

Steele Street Buzz

Mr. M. Piazza, Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are very excited about the positive start that we have had to our school year.

September is the time when teachers work very hard to assess their students' skills. We are very lucky to have a staff that strives to provide an academic program that addresses the needs of children on an individual basis.

One way every parent/guardian can help is to remind your children about routines and expectations at school. Of particular note, it is crucial that your child's attendance is regular. Students arriving late miss opening routines and fall behind in their work. Entry times are as follows:

Morning: 8:45 a.m.

2nd Nutrition Break: 1:40 p.m.

Just a reminder:

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Friday, October 5th (P.A. Day)

**Monday, October 8th
(Thanksgiving Holiday)**



Student Safety

In order to maintain student safety for the 2018-2019 school year we are asking parents/guardians to follow a few simple guidelines. We are asking all parents/guardians to drop their child off at the entry doors and allow teachers to walk students to the classrooms in the morning. We also ask you to wait outside for your child to be dismissed rather than in the hallway at the end of the day. If for some reason you need to speak with your child, drop items off for them or pick up your child early, we are asking that you please come to the main office and allow one of the school staff members call down to the classroom to have them dismissed. We are also asking parents to please stay off the playground during nutritional breaks. If you need your child, please allow one of our staff members to get them.

Secondly, we are reminding parents/guardians that dogs should not be on school property. We are asking that you respect those students who may have a fear or may be allergic.

Finally, we are asking that parents keep their child off the steps at the front of the school. We have noticed students standing on and jumping from various heights on the steps. We are concerned about possible injuries occurring to our students. If you would like to speak about any of these issues in more detail, please contact the school office.



School Council



Our first Council meeting on September 25th was very informative. We had a number of new parents join our first meeting. Annette Brennan, a consultant for Food Allergy Canada, educated us about anaphylaxis and various allergies our students may come to school with daily. Please see the attached note regarding allergies at Steele Street. The Council also discussed some upcoming fundraising opportunities for the school. We will keep you updated on any new developments.

If you are interested in becoming more actively involved in your child's education and the inner workings of Steele Street Public School, we encourage you to join our **School Council!**

This group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. to discuss current issues, educational trends, and the future of our school. We welcome new members!

Please consider joining us at our second meeting on **Tuesday, October 23rd from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

Coaches' Corner

"Talking to your Child: Ways to Build Language Skills"

This month's reading tip will hopefully describe how to get the most out of the time your child spends reading with you at home.

Home reading is an important part of many students' routines. The more they read the better readers they will likely become. However, many students only pretend to read. Some students aren't yet hooked on reading. Others feel frustrated by books that are too hard. If you doubt that, ask your child read something out loud to you. Students with good reading comprehension think about what they are reading and are able to make connections, ask questions, make predictions etc. Discussing what they have read also helps them to make sense of the text.

Enjoy the special time that reading does provide with your child and discuss the above-mentioned items before, during and after your reading. Remember, variety is the spice of life!



Grade 8 Students and Parents: Mark Your Calendars!

Starting high school is a huge step in a student's life.

While it's definitely an exciting time, it also brings with it many questions, such as "What's life in high school really like? What programs and options are available to help me achieve my goals?" A great way to have your questions answered is to attend an open house. Grade 8 students and their families are invited to attend High School Open Houses from November 27 to 30th.

The Open House at PCHS will be on: Tuesday, *November 27*. *More details*

about this exciting event will be sent home with students.

On Wednesday, November 21st, our Grade 8s will be walking over to PCHS for Grade 8 Day. This will be one of the first opportunities our students will have to experience life as a grade 9 student. More information will come home regarding this event.

Terry Fox Marathon of Hope!

Steele Street students and staff did a wonderful job in raising awareness and money for the Terry Fox Foundation. Our cold treat day did well and helped support this important cause. Through participation in this event our school raised \$500.00 for cancer research.

School Athletics

The Steele Street Stingers intermediate and junior co-ed soccer teams demonstrated great talent at the all-day tournaments this month! Both teams played exceptionally hard in the difficult pools in which they were placed. The intermediate team played undefeated in pool play and behind some outstanding goaltending narrowly lost in the final game. Our junior team cruised through pool play and won their championship game. The teams are to be congratulated on their excellent play and determination.

The boys and girls would like to thank Mr. Lorenz, Mrs. Winger and Mr. and Mrs. Fraelic for their wonderful coaching.



HALLOWE'EN

We will be celebrating Hallowe'en once again this year. On Wednesday, October 31st, students (JK to Grade 8), staff and parents are encouraged to dress for Hallowe'en. Since some parents may be on the lookout for

costumes or costuming ideas, we want to make it very clear that everything we do at Steele Street School is violence free. That means that costumes depicting blood and gore and any type of weaponry will not be allowed. Now everyone can begin their creative search. Students who choose to wear masks will be allowed to do so only at the parent/guardian/staff discretion, with parents knowing that we will be planning a Hallowe'en parade to Portal Village. Details about the parade as well as alternate activities provided for students who do not usually celebrate this day, will be shared with you as the day approaches. The most important thing now is to be creative, be thoughtful and adhere to our Steele Street School violence free Hallowe'en when thinking about a costume! More details about Halloween activities will come home later this month.

Students of the Month



Each month, the staff at Steele Street takes time to recognize students who demonstrate excellence in a particular area. Congratulations to the following students that received a certificate and will have their names and photos placed on a display board in the front lobby: Elaina Rigby, Emma Morden, Ava deWaard, Kieran Hawkins, Madison Bell, Aedan Bates, Quinn Labrie, Barrick Lacey, Jack Elder, Kaylee Faddes, Elias Gohlke, Bella Yellow, Lily Braet, Cameron Hockley, Jack Lacelle, Ashlee McGrath, Ronan Barrett, Emma Audit, Sophia Benito, Daxen Simons, Zoe Gosnay, Cohen Labrie, Taylor Namtzu, Kelsey Coers and Ethan Hutcherson, The Recognition Assembly for October will be held on Tuesday, October 30th at 1:45 p.m.

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!

Food Days

Lil Caesar and The Lunch Lady are providing special food days for us again this year. Please make sure check School Cash Online to ensure orders and payment are made for your child. Should you experience any difficulty with the School Cash Online, please do not hesitate to call the school!

Fire Drills

We held our first fire drill of the 2018-2019 school year during the second week of September. Each school is required to practice in the Fall and the Spring so we can prepare in case of a real emergency. Thank you for taking the time at home to reinforce the importance of these drills and reminding your child to act safely in these situations

SMOKING ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Smoking anywhere on school property including sitting inside a vehicle could cost you \$305. This law applies to **everyone** (staff, students, parents and visitors) **anytime** (24/7) and **anywhere** including school parking lots, cars in parking lot, sports field, and driveways. The Smoke Free Ontario Act is designed to reduce the number of youth who start smoking and to protect Ontarians from second hand smoke. Know the law and protect yourself. Any questions can be directed to the Tobacco Hotline 905 688-8248 ext 7393.

How Long Must My Child Stay Home When Sick?

Please keep your child at home and away from others if he or she has any of these symptoms:

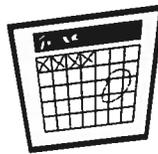
- Fever

- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Rash
- Frequent coughing or sneezing
- Yellow or green discharge from the nose, ears, or eyes
- Sore throat

Contact your family doctor for a diagnosis. Your doctor will advise you about care and treatment if a communicable disease is diagnosed. For more information, please contact the Infectious Disease Program at 905-688-8248 ext. 7330 or 1-888-505-6074 or www.niagararegion.ca

Calendar Reminder

Please check the calendar for a list of most activities.



Calling All Parents & Caregivers

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER!

DSBN Parent Involvement Conference

Join us for an evening of learning & FREE Workshops!

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.



DSBN Parent
Involvement
Committee

**WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 7, 2018**

4:00 - 8:15 PM at Eden High School

Complimentary Dinner & Childcare
Available by Pre-Registration

Early Bird Draw!

Register before October 3, 2018
and you could WIN \$500 of
support for your School and
School Council!



Parenting
Matters
At DSNB

REGISTER ONLINE AT: WWW.DSNB.ORG/PIC

NEWSLETTER DRAW:

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

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

Student(s) Names

Teacher

Parent Signature: _____

Please return this page by Thursday, October 11th, 2018

Can you lend a hand?

We are very fortunate to have many hard-working and enthusiastic parents who have expressed a willingness to work together with the Steele Street staff on a wide variety of projects including improving students' reading fluency, fund-raising, classroom help and special events. If you are able to lend your time and talent to our school, please indicate your willingness on the Volunteer Sheet below. There are lots of ways to become involved. Remember, "Many hands make light work!"

2018-2019 Parent Volunteer Form

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Name(s) of Student(s): _____

Volunteers are an essential part of your son/daughter's school experience! If you are able to assist us, please check off any areas you may be interested in and return this form.

- Assist a Classroom Teacher: Grade(s): _____
- Assist with special lunch days (pizza, hamburger, pancakes)
- Listen to Children Read
- Assist in the Library
- Assist with refereeing Volleyball games.
- Call me as events occur - I cannot commit to a regular schedule
- Other: Do you have a special talent or knowledge you can share?

Thanks in advance for your help!



Steele Street Public School

214 Steele Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 4X7 P: 905-834-4333 F: 905-834-5281



Food Allergy Alert

Dear Steele Street Parents/Guardians,

You've all read the headlines and seen the news stories: food allergies are a growing concern in schools across North America. Millions of children - children who are perfectly healthy and normal in every other way - must watch every single bite they eat, or risk suffering a severe or even life threatening reaction. In fact, food allergies claim over 200 lives and are responsible for over 30,000 emergency room visits each year. A major health issue such as this one needs to be taken very seriously, and it has always been the policy of this school to make the safety and well being of our students our top priority.

Within our school community there are several students who have a potentially life-threatening allergy (anaphylaxis) to foods, predominately to peanuts and tree nuts (e.g. almond, cashew, hazelnut, pistachio).

We feel the best way to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to these students is to respectfully ask for the co-operation of the parents/guardians within the Steele Street community to:

- Please do not send any peanuts, peanut butter or foods containing peanuts or peanut butter to be eaten as snacks to school.
- We will not be doing any classroom projects that involve peanut butter (like bird feeders) or peanut shells (art projects). Please do not send any of these homemade projects into the classroom with your child.
- Birthday parties are a special time for children, but can be a difficult time for the food-allergic child. If you would like to send in baked goods, please be careful about the ingredients. Please list the ingredients on the outside of the package and when preparing "treats" please pay close attention to cross contamination in your kitchen. To prevent cross-contamination, it is necessary that cooking utensils and preparation surfaces be carefully washed after each food is touched. It would be especially helpful if you could let your child's teacher know a few days ahead of when you'd like to celebrate your child's birthday, so that the food-allergic child can provide his/her own safe treat.
- We will try to keep the food at holiday parties to a minimum. As with birthday parties, we must be extremely careful about the ingredients in all of the food items. Please do not enclose candy or other treats with holiday cards.
- If your child had peanut butter for breakfast, we would greatly appreciate your making sure that his/her hands are washed with soap and water before leaving for school. Water alone does not do the trick!

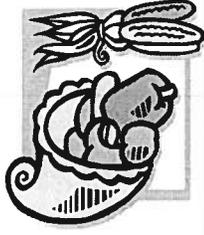
This is a learning process for all of us, but we trust that you understand how deeply important it is to respect and adhere to these guidelines. If throughout the course of the year you have any questions or concerns about food-allergy-related issues, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Wishing you and your family a safe and healthy school year.

Sincerely,
Steele Street School Staff



October 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 day 10 Pizza Lunch	2 day 1	3 day 2	4 day 3	5 P.A. Day NO SCHOOL TODAY	6
7	8 THANKSGIVING DAY	9 day 4	10 day 5 Cross Country Meet K classes to PC Library	11 day 6 Gr. 4-8 to Brock U. Makerspace Day	12 day 7	13
14	15 day 8 Pizza Lunch	16 day 9	17 day 10 Intermediate Year End Trip Parent Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	18 day 1	19 day 2	20
21	22 day 3 Pizza Lunch	23 day 4 School Council Meeting 6 p.m.	24 day 5	25 day 6 K classes to Bry-Anne Farms in a.m.	26 day 7	27
28	29 day 8 Pizza Lunch	30 day 8 Grades 1 and 2 to Bry-Anne Farms Recognition Assembly 1:45 p.m.	31 Hallowe'en Parade and activities			