

January 12, 2012

# William E. Brown School NEWS



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District School Board of Niagara

## Super Star Awards: Learning Skills

### Principal :

Mrs. J. E. Brown

### Superintendent Area 2:

Mrs. S. Greer

(905-641-1550)

### Director of Education:

Mr. W. Hoshizaki

(905-641-1550)

### Special Education

### Area 2

### Resource Teacher:

Mrs. Jacqui Barker

(905-227-5551)

## Independence (Learning Skill for the Month of January)

A student is demonstrating independence successfully when he or she....

- Uses class time appropriately to complete tasks.
- Listens attentively
- Successfully monitors and revises goals
- Completes tasks with little assistance.

## THANK YOU:

We bid farewell to Mrs. Janice Evers, a Niagara College Educational Assistant Student, who had been at W. E. Brown since the middle of September. Mrs. Evers was able to offer support to many students from Grade 1 to Grade 8. We also want to thank Miss Kristen Miller, a Niagara College Early Childhood Education student who had been at our school for a few months. Miss Miller was working in the JK/SK classrooms while she was at our school each morning. Our students have benefitted from Miss Miller and Mrs. Evers and their support, care and concern demonstrated in all of their responsibilities. They will be missed, however we wish them well as they both complete their school year back at Niagara College.

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## IMPORTANT DATES:

January 16th a.m. :  
French Immersion presentation for Gr. 3 & 4

Thursday, January 20th 6 p.m.  
School Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, January 20, 2012  
Professional Activity Day (no classes for students)

January 24th:  
Hot Lunch orders due (Lunch Lady)

Thursday, January 25th:  
Skating  
Gr.5/6- Gr. 7/8 9:15-10:15 a.m.  
Gr. 1 -Gr. 4/5 11:15a.m. -12:45 p.m.

Tuesday, January 31 12:55 p.m. Hot Lunch  
by the Lunch Lady

Tuesday, January 31 6:30-7:30 p.m. McKay School  
French Immersion Open House

Kindergarten Open House & Registration: Thursday,  
February 2nd 4-6 p.m.

Term 1 Report Cards  
-go home on Thursday, February 9, 2011

Family Day (no school): Monday, February 20, 2012

"Make Change for Children": February 21-24 (activities  
TBA)

February 22nd: Skating  
9-10:15 a.m. Gr. 1- Gr.4/5 11:15 a.m. Gr. 5/6-Gr. 7/8

## STUDENT SIGN OUT SHEET: New Procedure for W. E. Brown School:

Parents/Caregivers or other adults who are picking up their children during school hours must sign a "STUDENT SIGN OUT SHEET" at the office. Identification may be requested. For this reason, we do need parents to report to the office and sign out their child, rather than waiting in a vehicle and picking up the student. Most schools now have a procedure such as this in order to account for our students and also to have a record of students who have left the school. Thank you for your cooperation.

## PARENTS/ VOLUNTEERS/ VISITORS IN THE SCHOOL:

In order to maintain a safe school environment for our students, and also to reduce the number of disruptions in the classroom while learning is going on, we ask parents, visitors and volunteers coming to the school to comply with the following:

- All parents, visitors, volunteers **MUST** report to the office upon entering the school building. (This would include signing in and stating your scheduled purpose for being in the school).
- Parents waiting for their child at the end of the school day are **ALWAYS** requested to wait outside the main office in the hallway.
- Should parents want to talk to the teacher at the end of the school day, they are welcome to come to the main office or call the school and set up an appointment to meet the teacher. Please understand that teachers may have prior commitments and may not have the time to spend with you at that moment.
- Volunteers and Visitors must sign in (and out) at the office and wear a VOLUNTEER or VISITOR identification tag while at W.E. Brown School.
- OCCASIONAL TEACHERS/STAFF must sign in (and out) at the office and wear a STAFF identification tag while at W.E. Brown School.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES:

All decisions concerning school closings are made by the Board Office, not the individual school.

**Bus and school cancellation information** will be reported on local radio stations by 7:00 a.m. Radio stations include: CKTB 610, CHTZ 97.7 FM, CHRE 105.7 FM, CKEY (River) 105.1 FM, SPIRIT 91.7 FM, CHSC 1220, CKOC 1150, K-LITE 102.9 FM, CHML 900, Y108 107.9 FM, WAVE 94.7 FM, and CHAM 820.

Please note that the name of the company providing transportation to William E. Brown School is the **First Student Canada** bus company.

**Early dismissal** during the school day, due to inclement weather, would involve the school using the emergency numbers you have provided on the confidential form which was sent home in September. We would ask that you review with your child what arrangements have been made in the event of early dismissal for their arrival home.

### SNOW STAYS ON THE GROUND!

Students are not allowed to throw snow on school property. Snow throwing jeopardizes the safety of other students and announcements will be made often throughout the season in this respect. We take this rule very seriously and every student has been made aware of it.

**Any snow throwing will be regarded as deliberate defiance.** Consequences for the first offence include a loss of recess privileges and a letter home for parent/guardian signature. Future occurrences may result in a school suspension. Tough measures are warranted when such a safety issue is at stake. We encourage students to invent other ways of having fun

### Intramural Update

Intramurals will be starting January 9, 2012 for students in Grades 1 - 8. Skittleball is a fast moving game, where students all participate.

This will occur during the second break, 1:10-1:35 p.m., in the gym. Lots of fun, lots of exercise will occur while students are participating. It will run three times per week and go until March Break.

Thanks to Mrs. Wilson for coordinating our Intramurals and allowing the opportunity for our Grade 7 and 8 students to demonstrate leadership as they referee and assist in the coordination of the intramurals.

### Intermediate Boys and Girls Basketball: January and February 2012

Our Grade 7 and 8 students have already begun to prepare for this upcoming season. Ms. Predote is coaching the Intermediate Girls team and Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Brown, the Intermediate Boys team.

### "SWIM TO SURVIVE PROGRAM" :

Our Grade 3's were able to participate in this program, valued at \$30.00 per student, and yet it was offered to our students at no cost. This was made possible by the donations through the Education Foundation of Niagara. Donate on-line: [www.efnonline.ca](http://www.efnonline.ca)

### KINDERGARTEN COUNTDOWN & REGISTRATION      *Kindergarten for September 2012*

#### **We are Counting Down to Kindergarten!**

Children who will be four years of age or older by December 31 are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten starting September 2012.

Going to school for the first time is a major step for children and their parents. At the DSBN, families start that journey together at the 'Kindergarten Countdown' open houses. Families can visit our school, meet the kindergarten teacher, and receive a gift bag filled with fun learning resources and information that will help children develop school readiness skills.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, February 2, 2012 from 4-6 p.m. for our Kindergarten Countdown open house. Visit [www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org) and click on "Kindergarten Registration" for all the details!

### HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

#### **Your Future is Here!**

Grade 8 students and their families are invited to attend High School Open Houses in January 2012. For a full list of open house dates, times and details, please go to [www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org)

William E. Brown School students may attend either Port Colborne Secondary School or E. L. Crossley Secondary School. (See Page 1 of this newsletter for dates & times of Grade 8 Open Houses for these two schools).

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY: Friday, January 20, 2012

There will be a Professional activity Day on Friday, January 20th when students will not attend school. Staff are involved in preparing Term 1 Report Cards that day.

### TERM ONE REPORT CARDS: Sent home on Thursday, February 9th.

## *District School Board of Niagara Expanding French Immersion for 2012*

The District School Board of Niagara is pleased to now offer French Immersion beginning at the Grade 4 level across the system. In addition, as of September 2012, we will be implementing a Grade One French Immersion Pilot at 5 locations. As well as the new grade 4 entry, Grade 5 entry will continue across the Board for the 2012-2013 school year (Grade 7 entry will continue in St. Catharines and Niagara-on-the-Lake).

Information re: entry levels and the application process is on the DSBN website [www.dsbns.org](http://www.dsbns.org). Click on the Parent Tab, under Programs, click on French and International Languages, click on French Immersion Registration. Applications for Grades 1, 4, 5 and 7 (at select schools) will be online. Application packages will also be available at your child's school starting January 9, 2012. Further program information will be sent home with your child in January.

“The ability to communicate in French is a valuable skill, because French is **one** of Canada’s two official languages and because it is a language used widely around the world. Research confirms that knowledge of a second language strengthens first-language skills and that the ability to speak two or more languages generally enhances reasoning and problem solving skills, as well as creative-thinking skills. Learning a second language not only strengthens students’ ability to communicate, but also develops their capacity to understand and respect other cultures. In this way, second-language learning prepares students to participate more effectively in the workplace and in the global economy, and provides them with a distinct advantage in a number of careers, both in Canada and internationally.” (pg 3 of the E.F./F.I. Curriculum Document (C.D.) 2001)

Parent Information Evenings will take place during the weeks of January 30 – February 10<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to find out more details about the French Immersion program, please attend one of the Information Evenings listed below or call your school.

Central	January 30, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Alexandra	January 30, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Parliament Oak	January 31, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Dalewood	January 31, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
McKay	January 31, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Prince Philip (Niagara Falls)	February 1, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Sheridan Park	February 1, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Gordon	February 6, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Princess Elizabeth	February 6, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Oakridge	February 6, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Briardale	February 7, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Queen Mary	February 7, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
John Marshall	February 8, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

**Bienvenue!**

### **Cold Weather Alerts at DSBN:**

Winter is a time of wonder for many children; many enjoy the crisp air, the freshly fallen snow and participating in a whole host of exciting winter sports and activities.

Although we feel it is important for students to spend some time outside each day exercising and socializing with their peers, there are times when bitterly cold temperatures and other inclement weather conditions require that we keep children inside.

Because Niagara is such a large geographical area, and weather conditions may vary from one municipality to the next, the decision whether or not to hold recess outdoors is made by the individual school principal. When making this decision, principals will often consult with neighbouring schools, talk with parents as they arrive in the morning, and if the decision to send children outside is made, will equip yard duty staff with walkie-talkies so that they can communicate with the office to sound the bells to bring students in earlier.

The health and well-being of our students is a top priority at the District School Board of Niagara, and if it is determined that the weather conditions pose a risk to their safety, students will be kept indoors. Extreme cold weather alerts issued by the Niagara Region are often good indicators that students will stay inside.

Even when temperatures are not low enough to necessitate an indoor recess, it still may be quite cold outside. Here are a few tips to help ensure that your child stays warm during the cold winter months.

- Try to send children to school with plenty of layers, such as long underwear, sweatshirts, sweaters and pullovers. Layering their clothing will allow them to add or remove items depending on the weather.
- Students should have a warm winter coat that repels the snow, sleet and rain, while blocking the wind.
- Warm socks and boots will keep their feet warm and dry in the snow and slush.
- Hats are one of the most important parts of dressing warmly in the winter. A thick winter hat will keep students from losing too much of that essential body heat.
- Put on a good pair of gloves or mittens that are water-resistant as well. Gloves will keep kids' hands toasty warm and protect their skin from becoming damaged by the wind and chill.

If you have any questions about our inclement weather procedures, please visit our website [dsbn.org](http://dsbn.org), or contact the principal.

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

# January 2012

**William E. Brown School**  
 31870 Lee Street, P.O. Box 148  
 Wainfleet, Ontario L0S 1V0

905-899-3471

9 - Day 8 Term 2 Begins today 8:50 am	10 - Day 9 Silver Birch Reading Club for Gr 5-6 starts this month..more info to follow.	11 - Day 10	12 - Day 1	13 - Day 2 Pizza Day
16 - Day 3 -a.m. McKay School French Immersion Presentation for Grade 3's & 4's -Intramural Skittleball begins today (Mon, Wed, Thurs)	17 - Day 4 6:30 p.m. Port Colborne S.S. Open House for Grade 8's & parents	18 - Day 5 6:30 p.m. E.L. Crossley S. S. Open House for Grade 8's & parents	19 - Day 6 6 p.m. School Advisory Council Meeting	20 <b>Professional Activity Day - No School for Students.</b>
23 - Day 7	24 - Day 8 <u>Orders for hot lunch due today</u>	25 - Day 9 Skating - Gr. 5,6,7,8 - 9:15 am - 10:15 am Skating - Gr. 1,2,3,4 - 11:30 am - 12:30 p.m.	26 - Day 10 Boys' & Girls' Basketball WEB at Steele St 3:45 pm	27 - Day 1 Pizza Day Family Literacy Day
30 - Day 2 Boys' & Girls' Basketball McKay at WEB 3:45 pm	31 - Day 3 <u>Hot Lunch by "The Lunch Lady"</u> Boys' & Girls' Basketball Oakwood at WEB 3:45 pm	<b>UPCOMING EVENTS:</b> Feb. 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4-6 p.m. Kindergarten Open House Feb. 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Boys' & Girls' Basketball - WEB at DeWitt Carter 3:45 pm Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup> - Boys' Basketball - Winger at WEB 3:45 pm Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup> - Boys' & Girls' Basketball Playoffs - Girls - a.m., Boys - p.m. - PCHS Feb.20 <sup>th</sup> - Family Day Holiday Feb. 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Skating - Gr. 1, 2/3, 3/4, 4/5 - 9:15-10:15 a.m. / Gr. 5/6, 6/7, 7/8 - 11:30 - 12:30 p.m.		