



THE TREASURE CHEST



2016

Port Weller Public School

273 Parnell Road, St. Catharines, Ontario, CANADA, L2M1W4 ♦ Phone: 905-934-3322 ♦ Fax: 905-934-2043 ♦ <http://portweller.dsbni.org/> ♦ Principal: Ms. H. Abbey

Principal's Message

The world is hugged by the faithful arms of volunteers. Terri Guillemets

Volunteers are the heart of any organization. We thrive with volunteers in education. May is Volunteer Month, and on May 19th, we will recognize and celebrate the remarkable efforts that so many volunteers devote to our school. Throughout the month of May, we will be attempting to say, "thank you" in a variety of different ways. I have always struggled with how to express appreciation to our school volunteers, as I am never satisfied that my words adequately portray the gratitude that I feel inside for each and every one of you. There are so many things that we do at Port Weller that would not be possible without you. While many volunteers come into Port Weller to support us, some of you provide assistance from home. We are appreciative of every single minute that you are able to give us. Please know from the bottom of my heart how very grateful Port Weller is for YOU! We hope that you will be able to take a few minutes to join us at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 19th. Below are just a few of the many ways that YOU, our school volunteers, support our staff, students, and school community.

- Classroom support
- EQAO scribing
- Reading with children
- Drivers
- Class trips
- Special Events
- Doing work from home (i.e. classroom preparation)
- School Council
- Fundraising
- Garden
- Office
- Breakfast Club

Volunteers are love in motion! ~Author Unknown

THANK YOU



EQAO Dates

If you have a child in grade 3 or 6, please avoid making any appointments or booking any trips from **May 25-June 8**.

This year's EQAO assessment will take place during this time, and students' attendance is necessary. If your child will be away on one of those dates please let your child's teacher know as soon as possible.

Step Past the Stigma

Walk

Saturday, May 7th
at DSBN Ed Centre
10:30-2:30 pm.

Check out the BBQ, entertainment and community information

Mental Health

May is a month that we will be focusing on good Mental Health for all!

If you break a leg, the injury and the need for appropriate treatment are readily apparent. For those living with mental illness, the connection is not always so obvious. May is the month set aside in Niagara to create conversation around mental illness and reduce the stigma many feel burdened with when seeking help.

Parents also have an important role to play in supporting their children with maintaining good mental health. Some suggested strategies include:

- Being available to talk
- Encouraging a break from pressures with physical activity or a hobby
- Praise your child when they do well. This builds confidence and self-esteem.
- Teaching children how to keep things in perspective and 'let go' of the little things
- Show children how to focus on the positive by listing the benefits and opportunities created by a situation, rather than the problems
- Getting your child help if needed

Good Mental Health Matters!!! Together we can do our part.

'Keep your head in the game' this summer with

LEARNING ADVANTAGE Workbooks

"Port Weller School" will be making available a summer activity workbook called "Learning Advantage" later in the month of May. "Learning Advantage" is a fully coloured 192 page, activity book designed to reinforce and maintain Kindergarten to Grade 7 students' academic learning skills over the summer months. There is one 192 paged activity book per grade level from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 7. All major units and 3 summer fun units in each book are aligned with the Ontario curriculum expectations. In addition to the summer months, the books can be used all year long from September to the following June. All books have parent information pages, evaluation forms; follow up activities and a family focus.

A full lineup of French immersion books is also available. *The cost of each book is \$19.05 plus GST (\$20 total). This is a savings of about \$4 compared retail and online prices. You can visit www.learningadvantage.ca to download a free unit of the book you would like to order for further review.*

An order form and information sheet with more details about the "Learning Advantage" program will be sent home to all parents within the next few weeks. Please direct questions to Mary-Jo Montalban mmontalban@cogeco.ca





The Annual Rankin Cancer Run

The annual Rankin Cancer Run takes place this year on Saturday, May 28th. Any students and family members that would like to join our school team, "Port Weller Pirates," need to submit their names and shirt sizes to Mrs. Chilcott by Friday, May 6th in order to be guaranteed team t-shirts.

One of our very own students, Avery Smith, has designed our school team's t-shirt this year!

The 1K and 5K run/walk starts at the Grantham Lions Club Park at the corner of Niagara Street and Parnell Road. This is an INCREDIBLE family and community event. 100% of the money raised stays in Niagara for immediate cancer care.

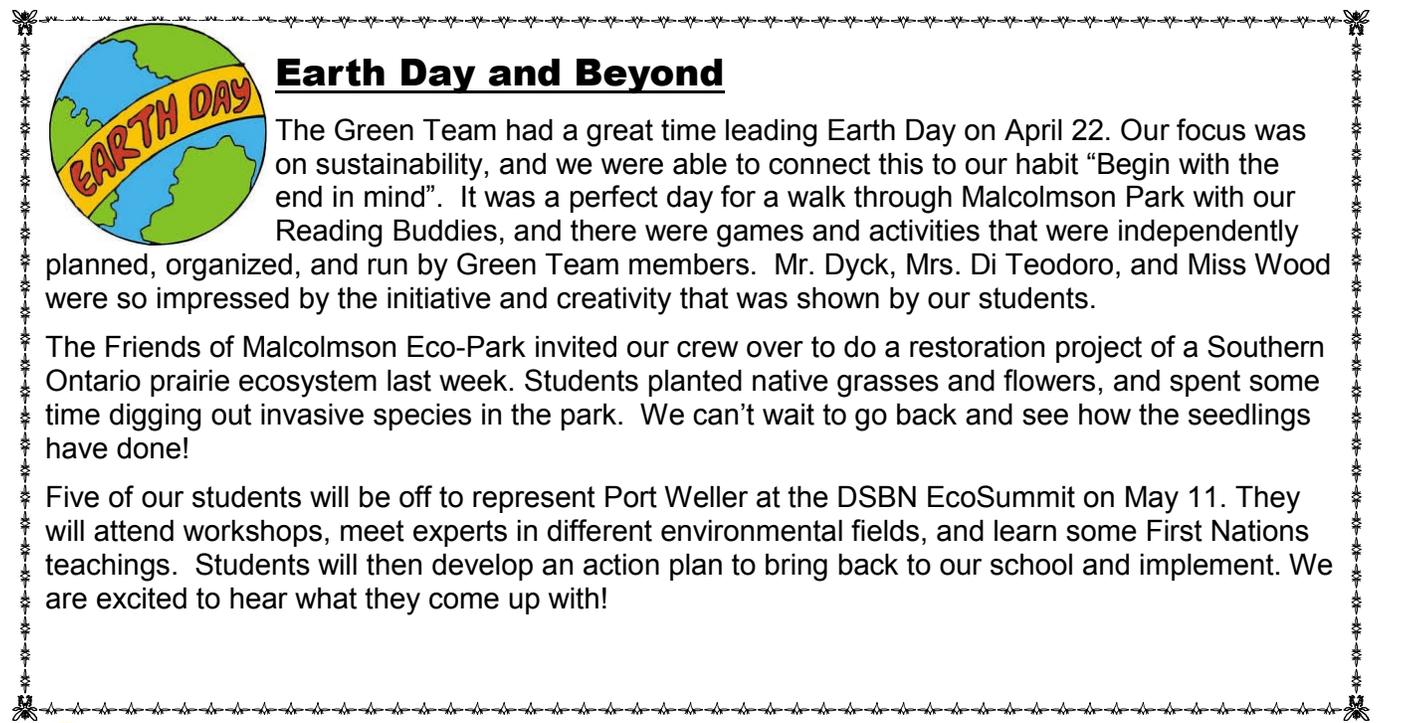


Student Council News

Thank you to all families who brought in pledges for our recent Dance-a-thon. Your tremendous support helped raise \$3,025.80!!! This money will help with the purchase of items such as the gym mats and team uniforms, and fund a portion of school presentations presented by, for example, the Carousel Players. Our sincere thanks.

Student Council's Spirit Day is Friday, May 20. It is dress up like your favourite literary character or actual person (sports, entertainment, cartoon).

Our last pizza day is Thursday, May 27 with money due on Tuesday May 24. If you haven't placed your child's order, please do so using our new "School Cash-On Line" which is **open as of May 9th**.



Earth Day and Beyond

The Green Team had a great time leading Earth Day on April 22. Our focus was on sustainability, and we were able to connect this to our habit "Begin with the end in mind". It was a perfect day for a walk through Malcolmson Park with our Reading Buddies, and there were games and activities that were independently planned, organized, and run by Green Team members. Mr. Dyck, Mrs. Di Teodoro, and Miss Wood were so impressed by the initiative and creativity that was shown by our students.

The Friends of Malcolmson Eco-Park invited our crew over to do a restoration project of a Southern Ontario prairie ecosystem last week. Students planted native grasses and flowers, and spent some time digging out invasive species in the park. We can't wait to go back and see how the seedlings have done!

Five of our students will be off to represent Port Weller at the DSBN EcoSummit on May 11. They will attend workshops, meet experts in different environmental fields, and learn some First Nations teachings. Students will then develop an action plan to bring back to our school and implement. We are excited to hear what they come up with!



SMOKE FREE AREAS

Enjoy the many outdoor locations in Niagara that are smoke-free. In Niagara, all municipal and regional properties are smoke-free. This includes:

- Parks and playgrounds
- Sports and playing fields
- Splash pads and outdoor pools
- Arena properties
- Festivals and events on municipal and regional properties
- Properties such as city hall, libraries and recreation centres



All restaurant and bar patios are also smoke-free under the Smoke-free Ontario Act.

For more information or quit smoking support, contact the Tobacco Hotline at 905-688-8248, ext. 7393.

Support Staff Appreciation

May 11th is Support Staff Appreciation Day. On



this day, we thank our Head Caretaker, Mr. Epp, our nighttime cleaners, Mrs. Epp and Mrs. Smith, our Educational Assistants- Mrs. Davis, Mrs. LeRose, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Bobadilla, Mrs. Wiens and Ms.

Kurucz, Early Childhood Educators- Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Worville, Lunchroom Supervisors- Mrs. Klassen, Mrs. Winterbottom, Mrs. Beaudry, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Laing and Mrs. Maynard for all they do to support our students on a daily basis. Each and every one of them is a gift to Port Weller! Thank you! Last, but certainly not least we thank our most wonderful Mrs. Hampson, our school secretary.

Safety Message

More children are walking to school in the warmer weather and it is very important to take the time to remind your children of the following:

- Cross with the Crossing Guard (students who cross on Parnell Road across from the school without the crossing guard are not safe as there are many cars pulling out of the school parking lot and travelling down Parnell at the beginning and end of the day.
- Children should never talk to strangers. Children need to tell an adult if a stranger has approached them at anytime on their way to or from school.

SCHOOL CASH ON LINE

We know you have many different priorities competing for your attention each day. To respect those demands, we'd like to help you save both time and effort. Beginning May 9th, you'll be able to approve permission forms and pay for school items, such as fieldtrips and school spirit wear, online.

It takes just five minutes to register for this service. You will be able access the service by visiting our school website and clicking on "School Cash Online." There, you'll find more information about the system, links to registration and support. You can use School Cash Online with confidence; it is a safe and secure portal. Using School Cash Online, you may never have to search for spare change again! That is, unless you're looking for coffee money.

Thanks for your support.





Intermediate Girl's Gymnastics

Congratulations to Mackenzie Z. and Sarah S. on their outstanding performance at the intermediate girl's gymnastics competition last month at Beamsville Secondary School. They began with the end in mind by working hard to compose and then perfect their routines. Sarah even managed to take home a 4th place ribbon in her event! Both girls exhibited tremendous character towards the other competitors, by cheering them on and even making some new friends. Great job representing Port Weller, ladies.

Ms. Perrier,
Coach

Intermediate Girl's Gymnastics



Front

Row: Caleb M., Ty W., Aidan M., Aidan A., Chad T., Preston S

Second Row: Noah S., Carson Z.

Back Row: Mrs. Thorpe, Cole, Kohen M., Drew T., Jacob , Mrs. Rosts
(Thanks to Mr. Dyck for photo)

Junior Boys' Basketball

Congratulations to our Junior Boys' Basketball team who had an extremely successful season. They were a high energy, athletic and coachable group of athletes and went **undefeated** in league play!!! The boys played Prince of Wales in the finals at the Pirate Dome. With great team work and strong defence, they defeated POW 33-21. Our Junior Pirates won the Tier 3 League Championship banner! Winning the league qualified the team to compete in the DSNB tournament at Brock University. The boys played 5 games and were very competitive winning 3 of their games. We are very proud of our Junior Pirates! Special thanks to Mrs. J. Thorpe who coached with Mrs. Rosts. We are very appreciative of her time, effort and expertise! Thanks also to our Gr. 8 helpers Nathan L.S. and Spencer S.

We couldn't run our games without the significant effort of our many score keepers and timers. Thank you to: Mackenzie Z., Brad D, Carter J., Owen F., Nathan L.S., Spencer S., and Sarah S.

Mrs. Rosts, Coach



Junior Girls' Basketball



Congratulations to the Junior Girls' Basketball team for an awesome season. The girls put in a ton of hard work and it paid off. They finished second in their division, losing only to Pine Grove the whole season. At the DSBN tournament, we weren't able to pull through, but enjoyed a great day of ball at Brock. Special thanks goes to Owen F for the student coach role he took on this season. He did everything from coaching games, to score keeping, to subbing in when we were short players at practice, and now he's collecting jerseys! Another thanks goes to Ms. Nash and Mrs. Rosts for all their help and organization. We saw a ton of skill development and had a lot of fun this season, and couldn't have done it without all their help. Way to go, Kaitlyn, Mya, Kyla, Sophia, Alysha, Chantelle, Avery, Ava, Nicole, Keifer, Lauren, and Sophie!

Miss K. Wood,
Coach



DSBN Area 4 Chess Tournament



Quinn D., Cole H., & Chelsea G. placed 4th, 1st, & 5th respectively out of 21 Grade 3s.
 Jonathan V. placed 2nd out of 27 Grade 4s.
 Chad T. placed 6th out of 27 Grade 5s.
 Kohen M. & Carson Z. placed 2nd & 6th respectively out of 36 Grade 6s.
 Owen L. placed 3rd out of 26 Grade 7s.
 Gavin H. & Parker M. placed 6th & 1st respectively out of 31 Grade 8s.

The team-winner of DSBN's Area 4 Chess Tournament: Port Weller Public School!

DSBN Chess Tournament



Jonathan V. placed 3rd out of all the Grade 4s.

**The team-winner of DSBN's Chess Tournament:
 Port Weller Public School!**





DONATIONS OF CLOTHING & ELECTRONICS NEEDED!

CLOTHING: of any kind either, worn out or gently used plus towels, blankets, drapes, materials, etc. ... **ALL PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT CEREBRAL PALSY.**

ELECTRONICS: TV's, phones, computers, printers, copiers, monitors, video cameras, answering machines, small appliances etc... **ALL PROCEEDS TO "THE GARY LANDRY HOME READING PROGRAM" IN YOUR SCHOOL.**

FOR PICK-UP: CALL JOHN @ 905-401-2499
PICK UPS to MAY 14TH.

SPONSORED BY THE ONTARIO ELECTRONIC STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM... to get recycling materials out of our Landfill sites!!

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Breakfast Program

Breakfast Program continues to welcome students each morning beginning at 8:15am for smoothies, toast and more. The program will run until **Friday, June 10**. For questions or comments, please contact Program Coordinator Julie Rubel at julie.rubel@gmail.com.

Montana's Bird Feeder

For all families (and friends of families) who may be choosing to dine out at Montana's, please remember to put your receipt in our "bird feeder" box labelled Port Weller! A percentage of your bill will come back to our school. So far this year our school has received \$173.16. Spread the word, this is an easy way to support the school if you, or friends you know, have made the decision to eat out.

Staff Appreciation Day

The School Advisory Council will be showing their appreciation to all staff members of Port Weller School for their ongoing commitment and dedication to give our children an amazing elementary school experience. We are thinking of providing a Pot Luck Lunch on Thursday, June 2nd at 1:05. Please watch Twitter and Facebook for updates on the event details. **If you would like to volunteer the day of / or donate food, please contact joscelene.perry@hotmail.com Re: "Staff Lunch".**

Our next meeting has been set for **Tuesday, May 24th** at 6:00pm in the Computer Lab. Daycare is provided, at no cost, for those who are interested in attending the meeting.





May 5th—Subway Lunch

May 6th—Last day for Rankin Cancer Run T-shirts

May 7th—Step Past the Stigma Fun Walk at DSBN Ed Centre

May 8th—**Happy Mother's Day**

May 9th—Port Weller School Cash Online Open—Don't forget to register

May 10th—Grade 4-6 PALS trip

May 11th—Eco Summit 2016

May 11th—Support Staff Appreciation Day

May 11th—Track & Field Races at NOC

May 12th—Gr. 3 & 4/5 to Water Festival

May 19th—Parent Volunteer Tea

May 19th—Subway Lunch

May 20th—Spirit Day—Dress up as your favourite person or literary character

May 23rd—Victoria Day—NO SCHOOL

May 25th—June 8th—EQAO

May 26th—Gr. 8 Trip to St. Catharines' Library

May 26th—Pizza Lunch

May 27th—Mad Science in Kindergarten

UPCOMING DATES

June 2nd—Staff Appreciation Pot Luck

June 4th—Sport Stacking Canada Tournament

June 10th—Last day for Breakfast Program

June 17th - Last day for Milk Program

June 23rd—Last Sub Lunch



**DSBN
EDUCATION WEEK**
May 2 - 6, 2016
#DSBNEdWeek



Kids' Corner.....



Green Team at Malcolmson Eco-Park

EARTH DAY



KINDERS AT RIVER LIONS GAME

