

The Cougar Chronicle



Martha Cullimore Public School

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

Principal:
T. Chilcott

Important Dates:

December

05 Gr 3 Pioneer School Days
05 Gr 4 Ancient Civilization School Days
09 Gr 3 & 4 Museum
15 Shrek Musical
15 Jr Volleyball Championships
20 Hot Chocolate Social & Carol Sing 6:30pm – 7:30pm
22 December Concert 1:30pm
23 Last day before holidays

January

09 Welcome Back!
20 PD Day
27 Jr Soccer Tournament

Message from the Principal

Whether you are celebrating Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Eid Al-Adha 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 19th and Thursday December 22nd. The bin will be picked up on December 23rd. Thanks you for reaching out with us to bless others in the community.

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

Mrs. T. Chilcott

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

TEACHER	I Matter STUDENT OF THE MONTH
K – Hollemans Empey	Cole R, Olivia
K – Brennan Longhouse	Rayyan , Mila, Kaylin
1 - Carnegie	Charisah, Georgi, Mya
2 – Reid	Livia, Oryen
3 – Niven	Kyla
4 – Semerjian	Evan, Nathan S, Broden
4/5 – Fortuna	Aidan, Cooper, Jenna O, Riley
6 – West	Joseph, Brooklyn, Shayleigh
FR – Michaud	Ann, Joon, Nate S, Jackson

Bring-A-Mug Hot Chocolate Social and Sing Along

December 20th at 6:30 to 7:30pm

Please come and join in a wonderful community celebration at Martha Cullimore! Cozy up and wear your favourite holiday hats, scarves and mittens to our outdoor Christmas Carol Sing! Bring your family mugs to fill up on creamy hot chocolate and savour some tasty sugar cookies. Each class will lead a carol so we can sing along! There will also be a student raffle basket and family raffle basket awarded on this night!



From December 12th to 16th, student raffle basket tickets will be on sale for 25 cents each. The basket includes a Toys R Us gift card and Christmas treats. There will also be a family raffle basket at the Hot Chocolate Social – tickets will be on sale for 50 cents each.

We look forward to celebrating with you! Please let us know if you can come so that we can prepare hot chocolate and sugar cookies for everyone. **RSVP by December 9th. Thanks!**

December in our Town

The daytime event on December 22nd at 1:30pm will be a quaint concert of songs by students showcasing different festivals and holidays around the world, **called December in our Town**. Parents are welcome to attend.

Shrek: The Musical on December 15th

On Thursday, December 15th, the students at Martha Cullimore (Grades 1 through 6) are attending the performance of "**Shrek**" 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.

Vendor Fair & Bake Sale Update

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Vendor Fair. It was a big success! We raised \$1100.00 toward the playground. Special thanks to Shannon Baka, Leigh Blakely and the School Advisory Council for their tireless efforts with preparations.



Grade 1 French Immersion

Parents and Guardians of Senior Kindergarten students interested in attending French Immersion in Grade 1 next September are invited to attend an information session at John Marshall Public School, 3910 St. James Ave., Niagara Falls, on Thursday, January 12 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Online registration begins January 9 at www.dsbni.org.



Fill the Frames Artwork Contest!

Happy 150th Birthday, Canada!

As we approach Canada's 150th year, we'd like to have a Canadiana theme to the next set of art pieces that are displayed in the library. Artwork can be created individually by students or by families together. Frame sizes and orientations are as follows:

- 1) 8x10 or 11x14 landscape (8 frames)
- 2) 16x20 landscape or portrait (4 frames)
- 3) 18x24 portrait (4 frames)
- 4) 5x7 portrait (10 frames)

We encourage students and/or families to use a variety of media including: crayon, pencil crayon, marker, pastels, charcoal, water colours, acrylics, etc. If needed, paper is available from Mrs. Chilcott. Students are welcome to submit a piece of artwork that they created in class as well. Books about Canadiana will be displayed in the library for students to reference for ideas.

All submissions should be to the school by **Friday, January 13, 2017**. Judging will take place shortly after that. Any questions can be directed to tammy.chilcott@dsbn.org.

Thank you in advance for your participation!



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.



Family Bowling Fun on February 12, 2017! Hold the Date!

The School Advisory Council is hosting a Family Bowling Event for the community at Cataract Lanes on Sunday, February 12th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Proceeds from this event will be used to offset the cost of end of year trips. A \$10 per person bowling package includes shoe rental, two pieces of pizza and one hour of bowling! Up to eight people can bowl on a lane. We look forward to seeing you there! More details to follow.



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.

Contact your family doctor for advice about care and treatment. For more information, talk to your school nurse or go to www.niagararegion.ca/health

December Newsletter Draw

Congrats to the Hayslip family who won November's draw! Their children have won a prize from the office.

What strategy is important for measuring something accurately?

Have you registered for the Remind App? _____ If no, why not? _____

Family Name: _____

Child(ren)'s Grades: _____

Inclement Weather Procedures

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures.

At times when student transportation has been cancelled and schools remain open, the decision of whether or not to have children in school on that day rests with the parent or guardian. **Should you decide not to send your child to school in the event that transportation is cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call your child's school to inform them of your child's absence.**

A key resource in any emergency is the DSBN Emergency Information form that you filled out at the beginning of the school year. Please let the school know of any changes in contact information or procedures you wish to be followed throughout the school year.

For secondary schools it may become necessary to cancel late buses. Notice will be provided via school announcements and on the websites and subscription features by 11:30 a.m.

Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will be available as soon as it is available through the following channels:

Websites:

<http://www.dsbns.org/inclementweather/>
www.nsts.ca

Subscription Features:

DSBN Facebook or Twitter
NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts

Phone:

Niagara Student Transportation Services 905-346-0290 Voice Auto Attendant

Radio Stations:

CKTB (610 AM) or CHRE (105.7 FM)
or CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) in St.
Catharines
WAVE (94.7 FM) or CKOC (1150 AM)
or K-LITE FM (102.9 FM) in Hamilton
CKEY (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/Fort
Erie GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland

Television Stations:

CH – Hamilton, CityTV Breakfast
Television, CTV Toronto, Cogeco
Channel 10





Would you like to be reminded of upcoming events at Martha Cullimore? Join Martha Cullimore's Remind in order to receive one-way update messages directly to your cell phone. Remind is a free service that lets the school send quick messages via text, push notifications, or email to everyone at once. You can stay in touch without revealing your personal contact information. Signing up for Remind is easy and is intended for parent use only. For Terms of Service, please visit <https://www.remind.com/terms-of-service>.

To receive text messages:

- Step 1. Enter the number: 289-804-1235 (This is a telephone number used for Remind. Personal Phone numbers are not shared or visible to the school.)
- Step 2. Text this message: @marthacu (This code is unique to Martha Cullimore.)
- Step 3. You will receive a welcome text from Remind and be prompted to reply with your name so that you can be added to Martha Cullimore's Remind system.

We look forward to keeping you connected at Martha Cullimore.

T. Chilcott Principal

Spread *joy* this holiday season.



Thank your child's teacher this holiday with a tribute gift to the Foundation.

All proceeds provide basic necessities for DSBN students!

An acknowledgement holiday card will be sent to your teacher in your child's name! Visit efnniagara.ca to donate! Or call 905-641-2929 x 37712 or email efn@dsbn.org.