

The Falcon Flyer

Principal – Mr. Scott Enns

Vice Principal – Ms. Jayann Young

Volume 1, Issue 3

November 2011

Message from the Office

In November, we remember the efforts of all of our service people at home and overseas, both past and present, who are working so hard to support peace and freedom in the world. Our Remembrance Day service will be held on Friday, November 11th, and will begin at 10:30 AM. We welcome all parents and community members that wish to attend.

Our School Improvement Plan this year is focused on professional development for the staff in the areas of Critical Thinking and teaching math through Problem Solving. The focus goal in both of these areas is providing effective feedback to students in order to improve student achievement.

On Tuesday, November 15th, 2011, families will be receiving the Ministry of Education “Progress Reports” for your child (ren). The Progress Report Card is designed to encourage communication between you and your child’s teacher. The primary purpose of assessment, evaluation, and reporting is to improve student learning.

These November reports will give you a summary as to how well your child is developing the learning skills and work habits of Responsibility, Organization, Independent Work, Collaboration, Initiative, and Self Regulation, all of which we know are essential for success. This ‘Progress Report’ will also report on the academic subjects but instead of assigning a grade or mark, it will tell you how well your child is progressing: “very well”, “well”, or “with difficulty”.

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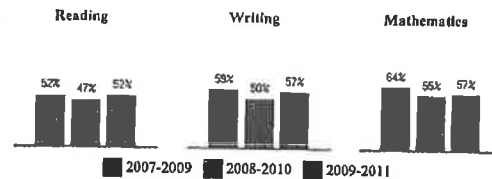
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EQAO Results Grade 3 and Grade 6

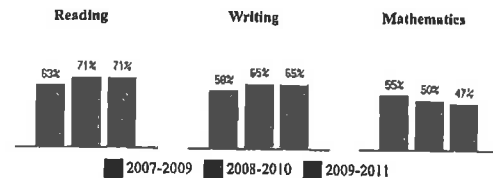
Recently our EQAO results were released. Last year’s results are displayed below. All schools in Ontario are working towards a goal of a minimum of 75% of students achieving Level 3 or 4 in the areas of Reading, Writing, and Mathematics.

Teachers and principals look at the grouped scores (like the ones displayed) as well as individual student results. We look at this information as a snapshot of one class at one time as well as a trend over a number of years. The information from this assessment is combined with every day classroom indicators of success to ensure that the teaching strategies we are using are contributing to the greatest learning possible.

COMBINED ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR 2007-2009, 2008-2010 AND 2009-2011
Percentage of All Grade 3 Students At or Above the Provincial Standard



COMBINED ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS FOR 2007-2009, 2008-2010 AND 2009-2011
Percentage of All Grade 6 Students At or Above the Provincial Standard



Good Bye and Congratulations

It is with excitement that we say a heartfelt good bye to Mrs. Garrad who is leaving us November 10, to await the arrival of her new baby. Our school community sends our very best wishes!

The Parent-Teacher Conference is an important part of our school's reporting and assessment process. Your child's homeroom teacher will be sending home a schedule in the near future indicating their available times. We will make an effort to schedule consecutive conferences for parents with more than one child in the school. Please take advantage of the opportunities our teachers will make available to you to meet and discuss student progress. After the initial letter comes home outlining available conference times, you will be notified of your times(s) with a confirmation note enclosed with your child's Progress Report.

A more extensive report card will be issued at the end of Term 1 in February.

We look forward to meeting with you!

Ferndale Parent Council News

As the school year is progressing, Ferndale Parent Council is starting to kick off several fundraisers which will provide money to go towards benefiting our children throughout the school year. On Friday, October 28th an order form was sent home with all students for our newest endeavor "**Fund Scrip**". All orders can be placed through the order form that was sent home with your child, or through the online process (all information is attached to the order form). The orders for November are due **November 10th** and will be sent home with your child by **November 25th**. There will be another opportunity to place an order before Christmas holidays. This is a fundraiser that will be available to our community throughout the school year. Our second Parent Council meeting of the school year will take place on **Tuesday, November 1st, 2011 at 6:45 PM** in the school library. Free babysitting is available. Please call the school office for us to ensure that we have the proper amount of babysitters available. On *Wednesday, November 2, 2011* all parents are invited to attend the *Parent Involvement Conference* at Eden High School. For more information about this conference please go to www.dsbn.org. Starting **November 18th** and continuing until **November 28th** students will have the opportunity to collect orders for 6" potted Poinsettia flowers, provided by Niagara College Greenhouse. These flowers will be available in 3 different colours; red, white and pink and will be available to be picked up at Ferndale School on **Tuesday, December 13th, 2011**. We are looking for parent volunteers to help throughout the day of December 13th. If you are available to assist please let the office know. More information will be sent home on November 18th, 2011. We look forward to seeing everyone come out to our Parent Council meeting on **Tuesday, November 1st**. Congratulations to Darla Wuhlar who won our Tim Hortons draw at our last meeting.

Working together will help to benefit our school community.

Welcome

A warm Falcon welcome goes out to Ms. Rence Horvath. She will be working in the mornings alongside Mrs. Ross in the office. Her warm personality and contagious smile is an asset to Ferndale.

We would also like to welcome Ms. Jayann Young, our new Vice-Principal. Ms. Young comes to us from Winger Public School. Ms. Young is looking forward to meeting parents and community members. If you are in the school please drop in and say hello.

Athletics and Clubs

The Junior Girl's and Boy's volleyball teams are under way. Thank you to Mrs. Di Leo and Mrs. Freure and Mrs. Rutledge for coaching. Please see the calendar for upcoming games.

The Junior Green Team is in full "Eco" mode. Thanks to Mrs. Willey for organizing and leading this team.

Thanks to Mrs. Rutledge and Mr. Schatz who have organized Ferndale's first ever Intermediate Cooking Club.

Thanks to Miss Healy for organizing the Intermediate robotics club.

Thanks to Mr. Schatz for coordinating an enthusiastic team of Ferndale runners at the marathon school challenge.

Online Tutoring Program

The District School Board of Niagara is part of an exciting Ministry of Education initiative that provides interactive online homework help! This program is open to all Grade 7-10 math students.

Students will have access to free, real-time math tutoring by Certified Ontario teachers. Tutoring will be available from Sunday-Thursday, 5:30-9:30 PM by logging into the homework help website. Students will have one-on-one help for up to 20 hours a week. The online tutoring is grade specific and students will not only be able to ask their own specific questions but also see what questions other students are asking while watching the tutors explain the answers on their computer. Other online resources will also be available.

All grade 7-10 students will be registered for this program unless you indicate to the school that you do not want your student to participate.

If you are a parent of a student in grade 7 or 8 and do not want your child registered in this program please contact the school.

Responsibility

Our character trait for the month of October is *RESPONSIBILITY*. Being responsible means that we demonstrate self-discipline, self, control, reliability, and are accountable for our choices, words, and actions. We take care of others and our environment.

Garden Clean Up

A sincere thank you to the Bell family, Ogawa family, and MacDonald family for assisting in our garden clean up on Sunday, October 30th. Your time and hard work was greatly appreciated. The gardens look amazing!

QSP Magazine Fundraiser

Thank you to all of the families and friends that supported the magazine fundraiser. Prizes were recently distributed to the students. If you have any questions regarding your subscriptions please call 1-800-667-2536. The staff and students at Ferndale appreciate your support!

Accommodation Review Committee (ARC)

One way school boards can address the issues of declining enrolment and aging facilities is through accommodation reviews. Through this process, education can be rejuvenated by building some new schools, consolidating some schools, renovating some schools and closing some schools. Currently, Central and South St. Catharines and Thorold Secondary schools are undergoing this process. Involved schools include: Kernahan Park, Sir Winston Churchill, St. Catharines Collegiate, West Park, and Thorold Secondary. For more information and a list of the public meeting dates and times, please visit www.dsbn.org, then click on Accommodation Reviews.

Ferndale Breakfast Program

Ferndale's Breakfast program is underway for 2011-2012. It is open to all students MONDAY to FRIDAY from 8:00 AM to 8:30 AM. This program helps to ensure that all students have access to a nutritious breakfast and get a healthy start to the school day. We would like to extend a special thank you to Lori Forstinger (Program coordinator), and Niagara Nutrition Partners for providing funding. We would also like to thank our community volunteers for their help in preparing and serving Nutritious Breakfast items such as bagels, cereal, fresh fruit, yogurt, and pancakes. This is truly a wonderful way for all of us to start our day!

Quotes from Breakfast Club Kids

"The pancakes and muffins are so good. The volunteers are nice too!"

"I like having breakfast with my friends. We can talk and eat. It's nice!"

IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER 1

SCHOOL COUNCIL

6:45 PM

NOVEMBER 1

5F AND 5/6 W TO CITY HALL

NOVEMBER 2

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COUNCIL (PIC)

4:00 PM EDEN HIGH SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2

GRADE 8 ORIENTATION AT SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL/ST.

CATHARINES COLLEGIATE

NOVEMBER 7

GRADE 8 -ART GALLERY

NOVEMBER 10

RICK DYKSTRA TO VISIT GRADE 5F AND 5/6 W

NOVEMBER 11

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

10:30 AM

NOVEMBER 15

PROGRESS REPORTS SENT HOME

Primary and Junior Achievement/Character Award Winners for October

Mrs. Bussi JK/SK - Maya Iliffe (Effort), Ella Nauta (Achievement), Ariana Payne (Respect)

Mrs. Shynal JK/SK - Sammy Tonini (Respect), Christine Wing (Effort), Hannah Guignard (Effort)

Mrs. Robinson JK/SK - Bronny Brew-Kellman (Effort), Haidyn Sachvie (Achievement), Jaden Leighfield (Respect)

Mrs. Sowa Grade 1 - Elijah Cosby (Respect), Owen Dinning (Achievement), Alyssa Reade (Achievement), Destiny Gray (Effort), Hunter Kostiuk (Effort)

Mrs. Garrad Grade 1 and 2 - Owen Hartnett (Effort), Brndon Jones (Effort), Isaiah Purdie (Achievement), Jada Gallant (Achievement)

Mrs. Workman Grade 2 - Elyssa Aumell (Effort), Ethan Gallagher (Effort), Ma'ab Karamalla (Achievement), Mikayla Keniry (Achievement), Austin Bertholds (Respect)

Mr. Oblak Grade 2 and 3 - Ciara Krsul (Effort), Caleb Burkell (Achievement), Dominic Pheiffer (Respect)

Mrs. Freure Grade 3 - Cameron Ilton (Effort), Nadira Muminovic (Achievement), Grace Johnson-Parks (Respect)

Mrs. Burton Grade 3 and 4 - Kevin Henderson (Respect) Owen Mondoux (Achievement), Nathan Brew (Respect), Leah Kadikoff (Achievement)

Mrs. Greenlaw - Amenah ElWerfalli (Achievement), Matthew Literovich (Effort), Abby Filipov (Respect)

Mrs. Willey - Krystin Unwin (Effort), Jordyn Holmes (Achievement), Mitchell Rodgers (Respect)

Mrs. Frebrarro - Mikinna Waugh (Achievement), Catharine Reid (Effort), Mike Miller-Gray (Respect)

Mr. Pringle - David Noel (Respect), Lucas Cyr (Achievement), Ashlee Carter-Whitely (Effort)

Congratulations to our winners!!!

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures.

At times when student transportation has been cancelled and schools remain open, the decision of whether or not to have children in school on that day rests with the parent or guardian.

Should you decide not to send your child to school in the event that transportation is cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call your child's school to inform them of your child's absence.

A key resource in any emergency is the DSBN Emergency Information form that you filled out at the beginning of the school year. Please let the school know of any changes in contact information or procedures you wish to be followed throughout the school year.

For secondary schools it may become necessary to cancel late buses. Notice will be provided via school announcements and on the websites and subscription features by 11:30 a.m.

Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will be available as soon as it is available through the following channels:

Websites:

www.dsbns.org
www.nsts.ca

Subscription Features:

DSBN Facebook or Twitter
NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts

Phone:

Niagara Student Transportation Services 905-346-0290
Voice Auto Attendant

Radio Stations:

CKTB (610 AM) St. Catharines	CHRE (105.7 FM) St. Catharines
WAVE (94.7 FM) Hamilton	CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines
CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton	CKEY (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/Fort Erie
CHML (900 AM) Hamilton	K-LITE-FM (102.9 FM) Hamilton
CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton	GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland
Y-108(107.9) Hamilton	

Television Stations:

CH - Hamilton
CityTV Breakfast Television
CTV Toronto
Cogeco Channel 10