

The Cougar Chronicle



**Martha Cullimore
Public School**
3155 St. Andrew St.
Niagara Falls, ON L2J 2R7

Principal:
T. Chilcott

Important Dates:

June

- 01 New to JK Visit
- 01 Celebration
Assembly 2:05 pm
- 05 Area Track & Field
- 07 Health Nurse visit
to gr 4, 5 & 6
- 08 PD Day
- 11 Niagara Elementary
Instrumental Music
Band Presentation
- 12 PP & Victoria gr 6
students visit Martha
Cullimore
- 13
- 13 DSBN T&F
- 19 Jr 3 Pitch
Tournament
- 20 Gr 3s and 6s to DQ
- 21 Ks to Port
Dalhousie Carousel
- 21 Gr 1 to 6 Trip to NF
- 25 K Celebration
1:20pm
- 27 Report Cards go
home
- 28 Last day of school
- 28 Gr 6 Awards
Presentation & 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 2017/2018:

Kindergarten	Mrs. Hollemans
Kindergarten	Mrs. Brennan
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Stewart
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Reid
Grade 2/3	TBD
Grade 3/4	Ms. Jane
Grade 4/5	Mrs. Dinga
Grade 5/6	Mr. Bootsma
Grade 6	Mrs. Hopkins
Grade 7/8	Mr. Fortuna
Grade 7/8	Ms. Ibey
French & Prep	Mme. Michaud
LRT & Rotary	Mr. West
Kindergarten & Rotary	Mrs. Lopez
Library	Mrs. Brennan

Please note, this organization is subject to change, as staffing is still underway and 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. Carnegie, 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 made a wonderful difference to children! At the end of June, we will also say farewell to Mrs. McGowan, who will be enjoying her growing family after the arrival of her baby. We thank her for her investments here at Martha Cullimore and wish her the very best for the year ahead. Martha Cullimore is growing and we are excited about wonderful changes for the future – namely the addition of grades 7 and 8! We welcome four new staff members to our teaching team for next year. According to initial plans, Mrs. Dinga will be teaching grade 4/5, Mr. Bootsma will be teaching grade 5/6, Mrs. Hopkins will be teaching grade 6 and Ms. Ibey will be teaching grade 7/8. They are all excited to join our school community and I am confident that our school will be a better place due to their anticipated good work and influence on our community. We have a fabulous team of educators here! I am so happy to reflect on the accomplishments of our students, staff and community at Martha 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 2, 2018 until Monday, August 27 at 8:15am. All new registrations are welcome the week of August 27th! 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.

June 8th PA Day
No School



Parents are welcome to attend our Year-End Talent Show on **June 28th 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 Poinsettia and bake sale in December, a Family Hockey Night in Winter and a Trivia Night in Spring. Thank you so much for all your support throughout the year. We've had fun together! 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:

- 13 student chrome books (\$4,000.00)
- end of year bussing costs (\$400.00)
- iPad storage bin (\$300.00)
- classroom fitness break equipment (\$375.00)

Purchases Made with School Funds

- 7 student chrome books (\$2,100.00)
- 10 iPad (\$5,800.00)



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



TEACHER	I Matter STUDENT OF THE MONTH	Growth Mindset Coach
K – Hollemans Empey	Abby, Brooklyn, Seth	Ryder
K – Brennan Camillo	Allyson, Callum, Johnny, Kurt, Sawyer	Velson
1 - Carnegie	Apollonia, Theoni	Carter P
2 – Reid	Colton, Conner	Mya
2/3 – McGowan	Hayden, Hudson, Taylor	Chrisopher
3/4 – Jane	Mackenzie, Noah, Rylan	Olivia P
5 – Fortuna	David	Awnesty
5/6 – West	Aidan, Ashton, Deniz, Nate	B.J., Owen
FR - Michaud	David W., Johnny B., Reese P	

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.

How to Get 2018 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 20, 2018** 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 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.

Changes for Kindergarten Transportation, Opt-In

There is a new process requirement for Kindergarten students eligible for transportation, to opt-in to receive service for the 2018-19 school year.

In June, NSTS will mail letters home to all newly registered Kindergarten students with a PIN number to log-in to the secure portal to opt-in to receive services. NSTS will then assign the student to a bus stop and the transportation arrangements will be available in the portal when it opens on August 20, 2018. Kindergarten students not listed on the bus driver's route copy will not be able to ride the bus. This new process is intended to improve safety for Kindergarten students, specifically during back to school.

Must Be Met at Stop Tag Program

At the start of the school year, each kindergarten student who rides the bus will have a "Must be Met at Stop" tag attached to his/her backpack. The Must Be Met at Stop tag program is mandatory for Kindergarten students. Parents with students in any grade may opt-in to the tag program upon notification to the school to equip the student with a tag, and the school needs to notify NSTS to reflect this request on the bus route manifest for the driver.



Tips for a Safe and Happy Bus Ride

At the Stop	Be 5 to 10 minutes early and stand on the inside of the sidewalk/ shoulder away from the roadway.
When the Bus Arrives	Line up in a straight line, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the doors to open, and never touch the outside of the bus.
Getting on the Bus	Get on the bus one at a time, hold the handrail as you climb the stairs, and go directly to your seat and get settled.
Riding on the Bus	Sit with your back to back of the seat and your bottom to the bottom of your seat with your school bag on your lap and use your quiet speaking voice so that the bus driver can concentrate on driving.
Getting off the Bus	Stay in your seat until the bus comes to a complete stop, only get off the bus at your school or at your bus stop, look for your parent/ guardian before you get off the bus if that is your routine, and always tell the bus driver if you do not see your parent/ guardian at the bus stop waiting for you if that is your routine or if you missed the stop.
Crossing in Front of the Bus	Watch and wait for the bus driver to signal to you to cross the road once it is safe to do so.

Yearbook

Our wonderful, full colour yearbooks have been ordered and will be distributed to students mid-June! We anticipate the students enjoying the captured memories of the 2017-2018 school year.



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 11th. 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 25, 2018** during our meeting from 6-7:00pm. 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, by calling (905) 641- 2929 ext 52296 or emailing elemus@dsbn.org.



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.

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 Area meet on June 5th:

Grade 2/3: Joshua B., Sasha C., Sean L., Logan P., Jackson R

Grade 4: Lia C.

Grade 5: Ethan A., Evan L., Jeffrey V., Johnny B., Matthew B., Olivia V.

Grade 6: Deniz O., Jayke A., Jenna O., Jenna S., Liam N., Madison D., Riley R., Ryan W.

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

Year End Trip!

Grade 1 to 6 students will be participating in a fun, educational and thrilling end of year trip, as they explore Niagara, past and present! We will discover the ancient story of Niagara Falls in 4D, experience the Niagara Fury's multisensory theatre, walk through the Butterfly Conservatory and ride the Aerial Car.

Kindergarten Goes to the Carousel!

To celebrate a wonderful year of learning, the kindergarten students will be going to Port Dalhousie



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

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, 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 2018, with three weeks (5 days a week) of literacy and numeracy learning experiences. The 2017 program will run from Monday, July 9th to Friday, July 27th from 8:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. daily.

Summer HEAT will take place at the following sites:

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

To register, go to <https://www.dsbn.org/programs-services/summer-heat/the-programs>

Registration opened on May 15th. All parents will be notified via email and/or phone as to whether or not their child has been accepted into the program.

Summer HEAT is a summer learning program for DSBN students only.

