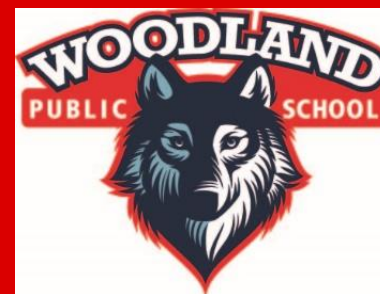


THE PULSE OF THE WOLF PACK

Woodland Public School

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 St. Catharines, ON
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wol@dsbn.org woodland.dsbn.org @WoodlandDSBN



April 2023

#WOODLANDWOVES

#WOLFPACKPROUD

#WOODLANDDSBN

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

With the arrival of spring, we always anticipate rain. On rainy mornings, students will be admitted into the school starting at 8:45 am where our supervision will take place in the classrooms until our day starts at 9:00 am. We kindly ask that you do not drop off your children prior to 8:45 am as there is no supervision until that time.

We have many exciting events coming up in the final months of our school year. Please remember to check out the weekly updates you receive each Sunday and the calendar on the school website for updates and events.



PLANNING FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

In order to assist us with making the best decisions possible with respect to class organization and student placements for Woodland Public School for the 2023/2024 school year, we would appreciate if you would let the office know if your family is planning to move in the next few months. Providing us with this information in the spring will also facilitate transportation arrangements for September. We thank you in advance for keeping us informed! School and classroom organization begins at the end of April so sharing this information with us now is very helpful for our planning for next year!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Celebrate the Spectrum Day – Wear Tie Dye Apr. 3
- Dance-a-thon Apr. 6
- Good Friday Holiday Apr. 7
- Easter Monday Holiday Apr. 10
- Boston Pizza Lunch..... Apr. 13
- Grade 7 and 8 Immunizations..... Apr. 17
- School Advisory Council Apr. 18
- Grade 7 and 8 Trip to Sir Winston to view 'Sherlock Holmes' play Apr. 19
- Grade 6/7 Trip to DSBN Adventure Campus Apr. 20
- Career Day..... Apr. 28
- Urban Cravings Lunch Apr. 27

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.

HOLIDAY DATES

Easter Break is from April 7 to April 10 inclusive. We wish our Wolfpack a happy and healthy Easter break.

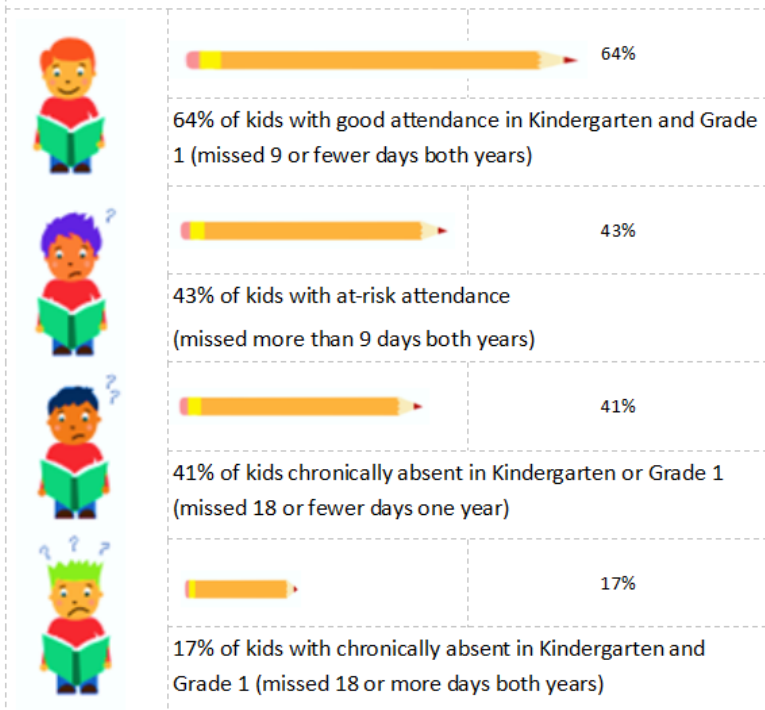
DANCE-A-THON – THURSDAY, APRIL 6

The School Advisory Council is excited about the upcoming Woodland Dance-a-Thon. We will hold the Dance-a-Thon on Thursday, April 6. The funds raised will be used to support end of the year trips. Donations will be accepted through School Cash Online. Please see the email in regard to the Dance-a-thon sent on March 21, 2023.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS – WHY IT MATTERS IN THE EARLY YEARS!

Who can read on Grade Level after Grade 3?



My child is in Kindergarten or Grade 1. Does their regular attendance really matter?

"If children don't show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers. Preliminary data from a California study found that children who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade." (attendanceworks.org.)

What can you do?

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school everyday, make that the expectation.
- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Complaints of headaches or stomach aches may be signs of anxiety.

How many days is considered chronically absent?

A student that misses 18 days during the entire school year is considered chronically absent.

Did you know?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

If you require some assistance improving your child's attendance, please contact your child's teacher or the school office. Supports are available to support regular attendance at school. This information is used with permission of Attendance Works.

SCHOLASTIC READING CLUB

Woodland is pleased to offer the opportunity for families to order books through the Scholastic Reading Club. Each month, new books are featured. If you would like to place an order, please use class code: **RC299022**. To view the Scholastic Reading Club catalogue, please [click here](#).

LOCKDOWN DRILL

All schools within the DSNB practice lockdown procedures as part of the school's emergency preparedness. The simulation will give students and staff an opportunity to implement our School and Board Emergency Response Plan to ensure the safety of all students and staff, should an emergency lockdown situation occur.

This is to inform you that Woodland Public School will be involved in a practice lockdown procedure on April 12, 2023. Similar to fire evacuation drills, classroom teachers will review the steps that students must follow during a lockdown. As always, staff will make sure students are prepared and feel safe during the practice. The practice lockdown is expected to take approximately ten minutes. If you require any additional information, please contact me at the school.

APRIL SPIRIT DAYS

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

Date	Spirit Day	Purpose of the Day
Monday, April 3	Celebrate the Spectrum for Autism Acceptance Day 2023	Autism Acceptance Day is officially held on Sunday, April 2. On Monday, April 3, wear tie-dye to show your support for people on the Spectrum. This is an opportunity to provide spaces of support and advocacy for our diverse communities, learn about autism and how to make our communities more inclusive for people on the autism spectrum.
Friday, April 28	Career Day	Woodland Wolves are going places! On Friday, April 28, we are encouraging our students to dress like their dream profession. We can't wait to have a sneak peek into the future!

SPECIAL LUNCH OPTIONS

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. Orders close at 9:00 am on the due date.

Lunch Date	Lunch Option	Order Window through School Cash Online
Thursday, April 13, 2023	<u>Boston Pizza</u> Individual Pizzas (cheese, peperoni, or gluten-free cheese)	Open now and closes Thursday, April 6 at 9:00 am
Thursday, April 27, 2023	<u>Urban Cravings</u> Variety of salads and smoothies	Opens Friday, April 14 and closes Friday, April 21 at 9:00 am
May Milk Card	<u>May Milk Card</u> Chocolate or white milk card for the month of May Please note this is the last order for the school year!	Opens Friday, April 14 and closes Friday, April 28 at 9:00 am

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! Please note that if NSTS transportation is cancelled, any after school extra-curriculars will also be cancelled.

Activity	Day of the Cycle and Meeting Time	Grades for Student Involvement	Teacher Supervisor
Junior Basketball	Games are Tuesdays and Thursdays until April 11.	Grades 4-6	Ms. Bond
Forest of Reading	<u>Silver Birch Express</u> Grades 3-4 Tuesdays first break <u>Silver Birch</u> Grades 5-6 - Thursdays second break <u>Red Maple (Grade 7-8)</u> - Wednesdays second break	Grades 3 - 8	Mrs. Worth
Intermediate Badminton	Information about tryouts coming soon! Tournament April 26, 2023	Grades 7-8	Ms. Bond/Mrs. Gabriel
Chess Club	Tournament for Grades 4-8 - Thursday, April 20, 2023 at Smithville Public School (due to number limitations, we may need to select players for the tournament) Regular chess club will continue for all interested players!	Grades 1-8	Mrs. Strickland and Mrs. Masterson

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR – IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Did you, or someone you know miss our open house and have a child who was born in 2019? If so, connect with the school and we can make arrangements for a visit. There is still time to register by visiting the [DSBN Kindergarten registration link](#). If you have any questions, please contact the office.



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL – TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023

Our fourth School Advisory Council meeting was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023. All School Advisory Council meeting agendas and minutes will be posted on the [Woodland web site](#) once they are approved. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

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.

PROM PROJECT NIAGARA

Grade 8 Graduation is coming! We encourage students to come in clothes they feel comfortable wearing to celebrate their milestone achievement. Prom Project Niagara is a one-day, fun, free formal wear extravaganza for girls and guys! Students can select their perfect head-to-toe look for their prom, formal, or **graduation** for FREE!

If you know of a student who could use this program, please join us on Saturday, May 6, from 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at St. Catharines Collegiate. More information will be shared shortly!

NIAGARA REGION PUBLIC HEALTH APRIL NEWSLETTER

Please [click this link to read the April updates](#) from Niagara Region Public Health.

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.dsbn.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.

THE NOSE KNOWS: NO SCENTS MAKES SENSE

Scented products have chemicals that can cause health reactions in people with asthma, migraines, allergies, or environmental sensitivities. Please help keep our air breathable for everyone and use unscented or scent reduced products where possible. Woodland is a Scent-Reduced Environment. Some staff and students have a sensitivity to odours, smells, and scents. Please do not wear, or send your child with, perfume, cologne, after shave, or scented body lotion into the school.

We have had some students spraying perfumes, body sprays and other scented products in the halls. We kindly ask that you review the Scent-Reduced Environment message with your child.

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.

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.dsbn.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. Our website also includes the most recent social media posts.

SCHOOL MESSENGER - Using the School Messenger program, all families will receive an email on Sunday afternoon (Monday's 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 follow us on these social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)) to see updates on exciting events. All posts and tweets will be updated on our school website as well. We are #Woodlandwolves, #Wolfpackproud, and #WoodlandDSBN!

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.