

# THE PULSE OF THE WOLF PACK

## Woodland Public School

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February 2023

#WOODLANDWOVES

#WOLFPAKPROUD

#WOODLANDDSBN

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

March Break is just around the corner. This will be a week to find balance between structure and freedom for your children. They will have reached a point in their school year where they are ready for a break, and they will want to enjoy their freedom from the schedule. However, their need for structure will still persist. Before long, they'll be asking "what can I do now?" By planning a balance of indoor and outdoor activities, our Wolves may avoid the "video game trap". I hope you find some time to include reading for pleasure. A simple trip to the book store or library is always a good way to break up the week, while promoting literacy as a family. Perhaps you challenge members of your family to cook or bake a new item for the family to try? Cooking and baking are great ways to apply math skills, such as fractions, reading procedural texts (to follow instructions) and just a great way to spend time together as a family!

Whatever plans you have for March Break, we wish our families a safe and healthy break and look forward to reconnecting once we are refreshed and ready for the remainder of the school year!

### 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.

### MOVIE AFTERNOON – FRIDAY, MARCH 10

On Friday, March 10, the School Advisory Council is hosting a movie afternoon for students. Students may purchase treats to enjoy during the movie. These items can be purchased through School Cash Online until Thursday, March 9 at 9:00 am. Pre-purchasing through School Cash Online ensures we have an adequate quantity of items for our students and students don't lose or misplace their money at school. Further information about the movie will be shared shortly.

For students that are not interested in participating in the movie, alternate activities will be planned for the afternoon.



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Subway Lunch ..... Mar. 2
- Grade 4/5 Trip to DSBN Adventure Campus ..... Mar. 6
- Grade 8 Grad Photos..... Mar. 7
- Boston Pizza Lunch..... Mar. 9
- Vision and Hearing Screening..... Mar. 9
- Movie Afternoon ..... Mar. 10
- Pajama Day ..... Mar. 10
- March Break Begins ..... Mar. 13
- March Break End..... Mar. 17
- Pita Pit Lunch ..... Mar. 30
- Proud to Be Me Day ..... Mar. 31

### PA DAY

March Break is from March 13 to March 17 inclusive. We look forward to seeing our families on March 20 after a restful and healthy break.



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

We were excited to host our Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, February 2. 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.



## GRADE 8 GRAD PHOTOS – TUESDAY, MARCH 7

Grade 8 Graduation photos are tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 7 in the morning. All students are encouraged to wear a white, button-down shirt and a tie for the boys. Further information will be sent home when we get closer to photo day.

## VISION AND HEARING SCREENING – THURSDAY, MARCH 9

We are excited to be bringing a Hearing & Vision Screening Clinic to Woodland Public School. This clinic is offered to all students JK to Grade 8. The clinic will take place on Thursday, March 9 at Woodland Public School. Registration must be completed in advance through School Cash Online and will close on Tuesday, March 7 at 9:00 am. There is a cost of \$20 for this optional screening. Only families that complete the registration through School Cash Online will be screened. If you are unable to complete the registration through School Cash Online but would like to have your child screened, please contact the office. [For additional information, please click here.](#)

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS – OLDER STUDENTS

### 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.

### 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.

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.

## GRADE 8 GRAD

Grade 8 Graduation has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2023. Please save this date! Information will be sent home with more details at a later date.

## DANCE-A-THON – COMING SOON

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. More information will be coming home soon! Thank you for supporting this initiative!

## MARCH 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, March 10	Pajama Day	As the School Advisory Council is hosting a movie afternoon for our Wolves on Friday, March 10, we encourage our students to get comfy and wear their PJs to school.
Friday, March 31	Proud to Be Me Day	<p>Dress in anything that makes you proud! This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• something special given to you by someone special (grandparent, parent, etc.),</li> <li>• something you have earned like a medal, ribbon, or an award,</li> <li>• traditional or cultural clothing,</li> <li>• clothes with a cause or positive message,</li> <li>• a uniform, jersey, or clothing from an activity you participate in</li> <li>• Woodland or Canada gear,</li> <li>• or anything else of your choosing.</li> </ul> <p>We are looking forward to celebrating the diversity, uniqueness, and passions of our Wolves!</p>

## 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, March 2, 2023	<p><b>Subway</b></p> <p>Choice of a 6 or 12 inch sub with a variety of toppings. Gluten-free options are available.</p>	Rescheduled from Thursday, February 23 due to Snow Day school closure
Thursday, March 9, 2023	<p><b>Boston Pizza</b></p> <p>Individual Pizzas (cheese, pepperoni, or gluten-free cheese)</p>	Open now and closes Friday, March 3 at 9:00 am
Thursday, March 30, 2023	<p><b>Pita Pit</b></p> <p>Variety of pita with gluten-free options available.</p>	Opens Thursday, March 10 and closes Friday, March 24 at 9:00 am
April Milk Card	<p><b>April Milk Card</b></p> <p>Chocolate or white milk card for the month of March</p>	Opens Friday, March 10 and closes Friday, March 31 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	Tryouts have started for both a boys and girls Junior (Grades 4-6) basketball team. The season will begin upon our return from March Break. Further information (such as game days) will be shared with the team as we receive it.	Grades 4-6	Ms. Bond
Forest of Reading	<u>Silver Birch Express Grades 3-4</u> Tuesdays first break <u>Silver Birch Grades 5-6</u> - Thursdays second break <u>Red Maple (Grade 7-8)</u> - Wednesdays second break	Grades 3 - 8	Mrs. Worth
Gymnastics Club	Practices after school on Mondays and Wednesdays after school from 3:20 – 4:20 Competition coming at the end of March – Stay tuned for details!	Grades 4-8	Miss Bridges

## 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.

## 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.dsbns.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://dsbn.org), all school websites, DSBN social media, and local media share the news widely as well.

## 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.dsbm.org](http://www.dsbm.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.

## 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.

## 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.