THE PULSE OF THE WOLF PACK Woodland Public School

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#WOODLANDWOVES #WOLFPACKPROUD #WOODLANDDSBN

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I would like to extend my thanks to all members of our school community, including students, parents, and staff, for an amazing kick off to our 2022-2023 school year.

Did you know, according to Harvard Medical School, "gratitude is strongly and consistently associated with greater happiness". Being grateful is important, however expressing your gratitude will have an even larger impact on your happiness. (Check out this link for a fun video about gratitude.) With Thanksgiving around the corner, I encourage our families to reach out to someone who has a positive influence in their life and let them know! Not only will you be happier, but imagine how amazing that person will feel after receiving such a compliment! I am truly grateful to be a part of our amazing Woodland team and, on behalf of our staff, we wish our families a very Happy Thanksgiving!

WOODLAND SCHOOL CALENDAR AND DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

OPEN HOUSE MEET THE TEACHER EVENT

We would like to invite all families to join us on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, between the hours of 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Come and visit your child's classroom and meet the teacher. We are also excited to have Kool Jim's Ice Cream Truck available for ice cream purchases in the back playground. Please remember that this is an informal event. If you would like to discuss specific concerns, please schedule an appointment with the teacher to ensure your privacy and the teacher's undivided attention.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

| Boston Pizza Orders DueOct. | 4 | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|--|--|--|
| World Teacher's DayOct. | 5 | | | |
| Thanksgiving DayOct. | 10 | | | |
| Jersey DayOct. | 12 | | | |
| Boston Pizza LunchOct. | 13 | | | |
| School Photo DayOct. | 13 | | | |
| Grade 8 Trip to Adventure Campus | | | | |
| Oct. | 14 | | | |
| Grade 7 and 8 Immunization Clini | ic | | | |
| Oct. | 17 | | | |
| Secret Path Week Begins Oct. | 17 | | | |
| Take Me Outside DayOct. | 19 | | | |
| Urban Cravings Lunch Orders Due | | | | |
| Oct. | 21 | | | |
| PA DayOct. | 24 | | | |
| Urban Cravings LunchOct. | 27 | | | |
| Dress Purple Day for Child Abuse | | | | |
| AwarenessOct. | 27 | | | |
| HalloweenOct. | 31 | | | |

PA DAY

Monday, October 24 has been designated as a PA Day for the District School Board of Niagara.



WOODLAND SPIRIT WEAR AND GRAD HOODIE ORDERS

Starting Monday, October 3 through to midnight on October 16, 2022, families may purchase Woodland Public School spirit wear through Regatta Sports. There are a variety of items available at a variety of price points. To our Grade 8 graduates, the Class of 2023 Grad Hoodies are also available through this ordering window as well. Don't miss out! To place an order, follow the instructions using the following link: Woodland iTeam Order Instructions.pdf

SUPERVISION REMINDERS

Your child's safety is very important to us at Woodland. In order to help us keep your child safe, we ask that you keep in mind the supervision schedule for students. Supervision for students begins at 8:45 am. Students should not be arriving prior to 8:45 am, as supervision is not provided prior to that time. When there is inclement weather, students will enter the school from the doors closest to the bus drop off starting at 8:45 am.

CREED-BASED HOLIDAYS

The Niagara Region is growing more diverse in creed and/or religious beliefs and practices. The District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) is committed to fostering diverse, equitable, and inclusive learning and working environments that promote acceptance and protect individuals from discrimination and harassment based on the protected grounds under the Ontario Human Rights Code. Creed and/or religion is one of the grounds that is both an individual right and a collective responsibility. The DSBN recognizes and embraces the creed diversity represented in its students, staff, and community members. As we start our school year, I invite you to share with me your family's most significant creed-based holiday(s). We will work together through the accommodation request process as insert name of school here recognizes the importance of families celebrating their creed and/or religious beliefs and practices. The DSBN has created a Family Guide: Recognizing and Respecting Creed Diversity to support families in requesting accommodations. This guide has also been translated into the following languages: Arabic, French, Hungarian, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Urdu and Vietnamese, which can be viewed on the DSBN Equity webpage. For a list of Days of Significance, please refer to the Days of Significance Calendar.

STAFFING UPDATE

On Monday, September 19, we welcomed Ms. Amanda Bye to our Wolfpack. She will be supporting our Kindergarten class. Welcome to the Wolfpack Ms. Bye!

WORLD TEACHER'S DAY - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

World Teacher's Day is recognized annually on October 5. I would like to thank our teaching staff for all you do each and everyday to ensure that our Wolves are safe, well, and challenged to do their best. Thank you to our amazing teaching staff for making our community an amazing one to be a part of and supporting our Wolves to be the best version of themselves in everything they do!

TERRY FOX

On Friday, September 23, our Woodland Wolves participated in the Terry Fox School Run. Thank you to the families that donated directly to the Terry Fox Foundation through the <u>Woodland Public School donation page</u>. Through the generosity of our families, we surpassed our \$1000 goal and raised \$1120 to support cancer research.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY - OCTOBER 13, 2022

School photo day is coming soon! Our school photos are scheduled for the morning of Thursday, October 13, 2022. Further information and reminders will be sent home closer to photo day.

STUDENT NUTRITION PROGRAM

We are pleased to announce that our student nutrition program has begun! Following protocols set out by Niagara Nutrition Partners, students will be able to access 'grab-and-go' snacks, including fresh fruits and grain products, in their classrooms throughout the day. We appreciate the financial support of our partners at Niagara Nutrition Partners!

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 ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our first School Advisory Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 27. Thank you to all the parents that attended our meeting. At this meeting, our executive was elected. Our executive for our council is as follows: Co-Chairs: Ms. Karen Maloney-Younker and Mrs. Dana Nash Secretary: Mrs. Heather Ferretti

All School Advisory Council meeting agendas and minutes will be posted on the <u>Woodland web site</u> once they are approved. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 25 at 6:00 pm.

New members are always welcome to join!

STRAWBERRY SOCIAL — HELP WANTED! (MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL)

At our meeting on Tuesday, September 27, the Strawberry Social's return for June 2023 was discussed. The hope is to bring this traditional Woodland Public School event back this year. However, this event requires the support of a number of volunteers to make it possible. If you are interested in helping plan and/or assist during the event, please email the school at wol@dsbn.org with your name and contact phone number and your information will be passed on to the Strawberry Social planning committee.

KEEPING OUR SCHOOL SAFE AND HEALTHY

If you have a child with a Prevalent Medical Condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. The Plan of Care form is a new document that replaces the Emergency Action Plan. All parents of children with Prevalent Medical Conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. You can download the forms here dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions. For more information, please contact the office.

PLAYGROUND UPDATES AND PARKING LOT ALERT!

We are excited to announce that on Wednesday, October 5 (depending on the weather), both our Kindergarten and our Primary/Junior playground equipment will be updated from gravel ground covering to mulch. In order to have this work completed, portions of our parking lot will need to be closed over the next week or two to accommodate this work. We encourage all students that are able to take the bus to please do so. This will alleviate some of the traffic in our parking lot at entry and dismissal. If you must drive your child, please be patient as there will not be as much available parking for a couple of weeks. If you have any concerns, please contact the office.

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.

OCTOBER 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 |
|--------------------------|------------------|---|
| Wednesday, October 12 | Jersey Day | To celebrate the start of the NHL Hockey season, we will have a Jersey Day on Wednesday, October 12, 2022. Wear a jersey from your favourite sports team (NHL, MLS, MLB) or a jersey from a team you play on. If you don't have a jersey, wear Woodland gear or our school colours to celebrate our Wolves! |
| Thursday, October 27 | Dress Purple Day | The DSBN has joined the commitment to Dress Purple to support Child Abuse Prevention Month. October is Child Abuse Prevention Month and Thursday, October 27, 2022, is Dress Purple Day, a provincial day of action when students and staff are encouraged to wear purple and show your support for child abuse prevention. On Thursday, October 27, DSBN will be recognizing Dress Purple Day. |
| Monday, October 31 | Halloween Day | Plans are already being made to celebrate Halloween at Woodland. As you prepare for Halloween for school with your child(ren) please remember to avoid costumes that include weapons of any kind or that are overly violent in nature. We ask that props (such as knives, spears, hooks, etc.) and Halloween masks be left at home. More detailed information will be sent home in the next couple weeks. |

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 |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Cross-Country | Practices Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning @ 8:15 am Meet on October 4 DSBN Meet on October 13 (October 14 rain date) | Grades 3 - 8 | Miss Bridges and Mrs. Strickland |
| Intermediate Soccer | Tournament on October 5 @ Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School | Grades 7 - 8 | Mrs. Leontis |
| Intermediate Volleyball | Season begins week of October 17 | Grades 7 - 8 | Ms. Bond |

SO MANY WAYS TO 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 Facebook posts and Tweets.

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 follow us on these social media platforms (<u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>) 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. Accessing the newsletter through the website or email allows you to click on links to learn more about some items highlighted in our newsletters.

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.

SPECIAL LUNCH OPTIONS

We are excited that our special lunch days will be in full-swing in October. 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, October 13, 2022 | Boston Pizza Individual Pizzas (cheese, peperoni, or gluten-free cheese) | Open now and closes Tuesday, October 4, 2022, at 9:00 am |
| Thursday, October 27, 2022 | Urban Cravings Variety of salads and bowls, including gluten-free and vegetarian options Smoothies are also available | Opens Friday, October 7 and closes Friday, October 21 at 9:00 am |