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PRINCESS MARGARET PUBLIC SCHOOL



<http://www.dsbns.edu.on.ca/Schools/PrincessM/>

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 6

FEBRUARY 1, 2012

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

February is off to a frantic start this year. There are many exciting things happening for staff and students at Princess Margaret School.

Our Intermediates have completed their intention sheets as they prepare to start high school in September. As the Grade eights prepare to leave Princess Margaret we will begin to prepare for the arrival of our Junior Kindergarten students. We will be accepting JK Registrations throughout February.

The Term 1 Provincial Report Card will be sent home with students on February 9.

The DSBN Academy will be holding an information session for all interested families on Feb. 7 2012 at 6pm at James Morden Public School. Please contact Mr. Halliday if you have any questions.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Princess Margaret Parent Council works tirelessly to support our school and community.

We have begun to plan for our next 'Amazing Race'. The "Princess Margaret Amazing Race" is a family friendly event that lets family participate in a

race like the television show of the same name. It is designed to build connections between the school and home. Look for more information soon as we work to plan the date and the theme of this year's event.

All parents are welcome to attend the meetings. Join us for the next meeting of the year on

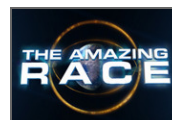
**Wednesday
February 15, 2012
At
6:00 pm**



Congratulations to the Robotics Team

In addition, **Friday February 17, is and Early Release Day (Classes end at 12:10) and Monday, February 20th is Family Day and there will be no school.** Please make sure that you have made arrangements for childcare for this day.

Sports, intramurals, and clubs are in full swing. Special thanks to all the staff and volunteers that make these programs possible for our students.





WINTER WEATHER

December brings the cold and wet weather. It can also bring some confusion to school routines. We all expect cold temperatures and some rain during this time of year.

Please dress your children appropriately for the weather!

We will attempt to allow students outside during as many recesses as possible. To ensure the safety of students on our playground during the winter months, it

is necessary for us to ban the throwing/kicking of snow/ice. The students are constantly reminded of this rule during in-class discussions, at assemblies and over the morning announcements.

Should it be found that a student has violated this rule, his/her name is recorded in the office and the appropriate consequences will be given. These include suspension for repeat offenders who endanger the safety of others.

Please reinforce these rules with your children at home!



**February
is
Kindergarten
Registration
Month**

KINDNESS INSPIRES Students to SMILE!

Last year during the month of February, Student Government initiated a Kindness Chain. This year we will be doing the same! Students and staff from Princess Margaret will be filling out chain links that they have filled out with acts of kindness. Together each link will be joined to make our Kindness Chain! Be sure and encourage your child to be part of our LINK! Be sure and look for our colourful KISS Chain located in the hallways of our school, to see KINDESS in action! "

Kindness, like a boomerang, always returns!
"Don't wait for people to be kind, show them how!"

Upcoming Events

SUPER FAN DAY~ Friday February 3rd ~this is your day to wear your favourite teams sports jersey or your favourite celebrity T-shirt / outfit ~BE a SUPER FAN!

Red and White Day~ February 14th wear red, pink or white...to celebrate Valentine's Day!

Intermediate Valentine's Dance ~ February 14th 1:30-3:00 p.m. (gr. 6, 7 and 8's only)

BEACH DAY ~Thursday March 8th ~dress up in your finest Beachwear!
Also look for information regarding our **upcoming auditions** for Princess Margaret's first Panther Talent Show...coming soon!

JK REGISTRATION

Going to school for the first time is a major step for children and their parents. At the DSBN, families start that journey together at the 'Kindergarten Countdown'.

If you have a child who will be 4 years old by

December 31, 2012, he/she is eligible to register for the 2012 - 2013 kindergarten program.

Visit the office during regular school hours to

pick up a registration form and get the countdown started.

**KiNDERGARTEN
COUNTDOWN**

www.dsbn.org

DSBN ACADEMY

What is DSBN Academy?

DSBN Academy was born out of the recognition that education plays a vital role in helping children to overcome the effects of life's challenges. The comprehensive social and academic support provided by the DSBN Academy will be key to empowering students to become the first in their families to graduate from a post-secondary institution. DSBN Academy will be a Grade 6-12 public school that focuses on supporting and empowering students to attend and graduate not just from high school, but also from college or university.

How will DSBN Academy help students succeed?

DSBN Academy Strategies for Success:

- School-wide shared beliefs focused on post-secondary

- preparation
- Committed and motivated students, families and staff
- Single track academic program
- Advisory program support
- After school "encore" programs
- Programming that encourages parent involvement
- Transportation

What students may apply for DSBN Academy?

- Is currently entering Grade 6, 7 or 8 for September 2012
- Will be the first in their family to graduate from a college or university program
- Demonstrates motivation, achieves current or just below grade level expectations, and has the potential to attend col-

- lege or university
- Has potential for achieving good or excellent learning skills, particularly initiative, independent work and responsibility

Applications are available at your local DSBN school and online at:

An information session will be held on

February 7, 2012
@6pm
At
James Morden
Public School

Upcoming Events

DSBN ACADEMY
Information Session
Feb. 7, 2012

Red and White Day
Feb. 14, 2012

Early Release Day
Feb. 17, 2012

Family Day
Feb. 20, 2012

March Break

Classes End
Thursday March 8, 2012

Classes Resume
Monday March 19, 2012

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR
OPTIMISTIC
STUDENTS



Each month Princess Margaret School will be recognizing one character trait.

FEBRUARY IS KINDNESS MONTH

Kindness means doing something nice for someone, just to make them feel good and not expecting anything in return.

BE KIND and PASS IT ON!

KINDNESS CHAIN~ each day during the month of February, students will have the opportunity to write a message about kindness (it may be acts of kindness that they have either seen, heard or done around the school or at home)

All of the messages will be attached to make a CHAIN OF KINDNESS. The Chain will be hung in the halls of the school, so that PRINCESS MARGARET will have it's halls filled with TONS OF KINDNESS!

be fun.

ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

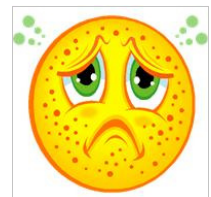
To prevent the spread of Germs, we encourage all children to wash their hands frequently during the school day or use the hand sanitizers. If your child is not feeling well in the morning, please do not send him/her to school.

Normally, we call home to parents regarding an illness if a child has a fever or is throwing up.

Here are some helpful guidelines to consider when deciding whether to send your child to school. It is advisable to keep your child at home if:

- he/she has been up during the night due to illness and, as a result, has not had adequate sleep
- your child has had a fever or was throwing up the night before

- he/she has gone home from school the day before with a fever or other illness
- he/she has an unidentified rash not yet seen by a physician
- your child may pass on an illness to another student.



Vaccines and Elementary School Children

At this time of year, Niagara Region Public Health conducts an annual review of vaccination records for all elementary school children in the Niagara region. If the vaccination information we have on file for your child is NOT complete, you will receive a suspension letter in the mail from Public Health next month (March 2011).

Please take a moment to ensure that your child's immunizations are up-to-date and that you have reported your child's vaccinations to Niagara Region Public Health using ONE of the following:

WEBSITE: www.niagararegion.ca

TELEPHONE (Immunization Report Line): 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7459

FAX (a copy of your child's Immunization Record): 905-688-8225

In most cases, we are missing vaccination information about your child's:

- booster dose of diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus and polio (DPTP/Quadracel) between the ages of 4 and 6; **and,**

- second dose of the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine.
- If you are a parent/guardian not wishing to immunize your child, you will need to provide Niagara Region Public Health with an original legal exemption document (i.e., a statement of medical exemption, or a statement of conscience or religious belief affidavit).

Please call the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425 if you have any questions or concerns.

**REPORT
CARDS
GO HOME
ON FEB. 9,
2012**

REPORT CARDS

On February 9, 2012 all Grades 1-8 students will bring home the new elementary report card. The Progress Report in November provided you with information about how your child was learning in the classroom and gave an indication of progress towards achieving the curriculum expectations for all subjects.

Learning Skills and Work Habits are an important focus of the New report card. These are critical life skills that students will work on from Grades 1 to Grade 12. Teachers evaluate how well students are achieving these skills for their grade level

and include a comment about each student's strengths and some next steps for continued growth.

For each subject being taught this term, your child will receive either a letter grade (Grades 1-6) or a percentage grade (Grades 7 & 8). If a subject is only being taught in Term 2, then the teacher will check NA (not applicable) for that subject on the report card. For each subject, there will be a comment that describes your child's strengths and some next steps that will support learning in Term 2.

Communication between teachers and parents/guardians is an important support for student success. We encourage all parents/guardians to discuss the report card with your child. All parents/guardians are invited to contact the school if you would like to schedule an opportunity to discuss your child's achievement and next steps for learning with his/her teacher.



ICE DOGS NIGHT

Princess Margaret School has been asked to help out the Ice Dogs. Our choir has been asked to sing the National anthem at the **Ice Dogs game Thursday March 8 2012.**

We will have a chance to order tickets at a discounted price. Any Princess Margaret Family is eligible to purchase tickets at the discounted price. Please mark the date on your calendar.

More information will come home near the end of February. Special thanks to our choir and Mrs. Crawford for participating in this event. Please join us on **March 8, 2012.**



ABOUT ONTARIO 211

What is 211?

211 is a three-digit phone number, 2-1-1, and website (www.211ontario.ca) to provide information on community, social, health and government services in Ontario. We are here to help Ontario residents find support to be resilient and resourceful, no matter what life situation is challenging them. 211 is here to help you find the right service in your community that meets your needs. You can

call or search our website 24 hours a day, every day of the year – even on holidays. Calls are free, anonymous and confidential. 211’s phone service is available in over 150 languages. 211’s website is bilingual and helps you find services that can serve you in both French and English.

Ontario’s community and social services provide a wide range of programs and services to help individuals and families regain control

during difficult times. They are then able to live better lives and become confidently engaged within their community. Each service has its own criteria when applying depending on a variety of considerations such as income, age, location, accessibility, language and other situations. 211 is here to help you find the right service.



When you don't know where to turn.™

Check out the

Aboriginal Ignite Camp at Stamford

ABORIGINAL IGNITE MARCH BREAK CAMP

The Aboriginal Ignite camp will support the advancement of Aboriginal People through education and access to commerce. This four day program will focus on the building blocks of technology, innovation and creativity including modules pertaining to robotics, engi-

neering, media, etc. The ultimate goal is to support and enhance post-secondary and career choices for the Aboriginal student population.

The camp will be run March 12-15th from 10am-3pm at Stamford Collegiate. It is for Aboriginal Students in

Grades 4 to 8. In partnership with DSBN, EFN and sponsored by IBM Corporate Canada the camp is FREE. Lunch and transportation are provided.

Applications are available at the office. Register by February 24.

ME TO WE CLUB

The Me-to-We Club would like to thank the students and Princess Margaret community for contributing to our holiday fundraiser for a sustainable income for countries in the developing world. As a result of the funds raised, we will be able to buy 16 goats for families in need of a sus-

tainable source of income. These families will now not only have a food source, but will also be able to create a source of income from the sale of products like milk and cheese.

Thank you for giving, Me-to-We Club



Our donations purchased 16 goats.

MAKE CHANGE FOR CHILDREN

The Education Foundation of Niagara is the DSBN charity and all funds raised go directly back to our students for program enhancements and poverty relief. The Poverty and Emergency Relief Fund supports the extraordinary, emergency, personal and school related needs of individual students brought about by financial hardship.



Since 2008 over 3000 DSBN students have been assisted with \$65,000 in support.

Princess Margaret School will be participating in the Make Change for Children during the week of **February 21-24**. We ask that students and families consider bringing in some spare change to help support this worthy cause.

JUNIOR VOLLEYBALL

Our Junior co-ed Volleyball team participated in a tournament on Friday, January 13th. They won 4 out of 5 games, beating Orchard Park, Micheal J Brennan and Parnell School. They met Michael J Brennan in the semi-finals and won both matches. Even though they played hard, they lost in the finals against Pine Grove School. They did an excellent job of representing Princess Margaret School.

Congratulations to Kennedy H., Makayla M., Eden B., Nina N., Chelsea R., Ky'onna A., Clayton T-H., Jashon C., Spenser R., Mitchell V., Gage W. and Jamie C..

The Junior Girls Volleyball Team had a great season. They improved throughout the season. They placed third in their division.

Team members were, Kennedy H., Makayla M., Fiona Y., Ky'onna A., Eden B., Sheridan G., Nina N., Sydney P., Jennifer L., Maddison M., Madelyn M., Chelsea R. and Jadee S.

ROBOTICS TEAM

Congratulations to the Princess Margaret Pantherbots who competed this past weekend at the University of Ontario in Oshawa, in the Ontario Provincial Championships for First Lego League. Despite having a very busy morning filled with presentations and robot runs, the team performed exceptionally well, and despite controversy, finished the day in 2nd place in Robot Performance and won the award as being the most Inspirational Team at the tournament. While displaying Gracious Professionalism throughout the day, Mitch K., Ben K., Kylie B., Austin K., Kevin R., Tayla F., Bronson C., and Aaron D. represented our school with pride as they showed everyone in Ontario what Princess Margaret is made of. Congratulations to everyone who helped or competed this season in First Lego League. Up next, the Princess Margaret Pantherbots will be competing in the DSBN Robotics Festival in the first week of February.