

## **March Newsletter Items**

Dear Port Weller Parents,

In our March newsletter we are excited to share information about all the amazing activities that are available to our students. Every Monday morning, we hold a school wide assembly where staff and students take time to share details about their club, action team or sports team. We always remind students that a great way to make school a more enriching experience is to get involved! Using the student agenda is an excellent tool to keep track of practices, meetings and games.

We were very excited to host our Leadership Night at the end of February. Many families came to learn about our “7 Habits” program and our Action Teams. Our participating students demonstrated strong leadership and communication skills as they interacted with our guests. Thanks to our staff and school council for helping to host this wonderful event!

Recently, we held a “Pink Shirt” day at Port Weller and across the D.S.B.N. to focus on the issue of bullying. The topics of bullying and other social issues are discussed regularly at Port Weller; it is not simply a one-day focus. We spend a great deal of time speaking to students about what bullying is and isn’t, and what to do if you witness or are a victim of this kind of behaviour. We will continue to educate our students on the issue of bullying and interact to support students when these kinds of behaviours are observed and/or reported. We appreciate the continued support of the community.

### **School Council**

Our next general meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26 at 6 p.m. in the computer lab. Free child care will be provided.

We will have a separate planning meeting for our May 10 Trivia Night on Tuesday, March 19. That meeting will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held in the library.

### **Parking Lot Safety**

We remind our parents and students to be very careful when moving through the parking lot. We can keep our parking lot safe if drivers move their cars slowly and obey and follow signage. We can reduce the number of cars in the parking lot if people take advantage of the church parking lot across Parnell Road and use the cross walk with the crossing guard. Students should not be walking in between cars unsupervised. Parents should either use the “Kiss and Ride” drop off area or park in a parking spot. Students, especially younger ones, should be accompanied by a parent from parking spots to a safe area away from cars.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

We remind the Port Weller community that families can register their children for our kindergarten program, September 2019, any day of the week. Families are encouraged to come into the school to learn more about what we have to offer.

### **Extracurricular Activities**

Chess club for junior and intermediate students continues at recess time. We will be sending teams of four students for each grade (grades 2 to 8) to an area tournament on Tuesday, April 2. Participating students will bring home permission forms and information prior to that date. Staff are still in the process of selecting students for some of the grade teams. Thanks to all the students and staff for making this program such a huge success. Port Weller has a history of a strong showing at the area tournament.

Our recycling club continues to work hard to help divert materials from the garbage. We appreciate their efforts! We encourage our students to rinse their food containers and to use the proper bins. Parents can also help reduce garbage at Port Weller by packing food in reusable containers.

Dance Club for our junior and intermediate students is now winding down and will have their final practices mid-March. We thank our PW parent, Mrs. Brown, for helping students to develop their dance and teamwork skills.

Junior basketball is up and running and both programs have lots of student participants. League games will begin after March Break. Permission forms have just been sent home to parents. Miss Wood is coaching the girls and Mr. Enns is coaching the boys.

Our intermediate girls and boys basketball teams completed very successful seasons. Both teams collected pennants from their final games. We thank Mr. Reimer and Mrs. Rosts for helping student athletes to develop their basketball and teamwork skills.

Gymnastics for all three divisions is underway! Mrs. Chilcott is leading the primaries, Ms. Troup is coaching the junior grades, and Mrs. Perrier is working with our intermediate girls. All three teams have a regular, weekly practice schedule.

Ms. Troup has been reminding our grade 2 and 3 students to join her Monday at recess time to participate in the Blue Spruce reading club. This is a great way for children to develop the love of reading with their friends and to learn about new authors and titles.

Mr. Thorpe and his Library Action Team invite junior students to join in on their junior reading program. Club meetings happen at recess in the library. Students are reminded to listen to announcements.

### **Rankin Cancer Run**

We are all gearing up for another Rankin Cancer Run which is scheduled for Saturday, May 25. As in the past, Port Weller School will be part of the site for this event. Our school is being led by Mrs. Chilcott who continues to provide us with great reminders at our Monday morning assemblies. Recently, Mrs. Chilcott shared our two winning T-Shirt designs for this year's Port Weller shirts. We congratulate Tiarra and Julian, both intermediate students, for having their designs selected by the Rankin Cancer Run committee. More information about the event, fund raising, and registration will be sent home to our families as we near the date.

### **Grade 8 Graduation Photo**

Our scheduled date for grade 8 graduation photos is Friday, March 29. A reminder will be sent home with students prior to this date.

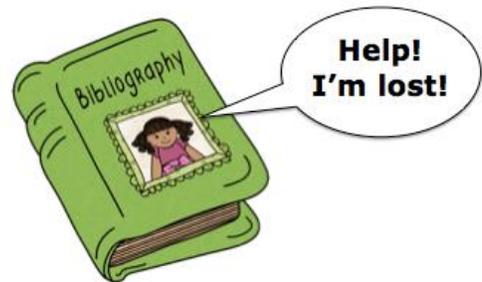
### **Brock Student Teachers**

Several of our homeroom teachers will be serving as associate teachers for Brock student teacher during their six week placements. These students will have observation days at the end of March and will start their placements on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Library Link**

The Library Action Team would like to remind students (and their families) to:

- Look around the house for library books and, if you find any, please return them.
- Take care of the library books that you sign out, so we can keep them for a long time and lots of students are able to use them.



The Library Action team is also excited to let students and families know about our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair. The dates for this fair are April 9 to 12. The Library Action Team is already working on creating a promotional video.