

The Falcon Flyer

FERNDALE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



February 2010

From the Principal's Desk ...

Welcome to Winter! As we approach the *halfway* point of the school year, we are experiencing some very cold weather conditions. It is important for students to come to school dressed appropriately for outdoor play. While our noon hour recess time may be shortened during extreme conditions, there will still be many opportunities for children to play outside throughout the school day. Hats, mittens, boots and snow pants are highly recommended during these extreme cold conditions. The cold temperatures have also resulted in many parents and visitors leaving their vehicles running in the school parking lot. We kindly request that you respect the "no idling" signs that are posted. This helps to minimize the students' exposure to exhaust fumes while minimizing the environmental impact of our motor vehicles. Your support is greatly appreciated.

♥ Early Release Day

Friday, February 12th is the next scheduled Early Release Day. Students will be dismissed for the day at the noon hour dismissal time. **There will be no classes in the afternoon.** Please mark this on your calendar and make necessary arrangements for your children.

♥ Family Day

Please be advised that schools will be closed for Family Day, a province-wide statutory holiday on **Monday, February 15th.** We wish you and your family an enjoyable day!

♥ Milk Program

We continue to offer both white or chocolate milk to students at lunch time. Milk cards can be purchased through the office for \$10.00 which entitles your child to purchase 16 cartons of milk.



♥ School Council Report

School Council is organizing the Cookie Dough Fundraiser that will be starting Feb. 5th with the orders arriving before March Break. Look for the order form that your child/children will be bringing home! Along with this fundraiser we will be needing 4-6 volunteers for the delivery date of Tuesday, March 9th. If you are interested please contact Dawn Merrick at 905-684-0814. Congratulations to our winner of the Tim Horton's Gift Card, Mrs. Worth. Our next Council meeting will be Thursday, February 25th at 6:30 in the Library. Please contact the school if babysitting is required.



♥ C h e s s Club

Mr. Maronski and Mr. Wales will be starting up the Chess Club again this month for interested students in the Junior and Intermediate students. New members are always welcome.



♥ Inclement Weather

Announcements regarding school closures will be made on the 7:00 am newscasts on local radio stations. Please listen on mornings when you have concerns about whether schools will be open. Some schools may be closed while others may remain open, so listen carefully. Early dismissal due to inclement weather will also be announced on local radio stations. Review arrangements made with your child in the event of an early dismissal. Every effort will be made to ensure safety. **Please do not call the school. We need the phone lines available to contact parents.**



♥ Intermediate Basketball

Congratulations to the following girls and boys who have been selected to represent Ferndale School on the basketball teams.

Girls: Marissa S, Aleta D, Sasha V, Kaleena K, Justine L, Alyssa W, Stefanie S, Alexys E, Montanna R, Samantha A, Josie M, Rachael G and Shayna A.



Boys: Mike B , Raiou T , Blaise A , Austin P, Twannel B , Logan W , Alex D , Sajed H, Byron M , Adam A. The players continue to show excellent team spirit, sportsmanship, positive attitudes, and enthusiasm. Thank you to Mr. Pringle, Mr. Vince and Mr. Schatz for coaching our teams!



♥ Cell Phones at School

Recently, many students have been bringing cell phones to school. While we understand that these devices may serve an important function for your child, we must establish some ground rules for their use, so that our instructional time is not disrupted at school. Students who bring them to school must have them turned off when they arrive. Should a student need to make a phone call during the course of the school day, they may request a phone pass to use the school's phone. If parents need to contact their child during the school day, they may phone the office. We thank you for your support in maintaining a productive working atmosphere for all students at Ferndale.



♥ Project Linus

Again this year, Ferndale Intermediate students have the opportunity to participate in our PROJECT LINUS CLUB. Participants meet every Wednesday at lunch to make polar fleece blankets. These blankets are donated to the Pediatric Ward of the St. Catharines General Hospital to be distributed to children in their care. Please see the attached sponsorship form if you are interested in helping support this important initiative.

KINDERGARTEN COUNTDOWN

Do you know a child who is turning 4 or 5 in 2010? Help them get ready for their big first day of school with the DSBN's Kindergarten Countdown Open House!

Parents and children are invited to our KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE on Thursday, February 4, 2010 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Families can tour our school, meet the kindergarten teacher, receive a gift bag filled with fun learning resources and information that will help children develop school readiness skills, and register for the coming school year.

Go to www.dsbm.org and click on "Kindergarten Countdown" for details!