

Steele Street Buzz

Mr. M. Piazza, Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are a few weeks into our second term at Steele Street. This is an excellent time of the year to reflect on student achievement.

Parents are encouraged to contact the school if they have concerns about their child's academic or social progress.

Teachers have been working very hard focusing on their planning and instructional practices to meet the individual needs of their students. Our Primary, Junior and Intermediate divisions continue to implement effective teaching strategies and resources to address the learning skills for students to become successful writers, readers and math problem solvers.

Our school continues to purchase resource materials to support DSBN literacy and numeracy initiatives. We invite you in to your school to tour and learn about our programs.

Parental support in student achievement makes a huge difference in a child's development. Your efforts and suggestions are appreciated!



Student Safety

Student safety at school is our **number one** priority. To safeguard all students and staff, a number of measures have been implemented at Steele Street School:

-All doors to the school remain locked during school hours.

-Guests at the front door must buzz the office for entry.

-All visitors to the school must come through the front door and sign in at the podium outside the office.

-All visitors must come into the office and speak with Mrs. Pahowski or Mr. Piazza regarding your visit.

-Visitors and volunteers are asked to wear a Visitor/ Volunteer Badge while at school.

-Parents or returning students should wait at the office for their child between 8:45 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.

- if your child has an appointment during the school day, or becomes ill at school, students must be picked up at the Main Office and released to an adult. We do this for student safety reasons and to adhere to the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standards in the Education Act.

We are working to develop our student's independence especially at entrance and exit times. When you arrive at the school with your child we would like you to help them check in at the office and then let them make their way to class on their own. We hope you will help us create a safe environment that is conducive to learning.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or see Mr. Piazza in the school office.

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.... torn 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.

Email efn@dsbn.edu.on.ca or visit www.efnonline.ca for more information on how they support our youth. We will be running a variety of events during the week on March 25th-29th to support this important initiative. Details will be coming home with your child soon!

Staff Updates

After 40 years as an Administrative Assistant with the DSBN, Mrs. Pahowski has decided to retire. Her retirement will give her the opportunity to spend more time with her husband, daughters and her

grandkids. We wish Mrs. Pahowski and her family all the best in this new and exciting phase of their lives. Mrs. Pahowski's last day at Steele Street will be Friday, March 29th. We will update you on her replacement as soon as we have all the details.

Pink Shirt Day

Bullying is an issue in schools, workplaces, homes, and over the Internet. On February 27, 2019 the staff and students came together to raise awareness on these issues. Teachers organized various classroom activities to address bullying. We are hopeful that our students now have some of the tools needed to stand up against bullies and step in when they see it happening. Our Stinger colours turned from yellow and black, to a sea of pink to symbolize that we as a school community will not tolerate bullying anywhere. We wish we could take credit for this idea but it comes from two incredible Nova Scotia high school students. Here is a snippet of the Globe & Mail article which inspired us:

"David Shepherd, Travis Price and their teenage friends organized a high-school protest to wear pink in sympathy with a Grade 9 boy who was being bullied [for wearing a pink shirt] ...[They] took a stand against bullying when they protested against the harassment of a new Grade 9 student by distributing pink T-shirts to all the boys in their school. 'I learned that two people can come up with an idea, run with it, and it can do wonders,' says Mr. Price, 17, who organized the pink protest. 'Finally, someone stood up for a weaker kid.' So Mr. Shepherd and some others headed off to a discount store and bought 50 pink tank tops. They sent out message to schoolmates that night, and the next morning they hauled the shirts to school in a plastic bag. As they stood in the foyer handing out the shirts, the bullied boy walked in. His face spoke volumes. 'It looked like a huge weight was

lifted off his shoulders,' Mr. Price recalled. The bullies were never heard from again."

Thank you Stingers for taking a stand today and every day.

Chocolate Bar Fund Raiser

Our chocolate bar fundraiser is winding down. We would like to thank all of families that sold chocolate or made generous donations to our fundraiser. This fundraiser will give us the opportunity to raise funds so we can support student learning in and out of the classroom. Students will have until March 6th to sell as many bars as possible. There will be a number of draw prizes, as well as, prizes for our top seller and top selling class.



Students of the Month

Each month we celebrate the excellent accomplishments of our students. Congratulations to the following winners who were recognized at our January/February recognition assembly: Axel Radzikoski, Nova McIvor, Evan Gravelle, Faith Shaubel, Kait Kerrigan, Kylie Namtzu, Ayleigh Schooley, Trinity Hollender, Lily Braet, Eoin Fraelic, Madison Upshon, Izzyana Upshon, Amanda Hardy, Avaia Echlin, Hayden Braet, Tasker Brown, Tristan McIvor, Angus Hobbs, Derek Schwartz, Tessa Wroblewski, Jake Spoehr, Peyton Fletcher, Addison Grano, Ethan Mills, Cadence Fletcher, Summer Davis, Jayden Jackson, Logan Masotti, Faith Dyck, Taylor Ker, Anouk Echlin, Brenna Whitehouse, Nevaeh Napper, Beau Stevenson and Jackson Montgomery. The assembly for March will be held on: Friday, March 29th at 11:15 a.m.

Coaches Corner

Helping Your Child Learn to "Read Between the Lines"

Understanding what one reads requires the reader to figure out (infer) information that is not directly stated in the text. Making inferences is the ability to draw conclusions by making connections between what is stated in the text and the reader's own knowledge. Many times an author will imply a message without directly stating it. A reader is required to "read between the lines" and interpret the message that is not directly stated. It cannot be positively proven by the details given by the writer. For example, sometimes the main topic of a text may not be directly stated. A reader must look for clues and make an educated guess based on prior knowledge. This is called **making an inference**.

The reader's own knowledge is based on personal experiences and prior reading. Asking questions and using prior knowledge can help a reader better understand a text's meaning. Proficient readers examine the information presented and problem-solve as they read to gain more from the text than what is stated on the page. Making inferences is an important skill that will impact a reader's comprehension.

How You Can Help Your Child at Home

- * Use riddles and jokes
- * Read a nonfiction book together with your child. When finished, ask your child higher level, open-ended questions about what you read.
- * Help your child make connections between the illustrations and the text.
- * Help your child see cause-and-effect relationships. Ask: "What might happen if...?" or "What caused this result?"
- * When your child does not understand a reading assignment,

encourage him or her to ask questions to help clarify understanding.

* Expose your child to many different experiences to build personal knowledge.



Sports Report

The month of January and February were very busy for our Intermediate basketball teams. After participating in a short regular season schedule and playoff both teams qualified for the DSBN Championships. The boys and girls team both travelled to Brock University to participate in this event. The girls played 4 very well played games and qualified for the DSBN Championship Game. The boys played some extremely tough games at Brock and qualified for the DSBN Championship Game. In the championship game, the boys played one of their best games of the year and defeated Gracefield Elementary 27-24 to capture the DSBN Championship. We would like to thank Mr. Rabideau for coaching the girls. Both teams are again congratulated for their great efforts and the pride they brought to the Stinger community.

Grad 8 Graduation Photo Day and Graduation Date

Grad photo day will be on Wednesday, April 3rd at 9 a.m. A reminder note will come home with students prior to the day.

Grade 8 graduation night will take place on Monday, June 24th in the Port Colborne High School Auditorium. More detailed information will come home well before this special date.

Mad Science Club

Mad Science, the world's leading provider of educational and entertaining science programs for children is coming to Steele Street

Public School! They will be getting kids excited about science with fun, entertaining and exciting activities and demonstrations.

On Feb. 22nd students and teachers were thrilled when Mad Science came to the school to do a Spectacular Science show. The assembly was educational, entertaining and also the kick off to the Mad Science Club. The Club is a 6-week science enrichment program offered to the students. Students who join the Science Club will go on a voyage of discovery designed to support the Ontario Science and Technology curriculum. The topics will be different this year than when Mad Science was last at the school. The Club will take place on Thursday, Mar 21, 28, Apr 4, 11, 18, 25 from 3:25 PM - 4:25 PM.

TRY AT HOME SCIENCE ACTIVITY - ZOOM BALL

Materials:

- Two 1 litre plastic pop bottles
- Scissors
- Optional: Coloured construction paper
- Masking tape
- Ribbons
- Two plastic ring six pack holders
- Two 2.4 metre strings • An adult helper

1. Ask your adult helper to cut the bottoms off of the two plastic pop bottles.
2. Fit the bottles together so there is a neck on either end. Tape the bottles together to form a football shape.
3. Cover the bottles with construction paper and ribbon if you want to decorate your zoom ball.
5. Take the six-pack holders and cut the rings apart to make four two-loop handles.
4. Thread the two strings through the bottles. 6. Tie a set of handles to the ends of each string.
7. Get at friend and you are ready to play. Each player holds onto two handles and pulls on the strings until they are tight. Slide the zoom ball to one end. When it is at your end snap your hands apart to send the zoom

ball back to your friend. To catch the zoom ball, keep your hands together.

EXPLANATION:

The pushing action of the strings sets the zoom ball in motion. When the zoom ball reaches the other end of the strings, an opposite pushing action, your friend snapping the strings, stops the ball for a moment and then sends it in the reverse direction.

Calendar Reminder

Check the calendar for a list of most activities.



Port High Connections

Blue Bear students have made significant contributions to our school over the past month. Several Port High students who are Steele Street graduates have come back to our school to do many volunteer hours. Thanks to their efforts, many positive improvements to our school have occurred.

Recently, our grade 8 students completed their Port High intention sheets, and participated in a variety of workshops put on by Niagara College. They are very excited to become part of the great Blue Bear tradition starting next year in grade 9.

Absences / Lates

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



Newsletter Draw

Congratulations to the winner of our February Newsletter draw. Don't forget to return the slip below by Thursday, March 7th.

NEWSLETTER DRAW:

Please sign and return this section to indicate that you have read the *Steele Street Buzz*. Three returned slips will be chosen randomly. The winners will win a free pizza lunch!

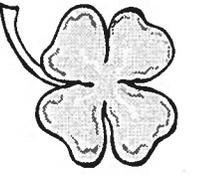
The _____ family has read the *Steele Street Buzz*.

Student(s) Names

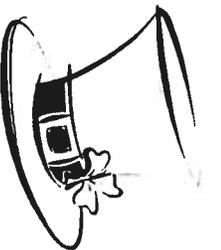
Teacher

Parent Signature: _____

Please return this page by Thursday, March 7th, 2019



March 2019



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	4 day 4 Pizza Lunch	5 day 5	6 day 6 Pasta Lunch	7 day 7	8 day 8 Lunch Lady	9
	11 March Break	12 March Break	13 March Break	14 March Break	15 March Break	16
10			Chocolate Bar Fundraiser ends!		Me to We Movie Fundraiser	
	18 day 9 Welcome Back	19 day 10 Carousel Players	20 day 1 Pasta Lunch	21 day 2 Mad Science	22 day 3 Lunch Lady	23
	25 day 4 Book Fair arrives Pizza Lunch	26 day 5 Carousel Players after school program	27 day 6 Family Movie Night	28 day 7 Mad Science	29 day 8 Lunch Lady Recognition Assembly 11:15 a.m.	30
	31 Make Change for Children Week		Pasta Lunch		Mrs. Pahowski's last day!!	