:30 pm	905-688-8248 ext. 7555 <i>(Child care is available)</i>
Thursdays April 12 - May 31	Niagara Falls OEYC - McBain Community Centre 7150 Montrose Road	9:30 am - noon	905-688-8248 ext. 7555 <i>(Child care is available)</i>
Thursdays April 12 - May 31	Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre Port Caris - 92 Charlotte Street	6 pm - 8:30 pm	905-688-8248 ext. 7555

Triple P stands for Positive Parenting Program. It is a well researched program which creates excellent outcomes for parents and children. The eight-week program aims to build positive behaviours in children and teens and confidence in parents. For more information and to register call: Parent Talk Information Line 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 Ext. 7555
 Information about the Triple P program can also be found at: www.beaconsoftrust.ca (search: Triple P)

On February 13 - 17, 2012

Heartspeak helps kids care.
Grade 8 male student

Heartspeak helps reinforce skills... and caring about our world. I hope more students get involved.
Parent Volunteer

From an administrative standpoint, the day was logically simple to plan and required little effort to execute, but had a major impact for our students.
Vice Principal

It's about real experiences and solutions for our youth of today. Students were engaged...
Teacher

Visit heartspeak.ca for the Give Your School a Hug™ Day planner, which provides suggestions about what to do leading up to and on the day of your event. Schools can register and send in videos/photos to heartspeak.ca.

Stay tuned to heartspeak.ca for further details.

For more information, contact Info@heartspeak.ca.




Grimsby Secondary School's Parent Advisory Council
 Presents:

DRUG USE & ABUSE WITH DONNIE EDWARDS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012
7:00 P.M.


GRIMSBY SECONDARY SCHOOL AUDITORIUM (LIMITED SEATING)

Donnie Edwards is a Port Colborne Pharmacist with Boggio Pharmacy and is also a noted expert on drug addiction. As former president and CEO of the Ontario Pharmacist's Association, Donnie was the spokesperson on drug addiction to the government, the media and the public. He was also instrumental in putting together a program that could be used for schools with grades 7 to 12.

Donnie will be covering the names and characteristics as well as the consequences and effects of the most abused drugs in the region. He will discuss the street names of these drugs including the signs and symptoms for parents and friends to be watching for. Some of these pharmaceuticals are legal prescription drugs such as Oxycontin which can be abused and misused.

All are welcome to attend this event which will help open the door to conversation and empowerment for all who care about our youth!

**5 Boulton Avenue
 Grimsby, ON
 L3M 1H6
 905-945-5416**



February 2012

Dear Parent(s) Guardian(s)

Grade 4 NEWSLETTER
 DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

Grade 4 is definitely a very exciting year for your child in that he/she will begin instruction in French as a Second Language. Second language learning research confirms that "knowledge of a second language strengthens first language skills, and that the ability to speak two or more languages generally enhances problem-solving and reasoning skills, the capacity for creative thinking, and the ability to respect and understand other cultures."

Second language learning strengthens students' ability to communicate and participate effectively in the workplace and the global community. It also increases their ability to understand themselves and other people, and helps them to appreciate the power of words and the many different uses of language."

(The Ontario Curriculum, French as a Second Language: Core French, Grades 4 to 8)














Exciting Approach

The District School Board of Niagara endorses the exciting French methodology entitled *AIM Language Learning*. This approach is highly communicative in nature providing a variety of highly motivational hands-on activities to assist your child in the three language strands of oral communication (listening and speaking), reading and writing. Second language skills and abilities evolve slowly and are gradually refined through a process which includes not only study and practice, but also creativity, problem-solving, and risk-taking. The refinement process is a complex one which each individual experiences in a unique way and at his/her own pace.

Julie Stapleton, Consultant: French as a Second Language




February Calendar

<p>30 (Day 2) New Milk Block Begins (5)</p> 	<p>31 (Day 3)</p>	<p>Feb 01 (day 4)</p>	<p>02 (Day 5) Pizza Lunch</p>  <p>Kindergarten Open House, 4-6 pm</p> 	<p>03 (Day 6)</p>
<p>06 (Day 7) Primary Skate (1:45 - 2:45) West Lincoln Memorial Silver Wishes Campaign begins Robotics Competition</p>  	<p>07 (Day 8) GSS Speaker "Donnie Edwards; Drug Use & Abuse" at 7 pm in the school auditorium</p>	<p>08 (Day 9)</p>	<p>09 (Day 10) Report Cards go home 100th DAY!</p>	<p>10 (Day 1)</p>
<p>13 (Day 2)</p>	<p>14 (Day 3)</p>	<p>15 (Day 4)</p>	<p>16 (Day 5) Sub Lunch Today</p> 	<p>17 (Day 6) EARLY RELEASE DAY Students released at 12:30. There will be no bus home for am kindergarten. There will be no pm kindergarten.</p>
<p>20 FAMILY DAY No School Today Family Skate at the Peach King Centre 1-4 pm</p> 	<p>21 (Day 7) BOOK FAIR BEGINS! PICTURE SELL-OFF</p> 	<p>22 (Day 8) PICTURE SELL-OFF</p>	<p>23 (Day 9) Grade 4,5,6 to Medieval Times PICTURE SELL-OFF</p> 	<p>24 (Day 10) West Lincoln Memorial Silver Wishes Campaign ends. Book Fair * PICTURE SELL OFF Ends</p> 
<p>27 (Day 1) Intermediate Skate (1:45-2:45) New Milk Block begins today (6)</p>  	<p>28 (Day 2) School Council Mtg at 6:00 pm</p>	<p>29 (Day 3)</p>	<p>Mar 01 (Day 4) Pizza Lunch</p> 	<p>02 (Day 5)</p>

SKATING DATES

Primary (Grades 1-3), Monday, February 6, Intermediate (Grades 6/7 & 7/8), Monday, February 27 from 1:45-2:45. Please join us at the arena. Thank you.



FUNDSCRIP INFORMATION

If you haven't already signed up for our FundScrip program, please do so. It's an easy way for us to raise the funds we need by using our everyday purchases to make a real difference!

How does it work? All the information you need can be found on the FundScrip website: www.Fundscrip.com. Simply enter the invitation code **G4S46E** to register. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Hobbs melissa.hobbs@sympatico.ca) or Maria Cooper (coopercontrols@sympatico.ca).

