

The Cougar Chronicle



Martha Cullimore Public School

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

Principal:
T. Chilcott

Important Dates:

Dec 23 to Jan 6
Happy Holidays!

January

- 06 Welcome Back!
- 06 Intro to Tae Kwon
Do in P.E. classes
- 08 Intro to Tae Kwon
Do in P.E. classes
- 13 Entertrain Bus
Safety Presentation
- 17 PA Day
- 22 Graduation Photo
Day
- 30 Kindergarten Open
House
- 31 Colour House
Character Assembly

Message from the Principal

Welcome back to school! We hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday. 2020 promises to be an eventful one as we look forward to the many exciting learning opportunities planned at Martha Cullimore School. As we return to school, we will be encouraging students to regain their focus and put forth their best efforts. Parents can help by checking their children's organizers daily, checking their assignments and working together at home.

Term 1 report cards will be sent home in early February. Please watch for these report cards in your child's backpack. Also, please continue to talk to your child about how he/she is doing in regard to learning skills. Teachers have been assisting students in setting and monitoring learning skills goals throughout the year.

It was wonderful to see the amazing turnout for our events in December. Thank you for your very generous support with our outreach initiatives. The Martha Cullimore community certainly demonstrated the true spirit of giving! Donations to our "Out of the Cold" initiative will be forwarded to those in need and our food barrels will help fill hungry tummies in the upcoming season.

As part of our safe school routines, we will continue to review and practise both fire drills and lockdown drills at Martha Cullimore. Within the first weeks back to school in January, we will have a school-wide lockdown drill.

We extend a warm welcome to families with children who will be 4 or 5 years old by December 31, 2020 to our Kindergarten Open House on January 30th. Doors open at 10:00am until 6:00pm. Looking forward to seeing you!

Our school will be participating in the Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP). The CAP program seeks to prevent child abuse by training children to recognize and deal with potentially dangerous situations and by preparing adults in the children's community to help children in this endeavor. The CAP program has been delivered to schools in Niagara since 1995. Information is shared with staff and parents, through School Advisory Council, prior to workshops with children to ensure that as many people as possible in the school community are informed. The classroom workshops are for grades 2-6. They combine guided group discussion and a series of role-plays focusing on situations children frequently encounter: bullying, strangers and an adult the child knows. This will help children identify what options they have to protect themselves and where to go for help. The success of the CAP program depends on the support of the school community. We encourage children to share their experiences and concerns with adults, so it is important for parents and school staff to be able to respond to these concerns. Classroom workshops will be in the month of January.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs. T. Chilcott

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



TEACHER	I MATTER STUDENT OF THE MONTH	COUGAR CHARACTER AWARD
K – Hollemans Empey	Braydon M, Finley W, Kaden F	Weston G
K – Brennan, Gibson & Camillo	Kianna H, Louisa M	Jaxon N
1 – Lopez	Halen P	Payton D
2 – Edwardson	Lucas W, Serafina S	
2/3 – Meger	Abby C, Reese P	Rehan K
3 – McGowan	Jack D, Natalie B	Carter P
4 – Dinga	Bobby N, Zander R	Lara G
5 – Lane	Cordelia S, Eden C	Julia W
5/6 – Goode	Hudson G, Natina R, Rylan P	Lara G
7 – Jane	Cole B, Souriya Z	Johnny B
7 – Ibey	Alex F, Dale S, Marshall P, Rebecca S	Reegan H
8 – Fortuna	Abbey H, Jayke A, Noah D	Rianna R



The character trait for January is perseverance.

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Tae Kwon Do is Coming to Martha Cullimore

In January, our students will have a unique opportunity to try the martial art of Tae Kwon Do. The word "taekwondo" consists of three parts: "tae," meaning foot, "kwon," meaning hand, and "do," meaning way of life. Tae Kwon Do is a sport that also focuses on character development. Five classes will be offered to students from kindergarten to grade 8. Participation will be voluntary and at a very reasonable fee. Funds raised through this initiative will go toward athletics and team uniforms.

During the first week of January, students will be introduced to the martial art of Tae Kwon Do during their regularly scheduled Physical Education classes. Students interested will participate in four additional classes held once each week during fitness breaks at the school from January 20th to 30th. The cost for all these sessions in total is only \$20.00! Go to School cash Online to register your child for this opportunity!

Jeong's Family Taekwondo

"EDU-KICKS" TAEKWONDO PROGRAM at Martha Cullimore Elementary School
www.niagarablackbelts.com / 905-401-5425



What is the Edu-Kicks Taekwondo Program all about?

This unique course known as "Edu-Kicks" is a five-session character development program that incorporates physical exercise with life lessons. Open to students from kindergarten through to grade 8, this innovative series of classes is designed to not only introduce your child to basic martial arts, but to also **improve concentration, listening skills, cooperation and courtesy**. It will benefit your child at home, at school and on team sports. Our **Certified Black Belt level instructors** from Jeong's Family Taekwondo volunteer their time to share their experiences in the world of taekwondo. We have been sharing our passion for this sport in dozens of elementary schools throughout the Niagara Region over the past several years.

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:

- 1st time: Letter home with a detention
- 2nd time: Letter home and Loss of Privileges/Detention
- 3rd 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.

**School Council
Meeting – Tuesday,
January 28th
at 6:00 p.m.**

Come out and be a part of the exciting school life at Martha Cullimore!

PA DAY

Friday, January 17, 2020
There will be no school as teachers will be involved in professional activities.

Graduation Photos on January 22nd

Grade 8 students will have their graduation photos taken on Wednesday, January 22nd. A notice will go home shortly. Students should wear a white button up shirt or blouse, and a graduation gown will be provided. We look forward to celebrating this monumental occasion with the students!

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.

When to Keep Your Child at Home Due to Illness

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! 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. It is recommended that students are symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.

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

Websites:

<http://www.dsbn.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

Holiday Bake Sale – Thank You!

We had a wonderful community gathering last December 11th! Martha Cullimore was alive with festive spirit! Special thanks to staff, the School Council and our Student Parliament volunteers for making this an unforgettable night. Our bake sale fundraiser was a great success, with \$1300.00 being raised for student learning resources. The staff and students are grateful for the support of this amazing community.

School Advisory Council and Trivia Night

Our School Council will be hosting a Trivia Night this Spring with all proceeds being donated to Martha Cullimore School. The upcoming Trivia Night will likely be near mid- to end-of April. More information will follow and tickets will go on sale in the new year.



French Immersion Program

Now, for parents of **SENIOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS** it's easier than ever to say

“Oui!”
to French Immersion at the **DSBN**

Please **join us** at our information night to learn more about French Immersion.

PRINCE PHILIP FRENCH IMMERSION PUBLIC SCHOOL

Date: Wednesday, January 8, 2020
Time: 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Place: 3112 Dorchester Rd, Niagara Falls L2J 2Z7

Registration: January 6 to February 18, 2020

Did you know?
The DSNB offers a single-entry program in French Immersion starting at Grade 1.

Learning Another Language:

- Improves a student's ability to read, write and think critically
- Helps students use their first language more effectively
- Promotes understanding of different cultures
- Supports increased post-secondary and employment opportunities for students

How do I get more information?

Visit our website: www.dsnb.org/fi

J'ai de l'importance à DSNB