



THE TREASURE CHEST

Port Weller Public School

273 Parnell Rd., St. Catharines, Ontario, L2M 1W4

905-934-3322

<http://portweller.dsbns.org/>

OCTOBER, 2011

H. Abbey, Principal

Principal's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents and extended family members for doing your part to ensure that the start of the 2011-12 school year was a successful one! I have been overwhelmed by how welcoming and supportive parents, staff, and students have been, as I begin my first year as the principal of your school. I am grateful for your patience and encouragement as I assimilate myself into the school community. I am so thrilled to be here!

As a staff, we are honoured that you share your most precious gifts, your children, with us every day. I am a parent too. My daughter has just started Grade 2. I want to ensure you that your children are loved, respected, supported, and guided each and every day while at Port Weller. We take the responsibility of educating your children very seriously. I hold such high regard for the staff at this school. They are the finest group of educators that I have ever had the privilege of working with. Your children are being taught by the best!

I am so excited about the year that lies ahead for us! Together we will make great things happen for our students. They are our future. Each and every child is capable of having a grand impact on our world. They must be inspired to learn and they must believe every day that they are capable of achieving greatness. My goal remains a "simple" one. . . I want every child to leave school at the end of the day feeling good about who they are as learners and wanting to return the next day for more! Please remind your children every day that they are capable!

Thank you for your support, your involvement, and your encouragement. I look forward to knowing each and every one of you better as the 2011-12 school year unfolds. We are off to a dynamic start!

Ms. Hilary Abbey

School Advisory Council

We held our first meeting on September 27 at the school. I was excited to see so many faces around the table. We had an equal amount of returning members as we did new members. Our meetings are always open to new members at any time! Our focus will be to increase parent involvement within the school. **There is a direct link between increased parent involvement and student achievement.** Members of council act as a direct link between myself and ALL parents. Please know that your voice and your thoughts are always welcome. Please consider joining us. Our next meeting will be November 22 at 6 p.m. Our new executive members will be announced in early October. Please watch the school website for this information. All council minutes are posted on the website monthly along with any council news and updates.

Breakfast Club is open!

Port Weller School, in conjunction with Christian Covenant Reformed Church, will be running a Breakfast Club for all students of Port Weller. The doors will open daily at 8:15 a.m. and close at 8:35 a.m. Studies have shown that students who have a nourishing breakfast are better prepared to face the challenges that lie ahead of them during the school day. We are proud to offer a healthy start to the school day to all of our students and families!



Thank you to the following volunteers: Lesley Benson (Parent) Abby R., Shania T., Lyle D. (students) James Dekker, Audrey VanSpronsen, Liz Williamson, Debbie Vanderkuip, Henny Vanderkuip, Joan Dekker (church) Laurie Wally (crossing guard)

Without you this program could not happen!

Homework Club

On Monday, October 3, 2011, an exciting learning opportunity will begin again for your child at Port Weller School. Once again, Homework Club will be available for students from Grades 4 through 8. This year we are fortunate to have three of our educational assistants, Mrs. L. Carruthers, Mrs. C. Elver and Mrs. S. Fleming available to support the students at the club. The club can be accessed for students who need extra assistance with concepts they may find challenging. It is a unique opportunity to complete assignments, with the support of trained professionals, for parents whose working life may present challenges for helping with homework.

A letter will be sent home with more details about the Homework Club. Please be advised that at the present time, Homework Club will run from 3:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. There will be no crossing guards available at the completion of the club. Therefore, parents will need to make arrangements to pick their children up after the Club or give permission for their children to walk home without crossing guards. Thank you for your interest and we encourage you to take part in this unique and beneficial opportunity.

Picture Retake Day

This will be held on Thursday, October 6. If you would like your child's picture retaken, please let the teacher know by sending a note.

Open House

Our Open House was one of the biggest ones yet!!! We served over 300 dinners that evening. Thank you to all the parents and family members for supporting this event by attending. A special thank you goes out to our dedicated parent volunteers and students who so willingly give up their time to serve pizza, purchase supplies and make sure the event ran smoothly. We could not have events like this without their support. Thank you to Mrs. Enns, Mrs. Beaudette, Mrs. Maartense, Mrs. Gustyn, and Mrs. Flood and gr. 8 students, Hayden M., Sydney G., Brenden H., Clay U., Chris M., Erik V. and Jenna G.

Snack Program at Port Weller

Continuing once again, through the generous donation from Breakfast for Learning, we received a grant to provide students with nutritional snacks to supplement their lunches. Each classroom will have a snack bin that students will have access to. If your child needs an additional snack or forgets their lunch there will be healthy options for them. Mrs. Enns has graciously volunteered her time to head up this valuable program in our school. Since our grant money does not cover all expenses to keep this program running throughout the year, families wishing to make a financial donation to this program may do so at any time through the office.

Ice Dog Tickets

A huge thank you goes out once again the Niagara Ice Dogs for sponsoring Port Weller once again this year. Thanks to their generous support Port Weller has 2 tickets to every other home game in the regular season to give out to students for a variety of reasons. Throughout the year the office will choose students to attend games and show their spirit.

Port Weller will also be hosting a game night and pregame skate with the Ice Dogs on Saturday November 12 at 7:00 p.m.

QSP Magazine Fundraiser is from Oct.3 – Oct. 17, 2011

Port Weller School 2010-2011 EQAO Results

I am pleased to report that once again Port Weller Students achieved above the provincial average in most areas of this assessment. This assessment measures how well our students met the curriculum expectations at the end of Grade 3 and Grade 6. The provincial standard has been determined to be by the Ministry of Education to be Level 3. The percentage marks in the chart below indicate how many of our students achieved a Level 3 or higher on the 2010-11 Assessment.

These results will be explained in further detail at the School Council Meeting in November.

You may contact Ms. Abbey at any time for more information.

	Reading	Writing	Math
Grade 3	90	100	75
Grade 6	73	76	71

Cross Country

The Cross Country Team, lead by Mrs. Koop and Mrs. Flett, is off to a great start! The runners in Grade 3 – 8, are up early preparing for their upcoming events. The first Regional meet is Sept. 28 at Burgoyne Woods. The second regional meet is Oct. 3 with a rain date of Oct. 6. The DSBN meet is on Oct. 12 at Firemen's Park. Good luck to all of the runners who will be competing.

Carter W., Emma H., Hailey M., Mackenzie Z., Holden M., Carter J., Brooke W., Sam B., Jason C., Rami M., Dylan D., Gavin M., Katie M., MacKenzie J., Eric G., Lauren M., Billy K., Brett N., Lauren M., Jessica G., Taiyo C., Kelton S., Caleb M., and Justice W.

Pirate Football Club

Arrrrrrgh! Congratulations to the Pirates who made PFC (Pirate Football Club) this year! We Arrrrrrgh having a great time this year. Way to go PFC! Team members are: **Eric G., Mackie J., Billy K., Robyn J., Brett N., Naomi J., Alex P., Rebecca B., Zach A., Maryssa M., Gavin M., Katie M., Jaden N., Emily K., Henry K., Kate L., Nicolas V. and Taylor W.**

Intermediate Volleyball

Mrs. Rosts has the girls bumping, volleying and spiking for their season and the girls are showing excellent determination. Congratulations to the following team members:

Brianna T., Naomi J., Rebecca B., Mackenzie J., Taylor W., Jessica G., Mallory D., Abby R., Darby S., Lauren M., Celine B., Zoe Z., Emily K., Robyn J.

Congratulations to the following boys for making the Intermediate Boys Volleyball Team: **Eric V., Caleb M., Ben B., Nick G., Jordan S., Eric G., Billy K., Zach A., Bryson V., Jordan M., Brett N.**

The start date is Oct. 4th. Games will be played on Mondays and Wednesdays