



Mrs. L. Oakes

Mrs. S. Greer, Superintendent of Schools
(905)641-1550

Mr. D. Schaubel, School Trustee
(905)386-2670

October News

Greetings!

Thank you to all who attended our Meet the Staff Open House. If you were not able to attend, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. On-going communication between home and school is a positive way to support your child's progress. Included in this newsletter is information regarding the assessment practices of Oakwood School, the DSBN and the Ministry of Education. The first report card you receive on November 15 will focus on Learning Skills and child's progress to date.

Sincerely, Mrs. L. Oakes

EatRight Ontario

Ontario residents are able to connect with a registered dietitian and get trusted advice on healthy eating for FREE. EatRight Ontario (ERO) offers three ways to connect with a registered dietitian:

1. Talk to a dietitian 1-877-510-510-2

Residents of Ontario (Parents, teachers, students) can call from anywhere in Ontario to speak directly with a registered dietitian. They will answer questions, send additional information as well as put people in touch with local community services. The service is available in English, French and over 100 other languages.

2. Email a dietitian www.eatrightontario.ca

Anyone can visit the EatRight Ontario website to email nutrition questions at anytime. A registered dietitian will email a personal response within three business days.



Your School Health Team – 2011-2012

School Nurse: Jayne Siba

Email at jayne.siba@niagararegion.ca or telephone at 905-735-5697 ext. 7641

Dental Hygienist: Miachael Solanki

Email at Michael.solanki@niagararegion.ca or telephone at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7283

Vaccine Preventable Disease Program Assistant: Betty Patrick

Email at betty.patrick@niagararegion.ca or telephone at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425

Niagara Region Public Health

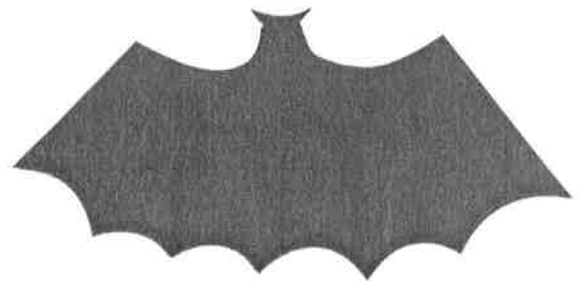
Your single online resource for health issues relating to pregnancy, children and families.
www.niagararegion.ca

Parent Talk Information Line: talk to a public health nurse about any parenting issue (pre-pregnancy-18 years) 905-688-8248 ext. 7555 or 1-888-505-6074, Monday to Friday – 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Halloween Safety

Some pointers to keep the trick or treaters safe.

- Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.
- Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic. Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. It is important they walk on the sidewalk, or walk facing the traffic if there is no sidewalk.
- Bright coloured costumes make your child easier to see. You can use reflective tape on a costume to



EQAO-GRADE 3 AND 6

The following information depicts the percentage of Grade 3 and 6 students who are achieving at or above the provincial standard in the EQAO Assessment in Reading, Writing and Mathematics which was conducted in May and June 1010.

How do parents make the best use of the results?

The best thing to do with your child's EQAO results is to discuss them with her/his teacher. Together you can review how the EQAO results compare with those from the classroom and other evaluations. You can also discuss the broader issue of your child's overall progress and how you can offer additional support to your child at home. Note: Overall Grade 3 and 6 achievement percentage at levels 3 and 4.

Students Achieving Levels 3& 4

Grade 3	School	Board	Province
Reading	47	67	65
Writing	63	73	73
Math	63	67	69

Grade 6	School	Board	Province
Reading	44	76	74
Writing	36	72	73
Math	12	57	58

On October 7th the Oakwood Staff met to examine these results and to develop an action plan to improve student achievement. This year we will receive additional support from the Ministry of Education to reach our goals for improved student achievement.

INSTRUCTIONAL COACH

Lisa McIntyre will be our instructional coach at Oakwood School. She is shared with three other schools. This is a new model we are using this year in the DSN. We are using the instructional coaching model to improve teacher practice in a collaborative way; to provide site-based, job-embedded teacher learning opportunities; to increase teacher use of effective strategies; and ultimately to increase student achievement.

ASSESSMENT

GROWING SUCCESS: ASSESSMENT, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The primary purpose of assessment and evaluation is to improve student learning. The following seven fundamental principles lay the foundation for rich and challenging practice. When these principles are fully understood and observed by all teachers, they will guide the collection of meaningful information that will help inform instructional decisions, promote student engagement, and improve student learning.

The Seven Fundamental Principles: To ensure that assessment, evaluation, and reporting are valid and reliable, and that they lead to the improvement of learning for all students, teacher use practices and procedures that:

- are fair, transparent, and equitable for all students;
- support all students, including those with special education needs, those who are learning the language of instruction (English or French), and those who are First Nation, Métis, or Inuit;
- are carefully planned to relate to the curriculum expectations and learning goals and, as much as possible, to the interests, learning styles and preferences, needs, and experiences of all students;
- are communicated clearly to students and parents at the beginning of the school year or course and at other appropriate points throughout the school year or course;
- are ongoing, varied in nature, and administered over a period of time to provide multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate the full range of their learning;
- provide ongoing descriptive feedback that is clear, specific, meaningful, and timely to support improved learning and achievement;
- develop students' self-assessment skills to enable them to assess their own learning, set specific goals, and plan next steps for their learning.

(Ontario Ministry of Education, Growing Success, p. 6)

We know that parents have an important role to play in supporting student learning. Studies show that students perform better in school if their parents or guardians are involved in their education. This is the basis for the principle that students and parents should be kept fully informed about the student's progress. Our schools have procedures in place to ensure that parents are aware of the expectations for their child in the various grades.

At any time throughout the year, parents/guardians are invited to communicate with the school about their child's progress and achievement.

2011-2012 School Year Reporting Timelines

- * November 15, 2010 Grades 1-8 Elementary Progress Report and Senior Kindergarten Progress Report
- * November/December Junior Kindergarten Parent/Guardian Observation and Follow-up
- * February 9, 2012 Grades 1-8 Term 1 Elementary Report Card, Junior Kindergarten Progress Report and Senior Kindergarten Term 1 Report Card
- * June 26, 2012 Grades 1-8 Term 2 Elementary Report Card , Junior Kindergarten Term 2 Report Card and Senior Kindergarten Term 2 Report Card.

Dance-a-thon

Donations/pledges are being accepted for our October 31st Dance-a-thon fundraiser. Our afternoon kindergarten students are invited to attend in the morning that day so that they can participate in the dance-a-thon. Further information to follow from Mrs. Henderson. On line pledges are easy to make at www.professorjamz.com



Terry Fox

Our Terry Fox fundraiser was a great success with a total of \$1132.26 raised. Thank you to the Oakwood community for their participation.

School Council

Our school council met on September 27th. Elections were held...

Chair – Wendy Boyes
Co-Chair – Tammy Embrey
Secretary – Tracy Coleman

School Council will be running the Norcard Fundraiser once again. Order forms will be sent home on October 20th and due back by November 4. **We need to strictly adhere to this timeline in order to receive the product for Christmas delivery.** No late orders can be accepted this year! Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Book Fair



Scholastic Book Fair running November 1, 2 and 3rd. The Book Fair will stay open until 4:00 p.m. for your shopping convenience.

HOPE (Helping Others Parent Effectively)

Family Support Group - ADHD

Fall 2011 Meetings



St. Catharines Regional Child Care Centre
179 Carlton Street, St. Catharines
(Next to St. Denis School)

Wednesday evenings 7 - 8:30 pm

DATES

TENTATIVE TOPICS

September 21	Things that ADHD students and their parents wish every teacher knew Strategies for success at school
October 12	Minimizing morning misery Reducing family stress, especially in the morning and evening
November 9	Welcome to my world — understanding life from your child's/teen's point of view Helping you become a better parent and helping them improve their relationships
December 7	ADHD plus... coexisting conditions More effective ways to manage anxiety and anger

Share what's working well in your family
Get suggestions for managing the challenges!

* For other support, resources and information:

- Visit www.niagararegion.ca and search ADHD
- Email us at: hope@niagararegion.ca
- Call the HOPE FAMILY SUPPORT LINE at
905-688-8248 ext. 7400 or
1-888-505-6074



FREE Group Triple P Parenting Sessions in Niagara For Families with Children 2 - 12 years of age Fall 2011



Seminar Date	Location	Time	Registration Information
Mondays Sept 12 to November 7 (no class week of Thanksgiving)	St. Catharines Ontario Early Years Centre 25 YWCA Drive	6 pm – 8:30 pm	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555
Thursdays September 15 to November 3	Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre Port Cares - 92 Charlotte Street	6 pm – 8:30 pm	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555
Tuesdays September 27 to November 15	Grimsby Grimsby Beach Hall 10 Grand Ave E	6 pm – 8:30 pm	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555
Tuesdays September 20 to November 8	Niagara Falls Branscombe Early Learning Centre 6271 Glengate Street	6 pm – 8:30 pm	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555
Thursdays October 13 to December 1	Niagara Falls OEYC - McBain Community Centre 7150 Montrose Road	9 am – 11:30 am	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555 Child care is available on site, to arrange call: 905-357-2398
Saturdays October 15 to December 3	Thorold Niagara Region Headquarters 2201 St. David's Road Campbell West, Committee Room 4	9:30 am – 12pm	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555
Tuesdays October 18 to Dec 6	St. Catharines St. Catharines Regional Child Care 179 Carlton Street	6 pm – 8:30 pm	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555
Wednesday October 26 to December 14	Welland Ontario Early Years Centre 12 Young Street	6:30 – 9 pm	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555
Thursdays October 27 to December 15	Welland Ontario Early Years Centre 12 Young Street	9:30 am – 12 pm	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555 Child care is available on site, to arrange call: 905-734-3563
Thursdays October 27 to December 15	St. Catharines Quest Community Health Centre 145 Queenston Street, Suite 100	9:30 am – 12pm	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555
Late October TBA –evenings/early fall	Smithville St. Martin School	Evening – TBA early fall	905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555

Real Solutions, for Real Parents



Early Years
NIAGARA



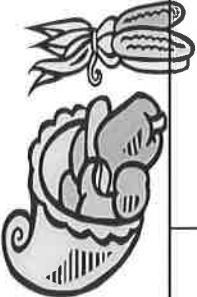
Free Triple P Program The Power of Positive Parenting For Parents with Teenagers (12-16 years old)

Up coming 8 week courses throughout Niagara region:

Seminar Date	Location	Time
Mondays Sept. 19 - Nov. 14	Niagara Falls St. Michael High School	6:30 pm - 9 pm
Tuesdays Oct. 11 - Nov. 29	Welland AFSSN - 285 East Main St.	6 pm - 8:30 pm
Mondays Oct. 17 - Dec. 5	Niagara Falls New Boys and Girls Club 8800 McLeod Road	6 pm - 8:30 pm
Wednesdays Oct. 19 - Dec. 7	St. Catharines - Quest CHC 145 Queenston Street	1:30 pm - 4 pm

For detailed information about the course and to view our schedule, visit our website: beagreatparent.ca or triplepontario.ca To register contact the Parent Talk Information Line: 905-688-8248 ext. 7555. There are also Triple P courses for parents with young children.

October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Day 10	4 Kick off assembly for dance-a-thon fundraiser Therapy Dogs in gr. 5/6 Day 1	5 World Teacher Day Day 2	6 Cross Country Pizza Day Day 3	7 Professional Development Day-no classes for students	8
9	10 Thanksgiving-no classes	11 Therapy dogs in gr. 5/6 Day 4	12 p.m. skate gr. 1 & 2 Day 5	13 Day 6	14 Roots of Empathy begins in gr. 1 Day 7	15
16	17 Day 8	18 Day 9	19 p.m. skate gr. 1 & 2 Day 10	20 Pizza Day Day 1	21 Day 2	22
23	24 Day 3	25 Day 4	26 Educational Assistants' Appreciation Day, p.m. skate gr. 1 & 2 Day 5	27 Sub Day Day 6	28 Day 7	29
30	31 Dance-a-thon Day 8					
<p>Over the Horizon: Nov. 15 – Progress Reports go home Nov. 17 – Parent Teacher Interviews Nov. 21 – Gr. 8 girls' immunization</p>						