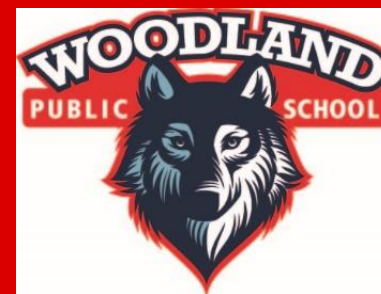


# THE PULSE OF THE WOLF PACK Woodland Public School

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## January 2023

#WOODLANDWOVES

#WOLFPAKPROUD

#WOODLANDDSBN

### 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 early 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 2023!

### DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

As cooler weather approaches, 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 and gym classes. Students will continue to have gym classes outside during this time. 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.

### 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.



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Welcome Back! ..... Jan. 9
- French Immersion Registration Begins ..... Jan. 9
- Boston Pizza Lunch..... Jan. 12
- Hat Day Spirit Day..... Jan. 13
- Dental Screening ..... Jan. 17
- PA Day..... Jan. 20
- Lincoln Alexander Day ..... Jan. 21
- Urban Cravings Lunch ..... Jan. 26
- Family Literacy Day ..... Jan. 27
- PJ Day..... Jan. 27

### PA DAY

On Friday, January 20 all DSBN schools will be closed for a PA Day in which teachers will be engaged in assessment and evaluation activities.



## 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.

## STAFFING UPDATE

The staff is excited to welcome Ms. Alex to our Grade 2/3 class and Ms. Labbe as our FSL (French as a Second Language) and rotary teacher. Here is an updated staff list for your reference:

Mrs. K. Worth, Principal Mrs. G. Craig, Administrative Assistant Mr. D. Jones, Caretaker			
Teaching Staff		Support Staff	
Kindergarten Team	Mrs. J. Wiens and Ms. N. Garon	Educational Assistant	Ms. A. Bye
Grade 1/2	Mrs. H. Masterson	Youth Counsellor	TBD
Grade 2/3	Ms. V. Alex	Social Worker	Ms. S. Leibbrandt
Grade 4/5	Ms. K. Bond	Instructional Coach	Mr. C. Lauzon
Grade 6/7	Miss B. Bridges	Lunch Supervisors	Mrs. M. Carlomusto
Grade 8	Mrs. H. Gabriel		Mrs. A. Roscoe
LRT and Rotary	Mrs. T. Strickland		Mrs. R. Ruddy
FSL and Rotary	Ms. G. Labbe		Mrs. W. Sterk

## FAMILY LITERACY DAY: CELEBRATE YOUR HERITAGE

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.

On January 27, we encourage your families to celebrate this day by learning about your heritage. We are fortunate to live in a country that celebrates our diversity. Let's explore our heritage and learn about others as well! [Click here are ideas from ABC Literacy on learn about your family, with your family.](#)

We are inviting families to join us on Friday, January 27 to participate in Family Literacy Day. 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! Come in your PJs as we 'Snuggle Up and Read' together!

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Do you know a child who was born in 2019? If so, spread the word that Kindergarten registration is almost here! Please visit the [DSBN Kindergarten registration link](#) for more details and save Thursday, February 2, 2023, between 10:00 – 6:00 pm for our Kindergarten Open House event!

## GRADE 1 FRENCH IMMERSION REGISTRATION

The French Immersion program (offered at French Immersion sites) is open to all Year 2 Kindergarten students from Monday, January 9, 2023, until Tuesday, February 21, 2023. 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](#). To register for the virtual open house, please click on the image to the left.

## ACADEMY: OPEN HOUSE COMING SOON

Learn about the DSBN Academy at the Open House on **Tuesday, February 7, 2023 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 in January at [ACADEMY.DSBN.ORG/APPLY](https://www.dsbn.org/academy/apply). Registration will close on **FEBRUARY 27, 2023**. Limited spots available. More information will be available shortly.

## 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](mailto: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 in 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.dsbn.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:

When the decision to close schools is made, it refers to all schools. 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](https://www.dsbn.org), all school websites, DSBN social media, and local media share the news widely as well.

## 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.

## 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 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.

## SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our third School Advisory Council meeting was held on Tuesday, November 29, 2022. 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, February 7, 2023, at 6:00 pm. New members are always welcome to join.

## 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
Friday, January 13	Hat Day	Hang on to your hats and celebrate in style on National Hat Day. Celebrated each year on January 15th (we will celebrate on January 13th), don your favorite fedora, cap, cloche, derby, sunhat, toque, beanie or snapback. Dig out your ceremonial best and tell the story behind it. Don't have a hat? That is ok! Get creative with some hair accessories!
Friday, January 27	PJ 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 wear your PJs as we 'Snuggle Up and Read' together!

## 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	Games are Tuesdays and/or Thursdays – please see schedule sent home prior to Winter Break	Grades 7 - 8	Mrs. Gabriel
Forest of Reading	Students are encouraged to listen to announcement for start date - club will meet during recess times	Grades 5 - 8	Mrs. Worth

## 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, January 12, 2023	<b><u>Boston Pizza</u></b> Individual Pizzas (cheese, peperoni, or gluten-free cheese)	Open now and closes Monday, January 9 at 9:00 am
Thursday, January 26, 2023	<b><u>Urban Cravings</u></b> Salads and smoothies	Opens Friday, January 13 and closes Friday, January 20 at 9:00 am

## 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.dsb.org](http://www.dsb.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](http://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. Our website also includes the most recent Facebook posts and Tweets.

**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.