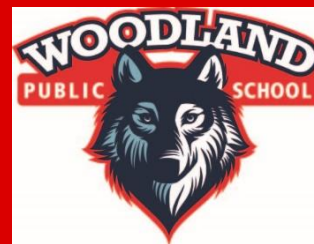


THE PULSE OF THE WOLF PACK

Woodland Public School

1511 7th Street Louth
 St. Catharines, ON
 L2R 6P9
 905.685.1331



January 2025

#IGNITETHELEARNING

#WOODLANDPROUD

#WOODLANDEXCELLENCE



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back! We hope that your holiday season was restful and refreshing. Have you made any New Year's resolutions? A new year provides us with a wonderful opportunity to create resolutions or promises to make positive changes in our lives like eating better, going to bed earlier, or exercising more regularly.

This is also a chance to talk to your children about ways that they can work toward academic goals. Why not make a New Year school resolution? Try brainstorming good work/study habits, ideas for organization, or ways to overcome pitfalls encountered in the early part of the term. With report cards coming out in February, there can be tangible proof just around the corner that hard work and focused effort really makes a difference!

On behalf of our entire staff, best wishes for a happy and healthy 2025!

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

As cooler weather has arrived, 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. 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.

FEBRUARY IS KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION MONTH IN DSBN

Families with children turning four in 2025 are invited to visit www.dsbn.org/kindergarten/ to learn more about Kindergarten programming and online registration. Families can also contact our school office to book a time for in-person registration. We look forward to hosting our new Wolves and their parents/guardians at an Open House on May 14 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Further details about the Open House will be emailed directly to registered families in late April. Please help us spread the word with friends and neighbours!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Welcome Back! Jan. 6
- French Immersion Registration Begins Jan. 6
- Boston Pizza Lunch..... Jan. 16
- Colour House Spirit Day Jan. 16
- PA Day..... Jan. 17
- Snuggle Up with a Stuffedie Day Jan. 27
- Family Literacy Day Jan. 27
- Big Marco's Pasta Lunch..... Jan. 30

PA DAY

On Friday, January 17 all DSBN schools will be closed for a PA Day in which teachers will be engaged in assessment and evaluation activities.



WOODLAND SCHOOL CALENDAR AND DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Woodland Public School calendar is available on the school website, or by [clicking here](#). In addition to our school events, you will find a link to the DSBN Days of Significance calendar on the first of each month. [Click here](#) for more information about the DSBN Days of Significance calendar.

PARKING LOT SAFETY REMINDERS

Our parking lot is an incredibly busy place during morning drop off and afternoon pick up and ensuring the safety of our students is a primary concern.

1. Please remind your child(ren) to look both ways in the parking lot. Even though it might not be a street, cars are coming and going, so looking left and right for traffic is important.
2. Bus lines and car lines are separate, and we ask that you kindly only enter and exit using the appropriate entry as marked. Please do not enter through the exit or drive through the bus lane.
3. No running or horseplay in the parking lot.
4. Please be patient. Please wait until the car in front has moved prior to proceeding rather than trying to go around a car.
5. If your child can take a bus, please consider this option as this reduces the congestion from cars dropping off and picking up, making the parking lot safer for all our students.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

The January [Scholastic Book Club](#) orders are now open, and flyers will come home this week! Every order placed by our families earns rewards for our staff to build our school library. When placing an order, we kindly ask those students in Grades 1-8 use class code RC299022. Please note that orders must be placed prior to the 20th of each month as all school orders will be shipped at the same time. If you are making a purchase as a gift, please let the office know and we will arrange a pickup option that works for you. Otherwise, we will send all orders home with the students. We will host an in person Scholastic Book Fair in February, providing an opportunity to purchase 'in person' to students and families. Stay tuned for more information as we finalize our dates. Happy reading!

MEDICATIONS

Prescription medication that is to be taken according to a fixed schedule requires that the parents arrange to have the pre-dosed medication provided to the school with an '[Authorization of Provision of Oral/Topical Prescription Medication](#)' form. This form must be completed by the parent(s)/guardian(s) and be forwarded to the office prior to the providing of any prescription medication. Please note that medications should be stored at the office and not in student's backpacks. This ensures the medication is not lost or misplaced. Please note that this applies to all medications, including those that are required for short-term use. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

FAMILY LITERACY DAY: LEARN TO BE GREEN, TOGETHER!

Family Literacy Day takes place every January 27th to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. Since 1999, thousands of schools, libraries, literacy organizations and other community groups have taken part in the initiative. ABC creates free learning and promotional resources for anyone that wants to get involved. Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development, improving a child's literacy skills dramatically, and can help a parent improve their skills as well.

We encourage your families to celebrate Family Literacy Day. Please [click here for ideas from ABC Literacy](#).

We are inviting families to join us on Monday, January 27 to participate in Family Literacy Day at Woodland. Join us at 2:45 pm for a half hour of family reading. Gather your Wolves together, spread out in the school and spend a half hour reading a family favourite or a new book selection! Bring your favourite stuffed animal to 'Snuggle Up and Read' together!

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thank you to all the families that were able to support the Woodland School Advisory Council's 'Breakfast with the Wolves' by attending the event, and a special shout out to the parents that organized and volunteered their time to make the event a success. We raised a total of \$ 1576.19 at Breakfast with the Wolves. Thank you to our families who participated in our first MacMillans Fundraiser, and for raising \$1189.65. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

GRADE 1 FRENCH IMMERSION REGISTRATION

The French Immersion program (offered at French Immersion sites) is open for [registration](#) for all Year 2 Kindergarten students beginning at noon on Monday, January 6, 2025, until Tuesday, February 18, 2025. If you want your child to develop a high proficiency and fluency in Canada's two official languages, French Immersion has a great deal to offer. For more information about French Immersion in the District School Board of Niagara, [please click here](#).

DSBN ACADEMY: OPEN HOUSE COMING SOON

Learn about the DSBN Academy at the Open House on **Tuesday, February 4, 2025, from 6:00- 8:00 pm!** Join us to find out:

- How this unique program prepares students to attend, and succeed at, college and university.
- What extra opportunities are offered and how your child can benefit?
- If the DSBN Academy is a good fit for your child

The DSBN Academy is a Grade 6-12 public school designed to support and empower students to be the first in their family to graduate from college or university. Staff and students are committed to the belief that, with hard work, all students can achieve their dreams.

Online registration opens Tuesday, January 7, 2025, and will close on FEBRUARY 24, 2025. Limited spots available. More information will be available shortly. [Click here for information and the registration link](#).

WINTER IS HERE!

With the cold and wet weather upon us, we have a few reminders for comfortable and safe outdoor play during the winter months:

1. Bring appropriate outdoor clothing to school daily (hat, mitts, jacket, snow pants, and boots).
2. Have dry indoor shoes and keep an extra outfit at school too (in case shirt and pants get wet outside).
3. Students are not permitted to throw snow or slide on ice patches. Students who disobey these rules will be sent indoors to the office.

If you need a winter coat, snow pants, boot, hats, gloves, or mitts, please contact the school office by phone or email (wol@dsbn.org) to inquire about the support we can provide in getting these much needed items for your children.

Kindergarten children will also continue to have outdoor exploration time during the winter months.

Our 2 outdoor fitness breaks will occur regularly throughout the winter except when an extreme cold weather alert is issued by the Niagara Region. For this reason, it is essential that students come prepared for the weather! We appreciate your efforts!

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

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.dsbni.org/inclementweather>.

Transportation Cancellations: Information about transportation delays and cancellations are posted to:

<https://portal.nsts.ca/Cancellations.aspx>. The BusPlanner Delays App is a free mobile application that can be downloaded and provides real-time "push" notifications for delays and cancellations related to a specific school or route, directly to your mobile device. 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: When the decision to close schools is made, it refers to all schools: both in-person and remote/virtual learners. Every effort will be made to share school closure information before 6:00 am on the day of the school closure. You will find information on [dsbn.org](https://www.dsbni.org), all school websites, DSBN social media, and local media share the news widely as well.

Elementary Schools: Optional Snow Day activities for Kindergarten to Grade 8, will be available on the DSBN website on days when schools are closed due to inclement weather.

Secondary Schools: When secondary schools are closed, students are reminded they may access a course's online platform (D2L or Google Classroom) to review classroom notes, lessons, and complete any outstanding assignments or projects.

FRAGRANCE/SCENT-REDUCED ENVIRONMENT AT WOODLAND

Within our Woodland family, we have students and staff who have sensitivities to fragrances and scents. Exposure to these scents can trigger serious health reactions in individuals with asthma, allergies, migraines, or chemical sensitivities. By working together to reduce fragrances within our building we can help our Woodland family members and community members feel safe and healthy when they are in our building.

What can you do to help?

- Be considerate of those who are sensitive to fragrances or scents.
- Avoid using these products in the school.
- If fragrances or scented products must be used, do so sparingly. A general guideline for fragrances and scented products is that they should not be detectable more than an arm's length away from you.
- Discuss this with your child.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness, consideration, and co-operation in making Woodland safe for everyone.

ANAPHYLAXIS – BE NUT AWARE!

Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening reaction to certain food substances. We have students in our school that suffer from a severe allergy which can cause an anaphylactic reaction. An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that in some cases, it can be life threatening. These children have a severe allergy to nuts. Prevention is the best approach. Therefore, we ask your cooperation in not sending any snacks or lunches containing nut products with your child.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Our Wolfpack School Cash Online is a safe, reliable portal that will ensure the security of your information. The system is already active. You are able to gain access through the School Cash button which has been placed on our school website. We are asking that you click on the button and follow the simple instructions to register. Registration should take less than five minutes. If you registered last year, you do not need to register again!

If you require some assistance registering for School Cash Online, please visit the office and we will be happy to help you get started.

JANUARY SPIRIT DAYS

Our Wolfpack will be recognizing the following dates with some special activities. We encourage all our Wolves to participate. For our spirit days, we love creativity!

Date	Spirit Day	Purpose of the Day
Thursday, January 16	Colour House Day	Colour houses give our students an opportunity to connect with students from all grade levels and further strengthen our Woodland community. On Thursday, January 16, we ask all students wear their 'colour' to school as we will be meeting in our colour houses to have some fun together.
Monday, January 27	Bring your 'Stuffie' Day for Family Literacy Day	Today is Family Literacy Day. This is a day to celebrate and appreciate literacy with our family. We invite our families to join us at 2:45 for a half hour of reading together. You will be able to gather as a family, spread out within the school and read some of your favourite books together. Don't forget to bring your stuffie as we 'Snuggle Up and Read' together!

SPECIAL LUNCH OPTIONS

**Please note that due to some milk container shortages in the supply chain, we will be holding off on milk orders for January. We will let you know when milk cards are available again.

We plan two special lunch options for each month. When planning our lunch option, we try to alternate between a 'healthier' option and something more fun. We also have a variety of dietary needs that need to be considered. In order to ensure all dietary needs are accommodated and planned for, we order meals that are packaged individually for each student. All orders will be available through School Cash Online and late orders cannot be accepted.

Lunch Date	Lunch Option	Order Window through School Cash Online All orders close at 9:00 am
Friday, January 10, 2025 Friday, January 24, 2025 Friday, January 31, 2025	Popcorn Creamy Dill, White Cheddar, Butter & Salt, and Sweet Kettle Corn	Orders for Jan. 10 close Mon. Jan. 6 Orders for Jan. 24 close Thurs., Jan. 16 Orders for Jan. 31 close Fri. Jan. 24
Thursday, January 16, 2025	Boston Pizza Individual Pizzas (cheese, pepperoni, or gluten-free cheese)	Closes Friday, January 10
Thursday, January 30, 2025	Big Marcos Pasta with optional meatballs Gluten-free option available	Closes Fri. January 24

EXTRA-CURRICULARS UPDATES

We are looking forward to offering a variety of extra-curricular opportunities for our Wolves during the 2022-2023 school year. Here is what is currently being offered!

Activity	Day of the Cycle and Meeting Time	Grades for Student Involvement	Teacher Supervisor
Intermediate Basketball	Season begins week of January 13 (games Tuesdays and Thursdays)	Grades 7 - 8	Ms. Bond, Mrs. Wright and Mr. Luke
Board Game Club	Stay tuned for details on the announcements	Grades 1-8	Ms. Bond, Ms. Clarke, and Mrs. Worth

DSBN SOCIAL WORKER SUPPORT AVAILABLE

- Do you have questions about your child's mental health and well-being, such as anxiety, behaviour or self-harm?
- Do you need support in accessing supports in the community?
- Do you need advice for setting goals to help with regular school attendance?
- Do you have any questions or looking for support regarding a certain aspect of parenting?

If these are some questions that you have, please speak with your child's teacher or Mrs. Worth. All DSBN schools work with a DSBN Social Worker who supports families to provide an additional layer of support to help our students and families achieve success. Our DSBN Social Workers are an invaluable member of our Woodland team.

DSBN eFLYERS

Many community events and activities are posted on the DSBN eFlyers website. I encourage you to take a look, on occasion, to ensure you do not miss any community events that might be of interest to you or your family. To view the eFlyers, please follow the simple instructions:

1. Log onto our website: www.dsbnschools.org
2. Click on "Community" tab
3. Click on "eFlyer Request" and you may browse through the 'Recent eFlyers' to find offerings from a variety of community organizations.

STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED

In our busy lives, events can sometimes be overlooked. Technology allows us multiple ways to connect with families. The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

SCHOOL WEBSITE - woodland.dsbm.org

Please take some time to visit the Woodland Public School website. Our website includes current newsletters, school calendars, code of conduct, school council information, a school year calendar, classroom websites, and bell times.

SCHOOL MESSENGER - Using the School Messenger program, all families will receive an email on Sunday afternoon (Monday on a long weekend) with reminders about events for the upcoming week. If you are not receiving these emails, please check your contact information with the office to ensure we have the most current information.

SOCIAL MEDIA – Please visit our [Instagram](#) platform for updates and reminders. We are #Wolfpackproud, #WoodlandDSBN, and look forward to sharing how we #Ignitethelearning!

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - All newsletters will be posted to the school website and sent via School Messenger through email on the first school day of the new month. Accessing the newsletter through the website or email allows you to click on links to learn more about items highlighted in our newsletters.