

# The Cougar Chronicle



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

Principal:  
T. Chilcott

**Important Dates:**

- October
- 02 Photo Day!
- 06 PA Day
- 09 Happy Thanksgiving Monday!
- 16 DSBN Cross Country
- 17 K to 3/4 Crossing Guard Presentation
- 24 Gr 6 Makers in Art Excursion
- 31 Hollowe'en Parade
- November
- 01 PIC Conference
- 02 Photo Retakes

## Thankfulness

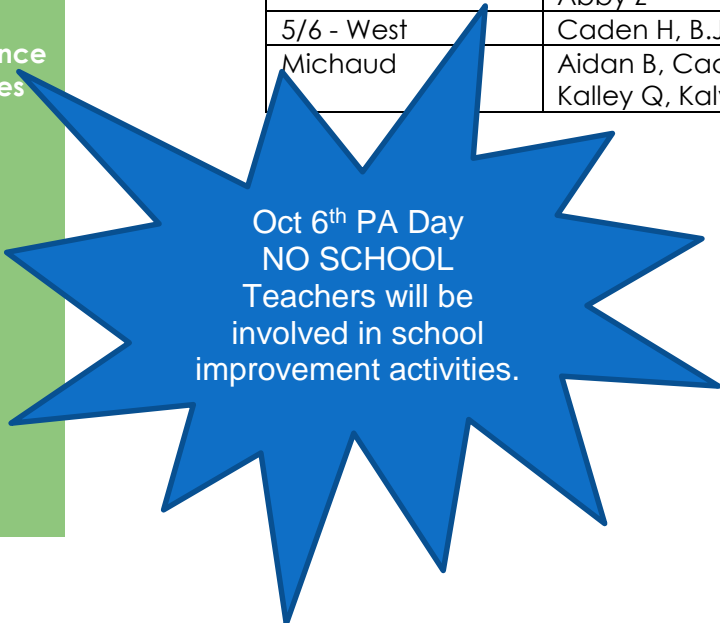
As we approach the time of year traditionally set aside for giving thanks, I reflect on all I am thankful for at Martha Martha Cullimore School. I see students building positive relationships and supporting one another. Parents invest liberally to create a vibrant school community, including School Advisory Council. Staff believe in students and work with them to reach their potential. We work together and have fun together. Thank you, also, Cougar Community, for your incredible support of our September book fair. We sold just over **\$2500** worth of books, earning us about \$1000 worth of new books for our library. Your support is greatly appreciated!

## I Matter As An Individual

At the DSBN, we strive to show all students how they matter: as individuals, as learners and as community members. Our students learn about the ideals of good citizenship and how they can become active participants in building a stronger community, locally and globally. We invite you to discover more about **I Matter** by visiting [dsbn.org/imatter](http://dsbn.org/imatter).

Every individual who steps foot in our school matters, has worth and is valued for what he or she contributes to our school family. Martha Cullimore is a place where all cougars belong! It is our intent to strengthen this sense of worthiness and belonging as we wear our T-shirts at Colour House Huddles each month and go about our daily work at school. This month, we congratulated students across the school for their personal accomplishments. Keep shining brightly, Cougars!

TEACHER	STUDENT OF THE MONTH
K - Hollemans	Serenity B, Sawyer H,
K – Brennan	Phoenix Chudobiak, Xenia R
1 - Carnegie	Natalie B, Dylan M, Carter P
2 – Dubois	Rylee H, Chase W
2/3 – McGowan	Carmen A, Taylor H, Tabitha R
3/4 – Jane	Araiz A, Kyla H, Josiah H
5 – Fortuna	Jordan C, Carmine I, Abby P, Kean T, Abby Z
5/6 - West	Caden H, B.J. J, Thomas M, Dale S
Michaud	Aidan B, Caden H, Carmine I, Sela O, Kalley Q, Kalysta T, Aaron U,

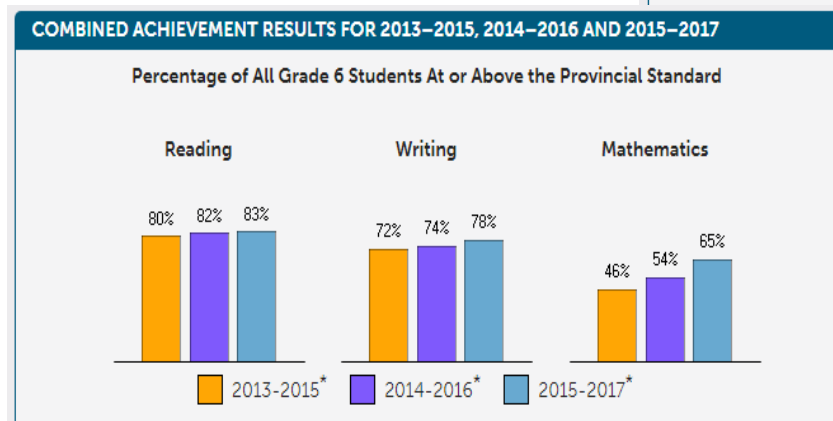
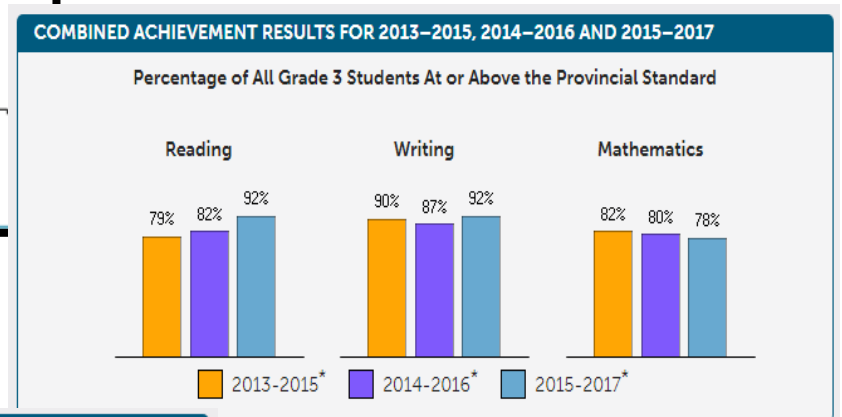
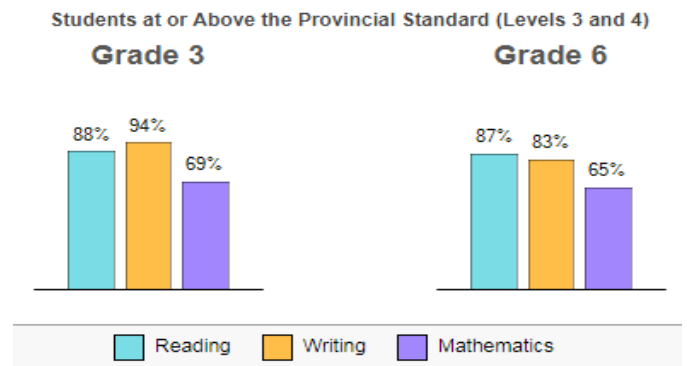
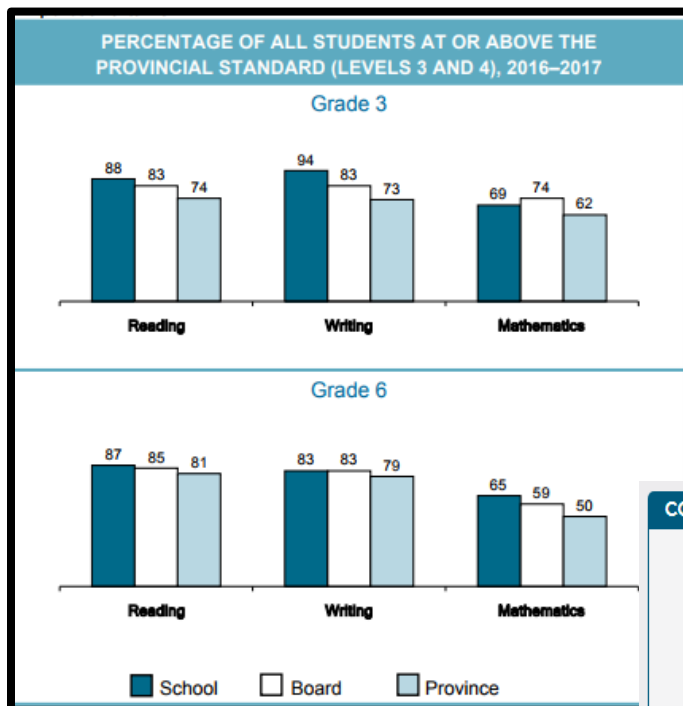


Oct 6<sup>th</sup> PA Day  
NO SCHOOL  
Teachers will be  
involved in school  
improvement activities.

## EQAO

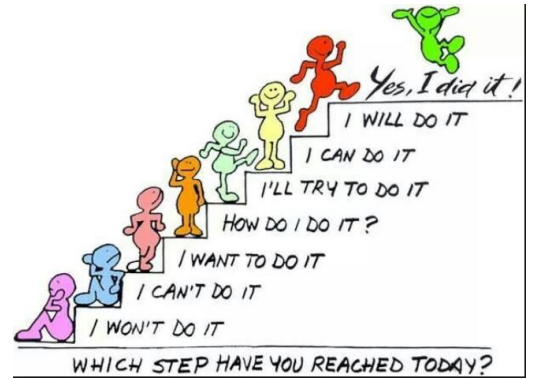
Last spring, students in Grades 3 and 6 participated in EQAO, an important source of information about student learning in reading, writing and mathematics. Individual results for those students who completed the assessment will be sent home shortly.

We are pleased that our Grade 3 and 6 scores for 2016-2017 are at or above the Board and Provincial results in all areas but one. Three year rolling trends show steady increases. Teachers and principals use this information in many ways to improve student achievement. We combine the information from this assessment with everyday classroom indicators to ensure that the strategies we are using are contributing to the most learning possible. We will use this information to adjust our School Improvement Plan.



## Growth Mindset at Martha Cullimore

Over 30 years ago, Carol Dweck and her colleagues investigated students' attitudes about making mistakes and failure. They noticed that some students rebounded while other students seemed devastated by even the smallest setbacks. After studying the behaviour of thousands of children, Dr. Dweck coined the terms fixed mindset and growth mindset to describe the beliefs people have about learning and intelligence. When students believe they can get smarter, they understand that effort makes them stronger. Therefore they put in extra time and effort, and that leads to higher achievement.



Often students, or anyone for that matter, are at risk of confirming a negative belief or stereotype about themselves. Let's work together at dispelling negative beliefs and strengthening our collective growth mindset!

At Martha Cullimore, we believe that each child can grow his or her brain, develop new learning pathways and achieve to high levels. Making mistakes is a natural part of learning, is valuable and helps learning to stick... as long as everyone views them as part of the growth process. We'll be engaging students in growth mindset activities that will help them understand how their brains grow and how to respond to learning challenges with confidence.

Take this Mindset Survey from [The Growth Mindset Coach](#) by Annie Brock to help understand your own mindset.

Check all the statements with which you agree.



1.  There are just some things I'll never be good at.
2.  When I make a mistake, I try to learn from it.
3.  When others do better than me, I feel threatened.
4.  I enjoy getting out of my comfort zone.
5.  When I show others I'm smart or talented, I feel successful.
6.  I feel inspired by the success of others.
7.  I feel good when I can do something others cannot.
8.  It's possible to change how intelligent you are.
9.  You shouldn't have to try to be smart – you just are or aren't.
10.  I enjoy taking on a new challenge or task with which I am unfamiliar.

The odd numbered statements indicate a fixed mindset.  
The even numbered statements indicate a growth mindset.

## School Advisory Council

Our first School Council meeting was held on Tuesday, September 26th. Congratulations and many thanks to the following individuals for their leadership and membership this year: Mrs. S. Baka (Chair), Mrs. M. Aird, Mrs. L. Blakely, Mrs. B. Cavanagh, Mrs. M. Darch, Mrs. B. Labelle, Mrs. J. Hay, Ms. K. Hein, Mrs. B. Roberts, Mrs. S. Sarginson, Mrs. J. Shergold, Mrs. S. Yurcich.

Parents and community members have until Tuesday, October 17, 2017 to express their interest and complete a self-nomination form to become a voting member of our SAC this year. If you still wish to become a member, please go to our school website to download the self-nomination form. Submit forms to the office by the 17th. Please join us for our 2nd meeting on **Tuesday, October 24 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Martha Cullimore Learning Commons**. Non-members are welcome to attend but do not hold voting privileges. We are looking forward to an amazing year. Sincere thanks to Shannon Baka for her leadership on Council for the past school year and her continued investments this year.

Coming Up Soon...

**November 1st – Parent Involvement Conference** at Eden (see details at the end of this newsletter)

**December 19th – Bring-a-Mug Hot Chocolate Social and Bake Sale**

## Photo Day

Student portraits and class photos will be taken at Martha Cullimore on **October 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Please come dressed in light or bright colours and bring a comb if needed. Wear your best smile! Retakes will be on Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.



## Leaf and Trash Bag Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraiser. Bags will arrive at the school in about two weeks time, when they can be picked up. Look for the reminder as the time gets closer. We raised \$500.00. The class with the highest orders will be awarded a leaf bag full of surprises!

## Cross Country Runners

Congratulations to our team of runners who are making the Cougars proud in their efforts to reach a personal best! It is especially exciting to see students grow in endurance and cut seconds off of their personal times. Way to go, boys and girls! Our 2017-2018 Cross Country

**Primary:** Matilda S., Lara G., Brooklyn M., Evangeline L., Hudson G., Jackson R., Joshua B., Logan P., Sean L.

**Junior:** Aariaz A., Damian G., Owen A., Rylan P., Danielle V., Reegan H., Alex D., Broden W., Ethan A., Jenna O., Jenna S., Madison D., Gabe A., Deniz O, Evan L.



**Special thanks to Mr. Fortuna for coaching.**

## Cougar Soccer

Congratulations to the following students who represented Martha Cullimore at the soccer Tournament on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>:

Johnny B. Reegan H. Jade H. Evan L. Rylan M. Danielle V. Jeff V. Broden W.  
Gabe A. Jayke A. Madison D. Liam N. Jenna O. Deniz O. Riley R. Jenna S. Ryan W.



## Hallowe'en

October 31st is Hallowe'en. We will be celebrating with dress-up activities in the afternoon on that day. All costumes must meet Martha Cullimore's dress code requirements - no offensive sayings/graphics on clothing, or mature themes. Students will be asked to remove inappropriate costumes at the discretion of staff. For safety reasons, weapons and masks are not permitted. Dress in orange and black for the morning!



Weather permitting, we will hold a parade in the afternoon, beginning at 1:30pm. The route will be: out to the front of the school, left down St Andrews Ave, left down McMicking Ave and left over the bridge onto the Martha Cullimore's field. You are welcome to watch the parade!

## Crossing Guard Locations and Information

This year, all School Crossing locations will have ONE hour shift times for all shifts, as the city strives to provide excellence in customer service for the public. Use the following link to access the School Crossing Guard page found on the City of Niagara Falls website. It contains a list of ALL School Crossing Guard locations and times. <https://niagarafalls.ca/city-hall/transportation-services/school-crossing-guards.aspx>

We strongly encourage all school families to utilize this site in order to plan their child's route to school as the city continues to support active transportation for school travel. We also ask school families to support the message of choosing *safety before convenience* by abiding by all parking restrictions in and around school zones; alternatively choosing options such as walking and wheeling to school.

## Grade 6 Arts Retreat at Walker Living Campus – Drawn to Life: Cartoon Animation

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, grade six students will bring their drawings to life under the guidance of professional cartoonist and artist educator, Mike Cope. Fun, hands-on activities introduce students to animation principles and help develop creativity & drawing skills. Each class will receive a video showcasing all student work. Mike Cope is a freelance cartoonist and artist educator from Stoney Creek, and a recipient of the Ontario Arts Council's new Artists in Communities & Schools Projects Grant. He previously received the OAC's Artists in Education Grant in 2016 for his "Drawn to Life: Cartoon Animation" workshops. He is currently nominated for the 2017 Ontario Arts Foundation Artist Educator Award based on the success of his program. Since 2006, he has volunteered as judge for DSBN's 2D Animation Skills Competitions. He's a member of both the Ontario College of Teachers & National Cartoonists Society.



*"Nature often provides an inspirational starting point for creativity in both representational and more abstract art forms."*

— The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8 |  
The Arts, 2009 (revised)

## Grade 4 CCAT Assessment

The Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test, CCAT, will be administered to students in Grade 4 this October. The use of CCAT will provide schools with information about students' cognitive reasoning across verbal, nonverbal, and quantitative domains. The updated assessment contains updated Canadian norms and has been designed to be more English Language Learner (ELL) friendly.



Calling all parents & caregivers

# IT'S TIME TO REGISTER!

Join us for an evening of learning & FREE workshops!

Wed. November 1, 2017  
4pm to 8:15pm at Eden High School  
535 Lake Street, St. Catharines

Registration,  
Food & Child Care  
are FREE!

Register online at [www.dsnb.org/pic](http://www.dsnb.org/pic)  
OR speak to someone in your school office for assistance



### Early Bird Draw!

Register before October 4, 2017  
and you could WIN \$500 of support  
for your School and School Council!



Parenting  
Matters  
At DSNB

The DSNB Parent Involvement Committee invites you to join us for an evening of learning, sharing and networking with a focus on ideas for all DSNB parents, caregivers and School Councils.

### Session Topics Include:

Mental Health, Special Education, Mathematics, Kindergarten, Transitions to Secondary & Post Secondary... and so much MORE!

- 4:00 - 5:15 **Light Dinner and Educational & Community Agency Showcase**  
Cafeteria and Gym AB
- 5:15 - 5:25 **Opening Remarks**  
Cafeteria
- 5:45 - 6:45 **1st Session**
- 6:45 - 7:15 **Showcase and Refreshments**  
Gym AB and Cafeteria
- 7:15 - 8:15 **2nd Session**

### Information about Child Care:

**PRESCHOOL CHILDREN:** Certified Early Childhood Educators will be available at Sven H. Dohnberg Centre. Enter the Eden High School parking lot (facing Lake St.), the child care centre is on the right.

**SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN:** Children will be supervised by qualified teachers in the Eden Gymnasium.

CHILD CARE IS AVAILABLE BY PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY AND WILL BE PROVIDED FROM 4PM TO 8:15PM. IT INCLUDES A LIGHT DINNER.



REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[www.dsnb.org/pic](http://www.dsnb.org/pic)

**DSNB Parent Involvement Committee**

support • engagement • success