

Steele Street Buzz

Mr. M. Piazza, Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

After three full days of negotiations between OPSBA, ETFO and the Crown without reaching a tentative settlement, ETFO Phase 5 strike action for the week of February 3, 2020, remains in place.

DSBN elementary teachers will be withdrawing services on Thursday, February 6 and Friday, February 7. All DSNB elementary schools will be closed on those two days.

DSBN secondary schools will be open.

The DSNB respects the federation's right to engage in legal job action. The DSNB is hopeful the government and ETFO will come together to negotiate a fair and student-focused agreement.

Please continue to visit <https://www.dsnb.org/negotiations-update> for updates.

We are now registering 2020-2021 Junior Kindergarten students. Registration will continue throughout the spring. If you have a child or know a child turning four this year, please contact the office to register.

This month staff and students will be participating in a "Pink Shirt Day" on February 26, 2020 to recognize and celebrate bullying prevention. Staff and students will talk about bullying and how we can all help to stop it. We are encouraging all Stingers to wear pink on that day.

**Just a reminder:
PA DAY FOR STUDENTS
Friday, February 14th**

**Monday, February 17th
(Family Day Holiday)**



School Council

We had a productive discussion at our January School Council meeting.

Council discussed our upcoming chocolate bar fundraiser and other fundraising opportunities. Fundscrip fundraising is held throughout the year. If you are looking to purchase gift cards the Fundscrip account is accessible for the entire school year. To set up an account and make purchases and support the school go to:

Website - **Fundscrip.com**

Click – Support A Group

Invitation code – C28PZF

Follow the remaining steps to set up an account and start making purchases. We also discussed the upcoming Steele Street STEAMfest

here at Steele. STEAMfest will give all our students to experience a variety of activities in science, technology, engineering, art and math.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 25th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Please feel free to join us for the meeting.

Mad Science Club

Steele Street students will enjoy a presentation by a Mad Scientist on February 28th in the afternoon. Mad Science Club information will be provided to your child following this presentation. The Mad Science Club will run at Steele Street after school on the following Thursdays: March 24, March 31, April 7, April 14, April 21 and April 28th. The Club will run from 3:25 p.m. til 4:25 p.m. on each of these nights

Coach's Corner

Parents and Guardians, your role, as reading 'coach', is very important. All of us at Steele Street Public School appreciate your commitment in helping your child learn to read and in developing a positive attitude.

As your child learns new reading strategies at school, these need to be reinforced at home. The reading comprehension strategies that your child is learning to use include:

1. Activate your schema
2. Make connections
3. Picture it
4. Predict
5. Determine what's important
6. Infer
7. Question
8. Retell/Summarize
9. Evaluate

10. Synthesize

Below are some tips to help you get started with using and practicing the strategies at home as you read with your child.

1. Create a relaxed atmosphere.
2. Talk, listen and respond as you read.
3. Find a quiet spot. Try to go to the same spot each day.
4. Sit beside your child and talk about what you like to read, what you read as a child.
5. Enjoy sharing books.
6. Play word games.
7. Talk about ways to become better readers and thinkers.

Thanks for your interest and support in helping your child develop the important skill and love of reading! If you have any questions about reading with your child, please contact your child's teacher or speak to our school's Instructional Coach.

From the desk of Mrs. Serabian



Parents are reminded to please call the school prior to 8:40am if your son/daughter will be absent or has an appointment first thing in the morning!

Family Day is Monday, February 17th

We remind all families that the third Monday in February has been declared, "Family Day".

Schools will be closed on this day; enjoy spending time with your family!

Pink Shirt Day

The staff and students at Steele Street School encourage all schools to celebrate Pink Shirt Day on Wednesday, February 26, 2020. The goal of this day is to continue fostering acceptance among school community members and enhance

awareness of the harmful effects of bullying at school.

Chocolate Bar Fundraiser

Our chocolate bar fundraiser will begin in February. This fundraiser will give us the opportunity to raise funds so we can support student learning in and out of the classroom. More dates and details will be coming home soon with your child(ren). There will be a number of individual draw prizes, as well as, prizes for our top seller and top selling class. As always, we appreciate your support with our school fundraising initiatives.



Make Change For Children

The Education Foundation of Niagara is the DSBN charity and all funds raised go directly back to our students for program enhancements and poverty relief. The Poverty and Emergency Relief Fund supports the extraordinary, emergency, personal and school related needs of individual students brought about by financial hardship.

Since 2008 over 3000 DSBN students have been assisted with \$65,000 in support.

We all know at least one of these children... windbreaker that is worn as a jacket throughout winter, worn shoes, no lunch, absent from every field trip. And, all too often, a tragedy touches one of our students by the way of fire, illness, or death in the family.

To continue to do our best at helping children in need we are engaging in this year's campaign and invite you to participate in a small way. During the week's campaign, please send a **Toonie** with your child or just **make some change** and do what you can to help us help the kids. Email efn@dsbn.edu.on.ca or visit www.efnonline.ca for more information on how they support our youth. We look forward to working

with you to raise the funds needed to support students-in-need! More details about the Make Change for Children campaign will be coming home soon with your child in early March.

Winter Playground Safety

We ask that all parents be advised that going out during Nutritional Breaks during the winter season will be the rule rather than the exception. In extreme cases, the students will remain indoors. Activities such as sliding on the ice, throwing snow and snowballs, tag on the tarmac or other activities that may jeopardize the safety of other students are being discouraged. Please talk to your child about the potential dangers associated with these activities. If you have any questions or concerns about the above activities, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Safety is our first priority at Steele Street, and we thank all parents for their support in this matter.



Winter Weather

The cold weather is once again upon us and all students are outside before school and at both Nutrition Breaks. We remind you to please send your child to school properly dressed for the cold weather. With the snow and wet weather, each child should keep a pair of indoor shoes at school. The floors in the hallways and classrooms can get pretty cold and wet. Also, shoes are required for your child's safety in the event of a Fire Emergency.

REMINDER...

In order to maintain a sense of safety for all, families are reminded that **pets are not permitted on school property.**

Calendar Reminder

Please check the calendar for a list of most activities.



