

# Steele Street BUZZ

Mr. M. Piazza, Principal

Dear Parent/Guardians,

*With the holiday season upon us it is a very exciting time of the year. I look forward to getting out and finishing up some shopping over the next few weeks. I expect the stores to be busy, full of people rushing around looking for those seasonal bargains. It reminds me of how busy our schedule can get during this time of year. With everything there is to do, we can sometimes get lost in the shuffle. Enjoy the season but remember to make time for your children. I would encourage everyone to take time and create some special memories with their families this season.*

*December is a great month to visit our school. I would invite you to stop in and visit your child's classroom and enjoy some of the holiday spirit. On behalf of the staff at Steele Street Public School, I would like to wish you a safe and Happy Holiday and the best the New Year has to offer.*



## School Council



Our November School Council meeting was postponed due to the Grade 8 Night at Port Colborne High School. The Council will be meeting on Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. for our final meeting before the holidays. We will be discussing such items such as the Holiday Vendor Fair, Christmas Celebration Show, and Progress Reports.

Any parents who are interested in participating in these meetings are encouraged to contact the school! Please check the calendar, school sign or call the office for our next meeting date.

### Port Cares Food/Toy Drive

Students and Staff of Steele Street are excited about collecting nonperishable food items, new unwrapped toys, and Canadian Tire money for the month of December to support Port Cares. This food is then distributed to the families in Port Colborne who need additional support. The Canadian Tire money will be used to buy gifts for families. Items can be dropped in the office area. Also, our grade 5/6, 6/7 and 8 classes will be distributing collection bags in the community within the next week. These contributions will help us help Port Cares. If you have any questions, please call the school office.

## FundScrip Fundraising

Parents! Looking for that last minute gift idea for the person who seems to have everything? Well, let FundScrip, the leading Gift Card Fundraising Program help. Our School Council is excited to offer the program again just before the holiday season. 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](http://Fundscrip.com)

Click – Support A Group

Invitation code – C28PZF

Follow the remaining steps to set up an account and start making purchases.

Purchases will be delivered directly to your home. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school.

### Holiday Concert

Please come join us as we celebrate the holidays at Steele Street! Our students are busy getting ready for our upcoming holiday show. We are excited to show off the talents of our students, so we invite all to attend our event on **Tuesday, December 18th**. We will be having an afternoon show at 1:55 p.m. and a night show beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Due to limited seating, we ask as many families as possible to join our afternoon performance. We are also asking families that attend for a donation of non-perishable food

items or a new unwrapped toy for Port Cares.

### Santa's Workshop

On December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Steele Street will be hosting Santa's Workshop. The school library will be transformed into a workshop with unique gifts for students to purchase. A limited nut free treats will be available for purchase as well. All funds raised will be donated to Haiti For Health. Please feel free to join in the fun, support a great charity and look for any last-minute gifts!

### Stinger Spiritwear

We are pleased to announce that Good Sports Excellence will be providing Stinger Spiritwear this year. The ordering for all Spiritwear will be done online through the link below. Please type the link into the top taskbar to access the online store specifically for Steele Street. Unfortunately, performing a Google/Yahoo search will not bring you to the online store.

### Link

<https://goods.gearware.com/shop/store.aspx?sid=8>

Orders can be made throughout the year. Payment will go directly to Good Sports Excellence. Please access the Shopping Cart to pay for your items. Items will be delivered to the school and then distributed to students/families. The turnaround time to receive items is approximately 2 weeks. If you would like the link to the site through email, please email the school at [ssi@dsbn.org](mailto:ssi@dsbn.org) and we will send it to you. If you have any questions please feel free to call the office.



### Students of the Month



Each month, the staff at Steele Street recognizes students who demonstrate excellence in a particular area. Our

winners for the month of November are: Eric Roach, Brooklyn Moerschfelder, Orianna Stevens, Rosie Luey, Lucas Bell, Jacob Reath, Jake Spoehr, Taylor Ricker, Mason Green, Caleb Sherk, Quinn Labrie, Tally Simons, Ross Audet, McKenna Ferguson, Tori Audet, Eva Wachel, Owen Zavitz, Kaylee Olm, Tegan Brown, Colton Mills, Nicole Faddes, Georgia Homan, Willow Winger, Darien Gauthier, Mikayla Fokkens, Eva Moreau, Xavier Lenon, Arianna Napper and Hudson Montgomery. Our Recognition Assembly for December will be on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 a.m.

### Athletics

Congratulations goes out to our

Intermediate Volleyball teams.



Both teams had outstanding seasons finishing first in regular season play. The Boys advanced to the DSBN tournament. The boys lost a hard-fought semi-final match against Gracefield to end their season. The Girls volleyball team will be playing in the DSBN Championship title game on Wednesday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at Eastdale School in Welland. Game time is 6:00 p.m. We are encouraging all Stingers families to join in and cheer on the girls. Mr. Rabideau and Mr. Piazza are extremely proud of the efforts of our girls' and boys' intermediate volleyball teams. Both teams represented our school very well and demonstrated Stinger pride.

This year, our junior students have been participating in Triple Ball instead of traditional volleyball. Our girls team had an outstanding

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season. The girls won all their games including the Port Colborne/Wainfleet tournament. Congratulations to the girls and Ms. deWard on an outstanding season. The boys Triple Ball team under the guidance of Mrs. Winger also had a great season. The boys competed extremely well in the regular season and in the playoffs finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Congratulation to all of our Stingers for their great play, dedication and sportsmanship.

### Free Dental Screening Coming to Your School

A Public Health registered dental hygienist is scheduled to visit your school Dec. 4 & 6, 2018 to provide dental screening to students in ELKP, grades 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8 as required under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

During this time the registered dental hygienist will perform a quick visual inspection of each child's teeth to determine his/her dental needs. Parents will be contacted if their child requires immediate dental care. The Healthy Smiles Ontario program may financially assist children who do not have access to required dental care.

Please contact the Public Health dental program if:

You wish to exclude your child from dental screening

Your child is not in one of the targeted grades and you would like him/her to participate

In addition to dental screening, ELKP students have an opportunity to receive an optional free fluoride varnish application if they have returned a signed consent form.

Call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 or email [dental@niagararegion.ca](mailto:dental@niagararegion.ca).

### Coach's Corner Oral Language Development - How Families Can Help

Literacy development requires a partnership between home, school and community. Since oral language is the foundation of all literacy, it is essential that children have ample opportunities at school, in the community, and at home to speak and listen.

Experience with listening, speaking and singing teaches children the sounds and structures of language. These experiences, in turn, make it easier to learn to read and write.

What are some ways families can build an appreciation for language? Families could:

- talk about the day's events, a TV show/DVD you have watched together, or about posters/signs you see while traveling;
- look at magazine pictures/ads together. Choose a picture and model how to describe the image in complete sentences. Ask children to describe another picture in complete sentences;
- pose sentences beginning with "if" and have children respond (e.g. If I could travel anywhere in the world, I...);
- ask clarifying ("Tell me more about the video game you played.") and open-ended ("What was your favourite part of the movie?") questions;
- build vocabulary by taking walks in different places and identifying new or interesting sights, sounds and smells;
- play card and board games which provide opportunities for conversations about the games;
- encourage paraphrasing to build listening skills (e/g/ explain the rules for the game and have the child repeat the rules; explain steps in a recipe and have children rephrase what has been said);
- make read-alouds interactive (i.e. talk about predictions, alternative endings, favourite parts);
- go to <http://storylineonline.net> and listen to a famous actor read a

picture book aloud, then discuss what you like/don't like about the book;

- retell familiar stories while purposefully omitting certain items and have children correct and retell;
- sing songs and recite nursery rhymes or poetry;
- wait patiently, without interrupting, while children find the words they want to use.

Families can strengthen the literacy skills of their children. When schools and families work together to promote literacy development, we can undoubtedly "achieve success together"!

#### Book Fair

A BIG thank you goes out to our students and families for supporting our book fair once again this year. We would also like to thank Mrs. M. Barrett for once again organizing the book fair and parent volunteers to make the book fair such a success. We look forward to the next book fair in the Spring.

#### School Website

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Lorenz who keeps our school website up to date. This website will be a continuous work in progress. It's a great place to get a copy of our newsletter or monthly calendar. Please take some time and visit us at: [www.dsbn.edu.on.ca/Schools/SteeleStreet1](http://www.dsbn.edu.on.ca/Schools/SteeleStreet1)

### AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures.

At times when student transportation has been cancelled and schools remain open, the decision of whether or not to have children in school on that day rests with the parent or guardian.

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Should you decide not to send your child to school in the event that transportation is cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call your child's school to inform them of your child's absence.

A key resource in any emergency is the DSBN Emergency Information form that you filled out at the beginning of the school year. Please let the school know of any changes in contact information or procedures you wish to be followed throughout the school year.

Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will be available as soon as it is available through the following channels:

#### Websites:

[www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org)  
[www.nstis.ca](http://www.nstis.ca)

#### Subscription Features:

DSBN Facebook or Twitter  
NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts

#### Phone:

Niagara Student Transportation Services 905-346-0290 Voice Auto Attendant

#### Radio Stations:

CKTB (610 AM) St. Catharines	CHRE (105.7 FM) St. Catharines
WAVE (94.7 FM) Hamilton	CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines
CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton	CKEY (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/Fort Erie
CHML (900 AM) Hamilton	K-LITE-FM (102.9 FM) Hamilton
CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton	GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland
Y-108(107.9) Hamilton	

**Television Stations:**

CH – Hamilton  
 CityTV Breakfast Television  
 CTV Toronto  
 Cogeco Channel 10

**Indoor Footwear**

We kindly request that students begin to keep a dry pair of indoor running shoes in the classroom or on the hooks outside their rooms at this time of year. Wet shoes can create slippery situations in our classrooms and hallways.

**From the desk of Mrs.****Pahowski**

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!

**Milk Program**

A BIG thanks to our outstanding milk crew. We thank all those students who participate in this healthy initiative. If you are interested in your child receiving milk, please look for the monthly reminders on School Cash Online or contact the office.

**Physical Activity**

Did you know that Canadian children/youth ages six to 19 spend an average of 8.6 hours per day, or 62 per cent of their waking hours, being sedentary?

Here are some ways to help your children meet the recommended 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity each day:

Limit recreational screen time to no more than two hours per day

Encourage children and youth to play outdoors

Play outside with your children:

Go for walks, hikes, build snowmen, go tobogganing

For more information go to [www.activehealthykids.ca](http://www.activehealthykids.ca) or [www.participation.com](http://www.participation.com)

**Calendar Reminder**

Check the calendar for a list of most activities.

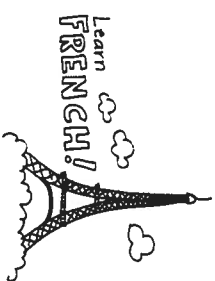


## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FRENCH IMMERSION

The French Immersion program offered at McKay Public School is open to all students in Year 2 (Senior Kindergarten). If you want your child to develop a high proficiency and fluency in Canada's two official languages, French Immersion has a great deal to offer.

### FEATURES OF THE FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM:

- Development of French language skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing from Grades one to twelve;
- Designed to be a second-language program for children whose first language is NOT French;
- Current enrolment of over 2,000 elementary students;
- Certificate of French Immersion Studies awarded upon successful completion of the elementary and secondary immersion programs;
- Opportunity to challenge the Diplôme d'études de langue française (DELF) exam in Grade 12;
- Promotes understanding of different cultures;
- Provides additional opportunities for employment using French as the working language;
- Increased ability to communicate and interact with confidence in French.



Registration will open **January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

For more information about French Immersion in the District School Board of Niagara visit [www.dsbni.org/fi](http://www.dsbni.org/fi) or speak to Mr. Piazza.

A Parent Information evening will be held on January 10th at name McKay Public School at 5:30 pm.

**DSBN**  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

**SAVE THE DATE FOR  
KINDERGARTEN  
KICKS START  
AT THE DSBN**

See a Kindergarten Classroom

Meet the Kindergarten Team

Register for school

Get a fun goodie bag with learning resources

**NEW THIS YEAR!  
REGISTER ONLINE  
DETAILS COMING SOON**

**Thursday, January 31, 2019 • 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

EarlyON Centres @DSBN



Child and Family Centre

## New Hours

Peace Bridge Public  
School

Starting November 12

Monday – Thursday

9 am to 6 pm

Friday

9 – 1:00

Open July and August

9 am – 12:00

All Welcome!

EarlyON Child and Family Centres provide free, high-quality drop-in programs for children from birth to six years of age, their parents and caregivers.

Our Centres are family-focused and offer a welcoming and fun space for Niagara's children to learn, play and connect with others. Parents and caregivers stay with their child(ren) and together experience the many benefits these centres provide.

Programs and Services are free and open to all families.

### Our Centres offer:

Fun activities - reading, storytelling, sing-alongs, games and more

Friendly staff professionally trained in early childhood development

Access to other community resources you can benefit from

Connection to other families / caregivers with young children

Caregiver programs, such as infant sleep clinics and breastfeeding classes

**NEWSLETTER DRAW:**

Please sign and return this section to indicate that you have read the *Steele Street Buzz*. One returned slip will be chosen randomly. That student will win a free lunch!

The \_\_\_\_\_ family has read the *Steele Street Buzz*.

Student(s) Names

Teacher

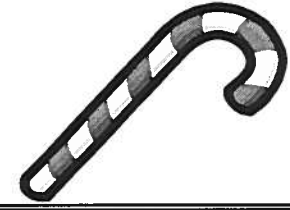
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this slip by Monday, December 10, 2018**



# December 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	3 day 2	4 day 3 Beauty and the Beast 10:30 a.m. show busses leave at 9:10 a.m. dental screening in p.m.	5 day 4 Int. Girls Volleyball DSBN Championship 6 p.m. - Eastdale S.S.	6 day 5 dental screening all day	7 day 6 Kinder Classes walking to Post Office in p.m. Lunch Lady	8
9	10 day 7 Pizza Lunch	11 day 8 Santa's Workshop	12 day 9 Santa's Workshop	13 day 10 Primary Choirfest at Seaway Mall 10:15 a.m.	14 day 1 Junior/Intermediate Choirfest at Seaway Mall 11 a.m. Lunch Lady	15
16	17 Pizza Lunch day 2 Art Gallery is here Spirit Week Ugly Christmas Sweater Candy Grams on Sale	18 day 3 Choir at Portal Village in a.m. Red and Green Day Holiday Christmas Show 2pm and 6 pm	19 day 4 Holiday Carol Sing - 9 a.m. Holiday Hat and Socks Day	20 day 5 Recognition Assembly and Carol Sing -11:20 a.m. PJ Day and Hot Cocoa Day	21 Lunch Lady day 6 Grade 4-8 Dance Candy Grams delivered Games Day Holiday Carol Sing - 9 a.m.	22
23	24 Holiday Break	25 Holiday Break	26 Holiday Break	27 Holiday Break	28 Holiday Break	29
30	31 Holiday Break New Years Eve	See everyone on Jan. 7th, 2019				