



OAKWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

255 Omer Avenue, Port Colborne, Ontario (905) 834-9732

Achieving Success Together

Month End Wrap Up - March 2023

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, April 2nd—World Autism Day—celebrated April 3rd
April 7th—Good Friday Holiday
April 10th—Easter Monday Holiday
April 13th—Crazy Hat Day & Pizza Day
April 18th—Sub Day
Saturday, April 22nd—Earth Day -celebrated April 21st
April 27th—Harvey's Day



STUDENT of the MONTH

This year, we are continuing to focus our student of the month recognition around the **LEARNING SKILLS** from the Report Card. These are the characteristics and behaviours that help promote success for students both at school and in the real world. We will be reviewing what these look like in classrooms and helping our students to develop these important skills. For March each homeroom focused on their own goals!

K1 - Oliver H., Michael G., Ollie M. & Lyla W.
K2—Braelyn C., XJ P., & Willem C.
Gr. 1/2S —Annie D. & Zoey B.
Gr. 1/2T — Zoey M. & Logan M.
Gr. 3/4 — Mya P. & Niko R.
Gr. 4/5— Lyric H.
Gr. 5/6—Brock K. & Temperance R.
Gr. 6/7— Brayden B. & Jaxon K.
Gr. 7/8 — Oakin & Olivia V.
FSP— Alex B. & Madison H.



For April the learning skill focus for students will be Initiative!

MOVING and ALTERNATE SCHOOL REQUESTS

As we head into spring, we begin preparing for next year by looking ahead at next year's classes. By keeping informed of our enrollment numbers, we as a school are less likely to re-organize in the fall from the class structure we share with you in June. So we would request that if you are moving or have already moved or know that you will **NOT** be returning to Oakwood in September (ie French Immersion), please let the office and your child's teacher know. If you are leaving us, it is also useful to contact your new school to let them know that you are coming in September so that they can prepare for your child and ensure that they are on a class list!

If you are moving, or have moved and live outside of the Oakwood boundaries and **would like your child(ren) to continue attending Oakwood next fall as 'Alternate**

School' students, an Alternate School Request **form must** be filled out and kept on file at the office. Please keep in mind that primary classes are capped, so completing these forms in a timely manner is important. ELP alternate requests will hopefully all be addressed before school begins in September! Please note that chronic lates and/or absences will be strong considerations in allowing students to continue to attend Oakwood out of district. Please note that when requesting to attend a school out of boundary, that only children living within the boundary area of any given school are eligible for bus transportation.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

If you or a friend or neighbour missed the Kindergarten Open House and Registration night, don't worry! Kindergarten Registration remains Open! Our Kindergarten registration will remain open on-line until school commences in September of 2023! We're hoping that you can help us share the news by telling your friends and family that they can register their child for Kindergarten. Children are eligible for a September 2023 start to school if they have a child who turns four by December 31st of 2023. Online registration is available at www.dsbn.org/Kindergarten!

EQAO TESTING

EQAO testing is scheduled to take place during the months of May and June. We will be sending out specific testing dates to parents in grade 3 & 6 closer to the exact dates, so that they can avoid scheduling any appointments or activities that will take their child(ren) out of school during this time. Please look for more information regarding EQAO coming home at the beginning of May if your child is in grade 3 or 6!!



NIAGARA NUTRITION PARTNERS

Oakwood is pleased to offer a daily breakfast bin program thanks to our partnership with Niagara Nutrition Partners. Currently, more than 24,000 students are fed a well-rounded, dietitian-approved meal **DAILY** in schools across the region. Every school day, our students have access to sustainable and universal nutrition, regardless of their economic background. This approach levels the playing field, ensuring that hunger will not get in the way of learning. A simple, yet effective formula - **EAT. LEARN. and SUCCEED!**

BICYCLES

With the warmer weather come bicycles, skateboards and scooters. Students are reminded that for their own safety, they need to wear helmets if they wish to ride to school. Students are asked to use the bike racks and are encouraged to lock up their bikes as we cannot guarantee their safety. Students are also reminded that they are supposed to walk their bicycles until they leave school property and not ride on the grass or sidewalks for their own safety and the safety of others. Thank you!



BUS STUDENTS

With the arrival of warm weather and bicycles some students wish to walk or ride to school. That is fine with as long as we receive a dated note from parents that gives permission for a single day to ride a bike or walk or unlimited permission to not ride the bus for the remainder of the year. Without a dated and signed note, students are expected to be on the bus for their own safety. For students who walk, please cross at our designated cross-walks with the crossing guards or traffic lights to ensure you are safe as you travel to and from school.

SNACK CART

Beginning in April, during second break, students will have the opportunity to purchase 'treats' from Ms. Scalzo's classroom. Our snack cart will have a variety of 'treats' that are individually pre-packaged. All items will sell for either .50 or \$1 cash. Ideally exact change is quickest and easiest to manage, but we will make change if required. Our options will include chips, candy and in the warmer weather, ice-cream or freezies. If you have a preference on which snack your child may purchase, please send an envelope or sticky with their treat money to provide us direction.

The money from the cart will be used first to purchase new non-fiction library materials and secondly to top up our sports equipment. Thanks for your support.

APRIL IS ORAL HEALTH MONTH!

Every year, thousands of school-aged children are screened by Public Health. Sadly, 39% of these school-aged children were identified as having tooth decay. Tooth decay is the number one chronic disease of children.

Untreated tooth decay can lead to difficulties eating and sleeping, self-esteem issues, decreased school performance and attendance, pain, discomfort, infection and poor overall health

Given the long-term consequences of tooth decay, early preventive care is critical in the younger grades.

Regular brushing and flossing: Ensure your child brushes their teeth twice daily using a pea-size portion of fluoride toothpaste, as Niagara's community water does not contain fluoride. Younger children require help from an adult until they are able to do an adequate job.

Healthy lunches and snacks: Parents are reminded about the importance of a healthy diet and limiting sugary snacks and drinks. All students have access to water stations (fountains) where bottles can be refilled throughout the day.

Mouth guards: If your child is participating in an orga-

nized sport it is highly recommended that they get a custom-fitted mouth guard to protect their teeth.

Regular dental examinations: Dental examinations at regular intervals are important to prevent or identify dental problems early so they can be treated. Public Health provides a variety of dental programs and services to eligible children and youth 17 years of age and younger.

For more information or to see if your child qualifies, please call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 or visit

www.niagararegion.ca/health.

REMEMBER TOOTH DECAY IS PREVENTABLE!

On April 20th and 21st, ALL Oakwood students will receive dental health screening by our regional Public health team!



INCLEMENT WEATHER

There are times in Niagara when weather conditions are so poor that we must cancel student transportation, and/or close schools to preserve the safety of students and staff. The decision to cancel transportation and/or close schools is not taken lightly; a variety of factors are considered when making this choice. To learn more about how these decisions are made, please go to <https://www.dsb.org/inclementweather>.

Transportation Cancellations:

Information about transportation delays and cancellations are posted to <https://portal.nsts.ca/Cancellations.aspx>.

When transportation is cancelled, every effort is made to communicate the decision by 6:00 am on the day of the cancellation. There are times when transportation is cancelled, but schools remain open. If, on those days you feel it is best for your child to stay home, please report your child's absence <https://dsbn.org/safearrival/> so we can make sure they are safe at home.

School Closures:

Every effort will be made to share school closure information before 6:00 am on the day of the school closure. You will find it on dsbn.org, and all school websites, DSBN social media, and local media or news sources share the news widely as well.

