

The Cougar Chronicle



Martha Cullimore Public School

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

Principal:
T. Chilcott

Important Dates:

September

- 14 Terry Fox Walk
- 19 Open House BBQ

October

- 04 Fall Festival Fundraiser
- Scarecrow Building
- Bake Sale
- Walk-a-thon



Give every day the chance to become the most beautiful of your life.
Mark Twain



Message from the Principal

It's hard to believe that another school year is at an end. We are grateful for the wonderful times we spent learning 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! We wish you all a wonderful summer filled with time to connect and recharge with friends and family. We will be saying good bye to Mrs. Stewart at the end of June as she will be moving on to put her good skills to work at another school. We thank Mrs. Stewart for the wonderful influence she has had on our community. She will be missed. We welcome Mrs. Edwardson to our school as grade one-two teacher. She comes to us with background experience in kindergarten, grade one and two, which will serve our community well!

Tentative Classroom Organization for 2018/2019:

Kindergarten	Mrs. Hollemans, Mrs. Empey
Kindergarten	Mrs. Brennan, Mrs. Camillo
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Edwardson
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	Mrs. Ibey
French & Prep	Mme. Michaud
LRT & Rotary	Mr. West
Kindergarten & Rotary	Mrs. Lopez
Library	Mrs. Brennan
E.A.	Miss Richardson
E.A.	Miss Hughes

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.

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. A warm welcome to our new intermediate students and their families from Victoria and Prince Philip! We look forward to our continued partnership with you as we support all students to reach their unique and highest potential.

Mrs. T. Chilcott

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 & Asthma...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**. Students with Asthma are also required to have the appropriate inhalers with a current, valid expiry date submitted to the school by the first day of school in September.

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.

Spirit Wear & Phys. Ed. Uniforms

Available for order in September!

Open House BBQ Wednesday September 19



Book Fair

Week of September 17th to 21st!



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 6-7:30pm. Save that date and please join us so your voice can be heard!

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.

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.

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 2018/2019 school year. More information is available at www.freewebs.com/niagaramusic, by calling (905) 641- 2929 ext 52296 or emailing elemus@dsbn.org.

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.



Elementary School Year Calendar 2018-2019



September							October							November							December							January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31			

February							March							April							May							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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24	25	26	27	28			24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				26	27	28	29	30	31	23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29		

Professional Development Day
 Holiday
 Early Release Day

IMPORTANT DATES

September 3, 2018	Labour Day
September 4, 2018	First Day of School
September 14, 2018	Early Release Day
October 5, 2018	Professional Development Day
October 8, 2018	Thanksgiving Day
November 16, 2018	Professional Development Day
December 24, 2018 – January 4, 2019	Winter Break
January 7, 2019	First Day of Class After Winter Break
January 18, 2019	Professional Development Day
February 15, 2019	Professional Development Day
February 18, 2019	Family Day
March 11 – 15, 2019	March Break
April 19, 2019	Good Friday
April 22, 2019	Easter Monday
May 17, 2019	Professional Development Day
May 20, 2019	Victoria Day
June 7, 2019	Professional Development Day
June 27, 2019	Last Day of School for Students
June 28, 2019	Professional Development Day

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.



Keep students engaged and learning all summer long.

Choose the online math program that's not only fun, but also proven to prepare your student for the future. DreamBox, an online math instructional program for K–8, combines a rigorous, standards-aligned curriculum with an engaging, game-like environment that continuously adapts to meet students at the right level of learning. Accessible on a variety of devices, DreamBox gives parents and guardians the ability to encourage learning at home (or on the go), while offering insights into your student's progress through an easy-to-use control panel.



Encourage your student to follow these basic usage guidelines to get the most out of DreamBox.

Finish lessons completely. It's okay to make mistakes along the way, just be sure to complete each lesson you start. DreamBox assesses user comprehension and adapts accordingly.

Work independently. Getting help from others can advance students beyond their current abilities and lead to frustration.

Click the Help/Hint button when needed. No other tools are needed—DreamBox lessons are designed for students to think through problems without the use of pencil and paper.

Monitor your student's progress from home.

If your student has a DreamBox Learning account through their school, you can easily set up parent access from home so you can monitor their progress. To learn more, visit <https://support.dreambox.com>.



To help your child retain math concepts:

- aim for 30 minutes three times a week.
- complete 3-5 lessons per week.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Martha Cullimore PS has purchased **DreamBox Learning's Math Program**, an online, Intelligent Adaptive Learning(tm) program that helps all students achieve better, faster math proficiency.

Your student can access DreamBox Learning from any computer, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week using this link:

<https://play.dreambox.com/login/42cv/marthac>

DreamBox is an online program - there's no software to download! All you need is a high-speed Internet connection and Adobe Flash. Adobe Flash is free and is included with many Internet browsers.

To access DreamBox on iPad, go to <http://www.dreambox.com/ipad>, or search for "DreamBox Math" in the App Store. Download DreamBox Math Green and DreamBox Math Blue to ensure your student has access to the full catalog of DreamBox Learning Math lessons. When prompted in the app, use this School Code:

42cv/marthac

Review your student's academic progress with a DreamBox Parent Account. Please follow these steps to create your free Parent Account:

1. Go to <https://play.dreambox.com/login/42cv/marthac>
2. Have your student login to their profile just as they would at school.
3. Click *Setup Parent Access* at the bottom of the page.
4. Follow instructions to create a new login and password.
5. Read *Terms of Use and Privacy Policy*.
6. Click "Submit".

Log into your home account after set up:

1. Go to <http://play.dreambox.com>
2. Enter your email address and password.
3. To see student progress, click the "Family Dashboard" button.

If you have any questions, please contact DreamBox Client Care by calling them at 877-451-7845 (weekdays 5 a.m. to 5 p.m., Pacific Time), or email support@dreambox.com.

Sincerely,
Martha Cullimore PS

