



The SIMCOE STREET Public School ...

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Our website: simcoestreet.dsbni.org

JANUARY 2017



WELCOME BACK !



A New Year provides a blank canvas to paint whatever pictures our minds can imagine. Our sincere hope is that your plans include time for family, learning, and choosing healthy lifestyles. Welcome the challenges and opportunities that await you for the year 2017! **We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Reeb, our new Secretary!**

Family Literacy Day is a national initiative that promotes the importance of reading and learning together as a family. This year's theme is "PLAY FOR LITERACY", emphasizing the valuable effects of play on literacy skills and in providing new literacy opportunities. Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development and improving a child's literacy skills dramatically. Family Literacy Day is being celebrated this year on **Friday, January 27, 2017**. Because we believe that reading is so critical for school and life success, we have made it a policy at our school that the only homework a child needs is to read, read and read some more. Attached with today's newsletter will be a booklet called **'Reading and writing with your child: A parent guide (Kindergarten - Grade 6).'** This booklet is just jammed packed with activities that you and your child will enjoy.

Beginning January, 2017 we will be sending home a copy of each monthly newsletter. Even though our intention was to conserve and save our precious trees, we are finding that our newsletters are not being read on line. The newsletters will be sent home with the youngest or only child in your family during the first week of each month. It will still be posted on our website though! We hope that you take time to read it either on our own or with your child!

As per our District School Board of Niagara's policy, we will be practicing a LOCKDOWN twice this school year. Our first one will be Thursday, January 12, 2017 and our second will be on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 sometime during the school day. Students will be prepared for the LOCKDOWN through the morning announcements and by teachers who will be discussing what to do in the event of a LOCKDOWN. Mark your calendar as a reminder in case your child comes home and tells you that we had a LOCKDOWN. You will be in the know!

Genny Weerdenburg, Principal

Jennifer Poirier, Vice Principal

KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE!

YOU & YOUR CHILD ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A
KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, February 2, 2017 - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



During your visit you will:

- See a Kindergarten classroom
- Meet the Kindergarten Team
- Register for school
- Get a fun goodie bag with learning resources

JUST WATCH ME!
KINDERGARTEN AT THE DSBN

Children who will be turning 4 before December 31, 2017 are eligible to start Kindergarten in September 2017.



I Matter At DSBN

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JANUARY?

DID YOU KNOW THAT:

... Friday, January 13, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. is our school CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY and families are welcome to join us in the gym? Stop by and check out what we will be celebrating.

... our first School Council meeting of 2017 is on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. in our WELCOME ROOM? We hope to see you there.

... our first MOVIE NIGHT of this year will be on Thursday, January 19, 2017 from 6-8 p.m. in our gym? Mark your calendar and more details will be following. Soon.

... Friday, January 20, 2017 is a PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY day for staff and the school will be closed for the day?

... Friday, January 27, 2017 is HAT DAY and students can wear their favourite hat all day. This is also FAMILY LITERACY DAY.



YOU 'GOTTA' SEE THIS!

Please take some time to view the *Helping your Kids Succeed in School* YOU TUBE <http://bit.ly/10zmDQE>. You will really enjoy it. The video focusses on 4 important things:



#1. Have high expectations for your child and that you believe in them.

#2. Talk about school. Instead of asking “How was school today?” ask specific questions such as “How did the Science experiment work out today?” or “Tell me what you did during FITNESS BREAK today” or “What did you do for DPA today?”

#3. Help develop good work habits and positive thinking.

#4. READ, READ together. No matter what your child’s age! Encourage children to love reading.

This *YOU TUBE* video will provide you with many, many more suggestions!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE ABOUT WINTER FITNESS

You don’t need to become a professional athlete to enjoy being active in winter and all year through. Here are some ideas to stay active in winter:

- Go tobogganing, ice skating at indoor and outdoor rinks
- Making snowmen, snow angels, snow forts
- Winter hikes
- Winter scavenger hunt

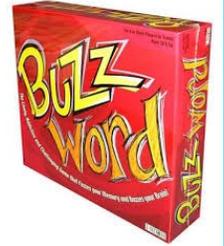
Snow creates a whole new world to explore. Remember to:

- Dress in layers
- Wear a warm hat
- Wear a helmet if you are skating, downhill skiing or tobogganing
- Bring extra mittens and socks in case they get wet
- Keep your feet warm
- And most of all, have fun!



BUZZ WORD!

Remember to tell your child what the BUZZ WORD is from the January, 2017 newsletter! If your child's name (and the correct password!) is drawn, then your child could win either a milk/ice cream or a pizza ticket! Your child (or all your children in your household) just have to each individually write the buzz word on a piece of GOOS paper when they are at school and hand it in to the office. The names will be drawn on a Friday of the week that the newsletter goes out to families. When your child's name is drawn, your child has to be at school and come to the office right after the morning announcements. Pretty neat eh?



(weather)

OUR COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER!



A big thank you to families in our community who sold (or purchased!) cookie dough as our fundraiser! We raised \$3,000.00 towards CHROME books (like mini laptops for our Junior and Intermediate students!) This is a BIG "WOW". Thank you School Council members for supporting a decision to sell cookie dough! School Council also raised \$200.00 from our first BAKE SALE that was supporting the purchase of CHROME books for our primary students! Your energy has REALLY made a difference at our school!

COLD WEATHER AND SCHOOL CLOSURES

Information about transportation cancellations and/or school closures will be available through the following channels:

[http://www.dsbn.org/inclement weather](http://www.dsbn.org/inclement%20weather) OR

DSBN Facebook or Twitter

CKTB (610 AM) St. Catharines
CHSC (1220 AM) St. Catharines
WAVE (94.7 FM) Hamilton
CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton
CHML (900 AM) Hamilton
CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton

CHRE (105.7 FM) St. Catharines
CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines
CKEY (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/ Fort Erie
K-LITE-FM (102.9 FM) Hamilton
SPIRIT/CHOW (91.7 FM) Welland
Y-108(107.9) Hamilton

