

# The Cougar Chronicle



## Martha Cullimore Public School

3155 St. Andrew St.  
Niagara Falls, ON L2J 2R7

Principal:  
T. Chilcott

### Important Dates:

#### December

- 03 Week of Code
  - 03 Joy Day
  - 03 Jr/Int Arts Show starts
  - 04 Gr 4 – 6 to Makerspace Day
  - 06 Hour of Code Day
  - 06 Gr 3 to 8 Beauty and the Beast
  - 06 Int Boys Volleyball Championships @ Eastdale 6pm
  - 12 Hot Chocolate Social Christmas Open House & Bake Sale
  - 17 PJ Day
  - 18 Ugly Sweater Day
  - 19 Winter Hat and Head Gear Day
  - 20 Red & Green Day
  - 21 Christmas Cheer Day
  - 21 Carol Sing 9am
- Dec 22 to Jan 6  
Happy Holidays!**

#### January

- 07 Welcome Back!
- 22 Grad Photo Day
- 23 Pink Shirt Day
- 25 PJ day & Snuggle Up and Read Day
- 30 Kindergarten Open House

## Message from the Principal

Whether you are celebrating Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, or another special event this holiday season, the staff at Martha Cullimore wishes you a safe and joyous time with your family. We are very grateful that you have entrusted your children to our care. At Martha Cullimore, we believe that every child can achieve to a high standard. We believe that good character and good citizenship are integral components of academic achievement and success in life. We believe that parents and teachers, working together, can achieve great things for children. We are very proud of the positive climate in our school and are committed to working together for even greater student success.



As we prepare for the winter season, there is an opportunity for us to reach out to the community by way of a Seasonal Food Drive with Project Share. You are welcome to drop off non-perishable food items to the collection bin at the school between Monday December 10th and Monday December 17th. The bin will be picked up on December 19th. Thank you for reaching out with us to bless others in the community.

Project share is in high need of the following:

- baby food and formula
- canned fruits, vegetables and pasta sauce
- canned salmon, chicken, tuna and beans
- peanut butter

Again you will see our "Hat and Mitten Tree" in the front foyer of the school. Help us cozy up this heartfelt tree with new mittens, gloves, hats and scarves of all sizes. They will be donated to those in need this season.

Mrs. T. Chilcott

## Grade 7/8 Edwin Technology Pilot Project

We are delighted that our intermediate students will be embarking on an exciting learning journey this school year with a new digital learning platform called Edwin. This is a partnership between the District School Board of Niagara and Nelson, an educational publisher.

Grade 7/8 students will receive a computer (Dell Education Chromebook hybrid laptop/tablet) for their sole use during the school year. The computer, which will travel often between school and home, provides access to quality learning resources for Ontario's 7/8 curriculum. In addition to their classroom learning resources, students now have access to a wealth of curated digital educational content. Through an app called Edwin, they can view, read, and interact with this content. They will also use Edwin's dashboard, which is connected to Google's G Suite for Education, to keep track of assignments, extracurricular activities, and communications.

This is a pilot program. Students, and their teachers will use, evaluate, and help improve the learning and teaching experience using Edwin.

**Congratulations to students who made some amazing accomplishments and reached personal bests this month!**



TEACHER	I MATTER STUDENT OF THE MONTH	GROWTH MINDSET COACH OF THE MONTH
K – Hollemans Empey	Ryder H, Addy M, Olivia Y	Emmy W
K – Brennan, Lopez & Camillo	Benjamin B, Poyraz G, Claire P	Presley D
1/2 – Edwardson	Lily D, Emma E	Xenia R
1/2 – Reid	Rehan K, Reese P	Tami R
2/3 – Folino	Lena E, Evie L, Mya M	Matt Y
3/4 – Jane	Cordelia S, Kalysta T, Benjamin W	Tabitha R
4/5 – Dinga	Carmen A, Hudson G,	Julia W
5/6 – Bootsma	Jade H, Cooper S	Brian U
6 – Hopkins	Alyssa B, Rylan M, Dale S	Lauren W
7/8 – Fortuna	Julia A, Mercedes C, Braxton L, Brooklyn P	Julia A
7/8 – Ibey	Joseph B, Katie B, Morgan H	Keenan B
Fr – Michaud		Katelyn S



**The character trait for December is Responsibility.**

We extend a warm welcome to families with children who will be 4 or 5 years old by December 31, 2019 to our Kindergarten Open House on January 31st. Doors open at 10:00am until 6:00pm. Looking forward to seeing you!

## Winter and Snow Safety

Students at Martha Cullimore School are not allowed to throw or kick snow while on school property. Cold, frozen snow presents a threat to student safety especially when thrown. Parents/Guardians are asked to please review this policy at home and we will continue to remind students here at school. Consequences for throwing snow are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> time: Letter home with a detention

2<sup>nd</sup> time: Letter home and Loss of Privileges/Detention

3<sup>rd</sup> time: Formal at-home suspension



There are often large snow banks around the school and beside student pathways due to snow removal. STUDENTS ARE TO STAY OFF AND AWAY FROM ALL SNOWBANKS AT ALL TIMES. They are often icy and students risk falling off into the way of traffic.

## French Immersion Program

The French Immersion program offered at Prince Philip is open to all students in Year 2 (Senior) Kindergarten. If you want your child to develop a high proficiency and fluency in Canada's two official languages, French Immersion has a great deal to offer.

- Development of French language skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing from Grades one to twelve;
- Designed to be a second-language program for children whose first language is **NOT** French;
- Current enrolment of over 2,000 elementary students;
- Certificate of French Immersion Studies awarded upon successful completion of the elementary and secondary immersion programs;
- Opportunity to challenge the Diplôme d'études de langue française (DELF) exam in Grade 12 ;
- Promotes understanding of different cultures;
- Provides additional opportunities for employment using French as the working language;
- Increased ability to communicate and interact with confidence in French.



**Registration will open January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

For more information about French Immersion in the District School Board of Niagara visit [www.dsbni.org/fi](http://www.dsbni.org/fi) or speak to your school principal.

**A Parent Information evening will be held on January 9<sup>th</sup> at Prince Philip Public School from 6-7 pm.**

## School Advisory Council

Our third School Council meeting was held on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. Martha Cullimore's School Council met to plan for our December 12<sup>th</sup> Hot Chocolate Social and Bake Sale, along with the upcoming Trivia Night in the spring, a Friday in April is to be confirmed. More information will follow and tickets will go on sale in the new year.



## Beauty and the Beast: The Musical on December 6<sup>th</sup>

On Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, the students at Martha Cullimore (Grades 3 through 8) are invited to attend the performance of "**Beauty and the Beast**" at the Scotiabank Convention Centre, in Niagara Falls. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to experience the performing arts at a local venue. The show begins at 10:30 a.m. and is approximately 135 minutes in length, including one intermission.

## Congratulations to the Boys Volleyball Team

Martha Cullimore's Boys Intermediate Volleyball Team is representing the cougars at the championships at Eastdale High this Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Way to go, athletes!

## Basketball Season Starts in January

We look forward to the start of the intermediate interschool basketball season in January. Mr. Fortuna and Ms. Richardson will be coaching the girls. Mr. West will be coaching the boys. Junior basketball intramurals will also start in the new year.



## Staying Healthy This Season

Although we usually encourage children to share, there is one thing that we'd prefer that doesn't get passed around this year - germs! While being back at school gives children more opportunity to interact with each other and play together, there are some simple steps we can all take to help each other avoid coughs, colds and more serious types of infections.



**Wash those hands!** We recommend that students, and even parents, wash their hands with soap and water regularly. If there isn't a sink nearby, using a good hand sanitizer should do the trick.

**Cover all coughs and sneezes.** This will cut down on the number of icky things floating around in the air and landing on surfaces, making it less likely that children will breathe them in or touch them. If you have to cough or sneeze, do it into a tissue or onto your upper sleeve.

**If you're sick, stay home.** Although it's important to be in class, don't be a superhero. Take some time, feel better and then come back when you're healthy, alert and ready to learn!

### WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

Please keep your child at home and away from others if he or she has any of these symptoms: fever, diarrhea, vomiting, rash, frequent coughing or sneezing, yellow or green discharge from the nose, ears, or eyes, sore throat.

## Holiday Bake Sale on December 12th

There will be a student bake sale during the school day and a community bake sale on the evening of the Hot Chocolate Social on December 12<sup>th</sup>. During the day, students can purchase single-size treats to enjoy. Sale items will range from 50cents to \$2.00. There are always commercially packaged and labelled "nut-free" items available at the bake sale table as an alternative for students with allergies. Parents are also welcome to send in labelled baked goods from their own home for their children with allergies. These are recommended for students with allergies or anaphylaxis.

The community Holiday Bake Sale in the evening is a time when you can purchase some goodies for holiday get-togethers! Last year, the show of care and creativity at the holiday bake sale was show-stopping! Don't miss out.

**The bake sale will be open from 6:15pm to 8:00pm. The café and festive activities will be open from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.**

*We encourage all parents to support this initiative by baking treats and sending them in on Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Items requiring refrigeration can be dropped off before school on the 12<sup>th</sup>. If you bake, please let us know by returning the slip at the end of this newsletter as soon as possible. Thank you so much for your support!*

## December 12<sup>th</sup> Bring-A-Mug Hot Chocolate Social and Open House

We are planning on having a simple Christmas celebration open house where families come, bring their mugs to fill with hot chocolate, enjoy some baked goods from the bake sale, and spend quality time participating in some festive activities.

- o Relax and enjoy musical selections at the Cookie Café. Students will present special poems, instrumental music and songs. Kindergarten students will kick off the line up of talent. A program of presentation times will be published closer to the event.
- o Visit the North Pole Bakery to decorate sugar cookies
- o Visit the Reindeer Workshop to make reindeer candy cane crafts
- o Make beautiful giant snowflakes in the Winter Wonderland Room
- o Visit Rudolph's Robotics Barn
- o Junior and intermediate students can take on the Great Christmas Escape Challenge in one of our Escape Rooms! Schedule to be announced.



## December 12<sup>th</sup> Bake Sale

While we cannot guarantee a nut free school environment, we work diligently to minimize risk to individuals with allergies. **We require that all baked goods coming into the school be baked without nuts or peanuts. However, we cannot guarantee that these baked goods are nut free or have been made in a nut-free environment.**

We encourage all parents to support this initiative by baking treats and sending them in on December 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>. If you bake, please send in this slip with your baked goods (singles, 6 packs, or dozens). Thank you so much for your support!

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**TAG FOR BAKED GOODS**

From the home of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Baked Good: \_\_\_\_\_



- This was baked with no nuts, peanuts or peanut products.
- 

**RSVP FOR BAKED GOODS**  
**(please send in by Dec 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.)**

From the home of: \_\_\_\_\_

- We are able to send in \_\_\_\_\_ for the bake sale.

\_\_\_ singles    \_\_\_ 6 packs    \_\_\_ dozens