

# The Cougar Chronicle



## Martha Cullimore Public School

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

Principal:  
T. Chilcott

### Important Dates:

#### June

- 02 New to JK Visit
- 05 Gr 3 Green Thumb Exhibit
- 06 Prince Philip Open House for grade 6s
- 07 DSBN T&F
- 08 Jump Rope for Heart
- 09 PD Day
- 12 & 13 Gr 6 Camp Cave Springs
- 14 DSBN T&F Rain Date
- 14 K & Gr3 Play Day
- 15 Volunteer Tea – 12:35pm
- 16 K Double Decker Bus Trip
- 19 Happy Birthday, Canada Play Day 1!
- 22 1&2, 4/5 to Safari Niagara
- 23 Happy Birthday, Canada! Celebration Play Day 2
- 26 Gr 6 Ceremony Rehearsal
- 27 Gr 6 Celebration 11:00am
- 27 K Celebration 1:20pm
- 28 Report Cards go home
- 29 Last day of school & Talent Show at 8:50am

## Message from the Principal

It's hard to believe that another school year is winding down. While our time together is shortening, the variety of valuable activities and learning experiences being offered throughout the month of June is still impressive. There are still 20 days of school left. Please see the calendar for all the events. We continue to be grateful for the wonderful times we spend together as a Martha Cullimore community. Thank you for all of your support this year, particularly to our School Council and parent volunteers. You have made it possible for us to shine brightly! Special thanks to our School Council Chair, Shannon Baka, and our hard-working council members. We encourage all parents to join in September.

## Planning for Next Year

We are in full swing planning for the next school year. At this time, we expect that there will be a number of split classes. As a staff, we meet together to place students in situations that are best for them academically. A great deal of time is invested to provide the best placement for each and every student.

## Tentative Classroom Organization for 2016/2017:

Kindergarten	Mrs. Hollemans
Kindergarten	Mrs. Brennan
Grade 1	Mrs. Carnegie
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Reid
Grade 2/3	Mrs. McGowan
Grade 3/4	Ms. Jane
Grade 4/5	Mr. Fortuna
Grade 5/6	Mr. West
French & Prep	Mme. Michaud
LRT & Rotary	Mrs. Stewart
Rotary	Mrs. Lopez

Please note, this organization is subject to change should our enrolment or staffing change in the fall. The grade and class organization of a school is based on predicted enrolment and staffing. Often, there are new registrations through the summer and thus, final class organizations and placement decisions will be confirmed in late August.

Educational Assistants have not yet been placed, therefore we do not know the status of positions for next year. Mrs. Houde and Mrs. Cunningham will continue as head and evening caretakers respectively and Mrs. Lamb will be our administrative assistant.

We are anticipating the coming year with such excitement. We look forward to our continued partnership with you as we support all students to reach their unique and highest potential.

Mrs. T. Chilcott

## Farewells and Welcomes

As of this date, we must say goodbye to Mrs. Niven, who is retiring to enjoy all of her favourite things on a full-time basis! We thank her for her dedication to our Cougars and other students over the years. She will be fondly remembered by so many; she has definitely left her mark on us! At the end of June, we will also say farewell to Mrs. Bellinger, who will pursue wonderful new opportunities with her grade 1 class at Grapeview School. We thank her for her investments here at Martha Cullimore and wish her the very best as she moves on. We are also sad to see Miss Longhouse leave us, as she has made her home, and a wonderful difference, here in Kindergarten. We wish her every success in her new opportunities. We welcome two new staff members to our teaching team for next year. Mrs. McGowan will be teaching grade 2/3 and Mrs. Lopez will be teaching a variety of prep classes which are to be determined. They are both excited to join our school community and I am confident that our school will be a better place due to their anticipated good work here. I am so happy to reflect on the accomplishments of our students, staff and community at Marha Cullimore. A special thank you to the staff for all of their hard work this year on behalf of our students. I believe that, together with parents, we have nurtured a growing and vibrant community partnership that makes a positive impact on all students who attend here.

## Don't Forget to Pick Up Medications at End of Year

At the end of the school year, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to pick up any remaining medication. Medications, including Epi-pens, will not be sent home with a student.

## Anaphylaxis...Preparing for Next Year

All students with anaphylaxis are required to have an EpiPen with a current, valid expiry date submitted to the school office **BY THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER**. To ensure student safety, **students with anaphylaxis who do not have an EpiPen will not be permitted to attend**.

## Summer Office Hours

Martha Cullimore's office will be closed from Monday, July 3, 2017 until Monday, August 28 at 8:15am. All new registrations are welcome the week of August 28th! Please encourage your new neighbours to come to the school to register their children.

### School Bell Times

Martha Cullimore entry and dismissal times will be the same for next year. The school bell times will be as follows:

- 8:15 a.m.** Bus arrival
- 8:30 a.m.** School entry for all students
- 8:35 - 10:15 a.m.** Teaching Block 1
- 10:15 - 10:55 a.m.** Fitness/Nutrition Break
- 10:55 - 12:35 p.m.** Teaching Block 2
- 12:35 - 1:15 p.m.** Fitness/Nutrition Break - students may go home to eat
- 1:15 - 2:55 p.m.** Teaching Block 3
- 2:55 p.m.** Dismissal for all students

**There is no supervision on the playground after school.**

### Green Thumb Exhibit – June 5!

The Grade 3s are hosting a "Green Thumb" exhibit on Monday June 5 from 2:00 to 2:40pm to showcase their learning and growing expertise. Parents are welcome!



Parents are welcome to attend our Year-End Talent Show on **June 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:50am!**

## School and School Council Fundraising Money

Our school sold trash and garden bags in the Fall and held a Dance-a-Thon in the Spring. Our School Council held a Vendor Fair in November, a Family Bowling Event in Winter and a Trivia Night in Spring. Thank you so much for all your support throughout the year. Many parents are interested to know how these funds are used. Extras that the school budget does not provide for, were purchased with the proceeds. This year, we have used fundraising money for the following:

- playground repairs (\$3600.00)
- 4 student chromebooks (\$1300.00)
- Mindstorms Lego Robotics starter kit (\$400.00)
- 2 Little Bits Gizmos and Gadgets Kits (\$400.00)
- Set of 5 Junior Dot & Dash Robots (\$1250.00)
- Set of 6 Primary Bee Bots (\$800.00)
- end of year bussing costs

## Purchases Made with School Funds

- 10 classroom laptops (\$2500.00)
- 6 chromebooks (\$1950.00)
- 2 Makey Makey boards (\$130.00)
- chromebook storage carts (\$600.00)

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



TEACHER	I Matter STUDENT OF THE MONTH
K – Hollemans Empey	Sawyer, Tucker
K – Brennan Longhouse	Hannah, Luke, Theoni
1 - Carnegie	Declan, Mya, Tabitha
2 – Reid	Cordelia, Owen
3 – Niven	Gabriella, MacKenzie, Madalyn
4 – Jane	A.J., Ethan, Johnny, Liam G, Olivia, Rylee
4/5 – Fortuna	Cooper, Gabriel, Jade, Jenna O, Jenna S, Madison, Nate, Reegan
6 – West	Megan, Shayleigh, Zen
FR - Michaud	Aidan B, Alex, Bobby, Jenna O, Liam N

## Moving?

This is the time of year when staffing is underway for next year. In order to verify our student population for September, it is very important that we know about any plans you may have to move to another school. If you are planning to move, please let our school secretary, Mrs. Lamb, know as soon as possible.

## Yearbook

Our wonderful, full colour yearbook have been ordered and should be arriving at the school mid-June! We anticipate the students enjoying the captured memories of the 2016-2017 school year.



## Prince Philip Open House for Families of Grade 6 Students

On Tuesday, June 6, 2017 from 6:30-7:30pm the staff of Prince Philip Public School will open their doors to our Grade 6 students and their families to give participants the opportunity to learn a little more about their Grade 7 year. We strongly encourage all of our students and their families to attend.

## Library Books

It's time to return all books to the library for the end-of-year inventory. We will be closing the library for book exchanges on June 8th. We ask you to return all books as soon as possible. Parents, you will receive a library notice stating the titles of any outstanding books. If not returned, the replacement value of any missing books will be sent home. Thank you for your cooperation and help.

## School Council Update

Nominations for next year's council will take place in September, with elections for executive membership to be held **Tuesday, September 26, 2017** during our meeting from 6-7:30pm. Save that date and please join us so your voice can be heard!

## Niagara Elementary Instrumental Music (NEIM)

Attention all students in grades 3 to 5! Do you want to learn to play a musical instrument? Niagara Elementary Instrumental Music provides weekly in-school lessons as well as band and orchestra rehearsals. We are currently accepting registrations for Instrumental Music lessons for the 2016/2017 school year. More information is available at [www.freewebs.com/niagaramusic](http://www.freewebs.com/niagaramusic), by calling (905) 641- 2929 ext 52296 or emailing [elemus@dsbn.org](mailto:elemus@dsbn.org).



## Volunteer Tea on Thursday June 15th at 12:35pm

If you are a Martha Cullimore volunteer, please come to our volunteer tea so that we can show you how much we appreciate all that you do! Please let us know if you can come by sending an RSVP to the office.

## School Vandalism

Now that the warm weather has arrived, we seek your cooperation in reducing school vandalism. Should you observe an unusual activity at our school, please call in confidence either of the following emergency numbers: 905.682.8065 or 905.563.1293. Also, if you notice children on the roof, please contact the Niagara Regional Police (905.688.4111) as this is extremely unsafe and those engaging in this behaviour are trespassing on DSBN property. We appreciate your assistance with these matters. As you can imagine graffiti and other damage is very costly to remove/repair, not to mention how unsightly it can be.

## How to Get 2017 Back to School Student Transportation Information



Niagara Student Transportation Services (NSTS) is a consortium between the District School Board of Niagara and the Niagara Catholic District School Board. The mandate of NSTS is to plan and administer safe, efficient and effective transportation services for the students of Niagara.

On **August 21, 2017** NSTS will post specific back to school transportation arrangements for each student enrolled at the school boards, including bus route numbers, stop locations and times. Eligibility information is also available through the portal and walking directions are available if your child lives within the walk zone of the school and is not eligible for transportation service.

Please visit [www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca) and sign-in to the secure parent portal to get your child's student transportation information. To sign-in to the portal you will need your child's Ontario Education Number (OEN) which can be found on their report card. While signed-in, please subscribe to the delay and cancellation module for direct and timely emails regarding student transportation that impacts your child.

Changes to home, pick-up or drop-off addresses must be made through your child's school. During the summer you may notify NSTS of address changes so we can make sure a bus stop is available for your child to start the school year, however, NSTS is not authorized to change student address information.

With the availability of the secure parent portal, *NSTS will not mail student transportation notices* with the exception of Kindergarten students or new students to the system who do not have an OEN to sign-in to the portal.

Please contact your school or NSTS if you have questions regarding your child's transportation arrangements.



## Spring is Here! Some Outdoor Safety Tips

One of the most exciting things about the weather warming up is all the opportunity children have to enjoy outdoor activities such as sports, games and time with friends. With children spending more time outdoors, we would like to remind all students about the importance of staying safe. To help ensure the safety of all children, we regularly review our safety guidelines with students. We recommend, when you have an opportunity, that parents/guardians also discuss these guidelines with children at home.

1. Don't talk to strangers
2. Always walk to and from school with a buddy.
3. Do not take short cuts through alleys, parks, fields, etc. even if they are well lit
4. Let someone know where you are and where you are going
5. If you suspect someone is following you, RUN! Go to the nearest safe place
6. If someone makes you feel uncomfortable, go to the nearest safe place
7. Walk confidently and be aware of your surroundings
8. Never, ever get into a stranger's vehicle

We appreciate your help! By working together, we can help students enjoy their time outdoors safely and responsibly.



## The sun is back!

The sun is shining and it's time to get outside to play! But before you run outside, make sure you remember your 5 S's...

**Slip:** on some clothes that will protect your skin from the sun (loose-fitting and tightly woven are best).

**Slop:** on some sunscreen that is at least SPF 30 and filters UVA & UVB rays (broad-spectrum). Put sunscreen on 20 minutes BEFORE you go outside, so it can soak in. Don't forget your ears, nose and feet if you are wearing sandals! Lips should also be protected with SPF 30 lip balm.

**Slap:** on a wide-brimmed hat to protect your face, ears and neck

**Seek:** shade when outside between 11am-4pm

**Slide:** on some sunglasses that have 100% UVA & UVB filters.

Attention moms, dads, coaches and caregivers: sun damage can happen quickly, so make sure youth remember sunscreen for lunch break, gym class, track and field and other outdoor activities. For more information, talk to your school nurse.

### DSBN Track & Field Team

Congratulations to the following students who will represent Martha cullimore at the Regional meet at Niagara Olympic Centre on June 7th:

Madison D, Roberta S, Reegan H, Jeff V, Jenna S, Mani M, Johnny B, Olivia V

Special thanks to Mr. Fortuna, Mr. West and Mrs. Niven for their work with these athletes.

## Wear red & white & Canadian June 19 & 23!

### Happy 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Canada!

On June 19<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, we're celebrating Canada's birthday with Canadian-themed Play Days! Activities will be both indoors and outdoors. Dress for the weather!

Wear as much red and white as you can, along with as much Canada spirit as possible (hats, Ts, flags, etc.)



### Jump Rope for Heart & Crazy Canada Hat Day! June 8

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, we're jumping rope to raise money for Heart & Stroke research. Thanks for your support.



## Dress Code Reminders

With warm weather upon us, please see below for a reminder of our school dress code. The underlying principle is that students should come to school dressed for work, not for a trip to the beach or the mall.

### Please keep in mind:

- Tank tops need to have a strap of at least 3 finger widths
- All apparel should be free from inappropriate language/pictures
- Shorts must be an appropriate length (mid-thigh)
- Undergarments should not be exposed
- Hats and sunglasses are appropriate at recess, but not indoors

## The Story String Quartet from Niagara Symphony Orchestra

– on May 17th students experienced an interactive storytelling concert where they are involved in putting ideas to music!

## Trivia Night Winners

Reflexology Gift Card – Leigh B.  
 Hair Salon Gift Card - Heather D.  
 Cracker Jack's Gift Card - Stacy S.  
 Cheeky Monkey Passes – Jenn M.  
 Massage Gift Card – Tricia W.  
 Beauty Products Gift Bag – Marge A.  
 Dairy Queen Cake – Phyllis M.  
 Landshark Beer – Anne W.  
 Wilberry Coolers – Kate E.  
 Landshark Beer – Sara W.  
 Wilberry Coolers – Linda M.  
 Firehall Restaurant – Don H.  
 Hippie at Heart Buddha Beads – Cathy N.  
 Outlet Collecton Gift Card – Holly K.  
 50/50 - Nina T.

## LD @ Home

LD@home is a free resource created by the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) for parents of children ages K to gr 8 with learning disabilities (LDs). The website, [www.LDatHome.ca](http://www.LDatHome.ca), provides information, resources, and a supportive environment for parents in Ontario. LD@home works with Ontario school boards to provide parents with information that educators feel is relevant while reaching their goal to ensure that students with LDs are successful, both in school and for the rest of their lives. For more details, please visit their website.

## Summer Heat

We are happy to offer the Summer HEAT program again this summer. This learning program provides students, entering JK to Grade 4 in September 2017, with three weeks (5 days a week) of literacy and numeracy learning experiences. The 2017 program will run from Monday, July 10th to Friday, July 28th from 8:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. daily.

Summer HEAT will take place at the following sites:

- St. Catharines - Edith Cavell, Connaught, Lincoln Centennial, Harriet Tubman
- Beamsville - Senator Gibson
- Welland - Diamond Trail, Princess Elizabeth
- Niagara Falls - Simcoe Street, Valley Way
- Port Colborne - De Witt Carter
- Fort Erie - Peace Bridge
- Ridgeway - John Brant Thorold - Prince of Wales (S)

Please call the school office for more information.