



# DeWitt Carter Public School

## Dragon's Digest

### February 2017 "Optimism"



Mr. T. Acaster - Principal  
 Mr. M. Herfst - Vice Principal  
 Ms. M. Sager - School Secretary

Mr. W. Hahn - Superintendent  
 Mr. D. Shaubel - School Board Trustee  
 School Phone #905-834-7440

#### DeWitt Carter Public School Mission Statement

*"Our mission is to support student learning in a safe environment where all students are motivated to learn and are willing to take risks so they can become positive contributors to our society."*

#### A Message From Mr. Acaster

Well it is hard to believe that we are already a month into the new year. The days are skating by quickly. Oh, and speaking of skating, make sure you come out for our family skate night this month at the Vale Centre. This is a fun opportunity organized by our School Council for staff, students and family to ward off the winter blues with some exercise and socializing. The long range forecast is predicting below freezing temperatures for the next month so it looks like Spring isn't quite here yet. The warm January has made us too hopeful, I think. Please remember boots, snowpants, touques and mittens are going to be needed for a little while longer. Rest assured - Spring will arrive. We just have to bundle up for a few more weeks.

Remember that report cards will be coming home on February 10th. This is the opportunity to chat with your child about the successes they have had and to set goals for Term 2. Take a close look at the Learning Skills section. These items give information about the skills we all need to be successful in school and in life. It is important to discuss any questions you have with the classroom teacher so that our students can define their goals and then work towards them. Have your child post their school goal on the fridge or in their room so they see it and keep it fresh in their mind. The Sky is the Limit. Any goal can be reached if they put their mind to it. If they hit a roadblock, remember; we are all here to help each other, so just ask for help. Have a great month, dragons!

**Reminder that Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> is a Professional Development Day and there are no classes for students.**  
**Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup> is Family Day and the school is closed.**

#### Mad Science

Mad Science, the world's leading provider of educational and entertaining science programs for children is coming to DeWitt Carter Public School! They will be getting kids excited about science with fun, entertaining and exciting activities and demonstrations. Students and teachers will be thrilled on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> when Mad Science comes to the



school to do a Spectacular Science Show. The assembly will be 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 Tuesday Lunches, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 1:40 pm. Mad Science also performs Birthday Parties, Camps and Special Events. Give them a call at 905-937-1878 and watch out for them in Malls, at Fairs, Festivals and Scouts and Guides.



### Hot Lunch Dates

|                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Wed. Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup>  | - Pizza Day     |
| Wed. Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup>  | - Pizza Day     |
| Wed. Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup> | - Archie's Subs |
| Wed. Feb. 22 <sup>nd</sup> | - NO HOT LUNCH  |

Paper copy of Hot Lunch Order forms will no longer be sent home with every student. They are available for pick up in the office. Please register for School Cash Online at [www.dsbn.org/schoolcash](http://www.dsbn.org/schoolcash)

### Term One Report Cards

On Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> all students will bring home their elementary report card. The Progress Report in November provided you with information about how your child was learning in the classroom and gave an indication of progress towards achieving the curriculum expectations for all subjects.



Learning Skills and Work Habits are an important focus of the report card. These are critical life skills that students will work on from Grades 1 to Grade 12. Teachers evaluate how well students are achieving these skills for their grade level and include a comment about each student's strengths and some next steps for continued growth.

For each subject being taught this term, your child will receive either a letter grade (Gr. 1 to 6) or a percentage grade (Gr. 7 & 8). If a subject is only being taught in Term 2, then the teacher will check NA (not applicable) for that subject on the report card.

Communication between teachers and parents/guardians is an important support for student success. All parents/guardians are invited to contact the school if you would like to schedule an opportunity to discuss your child's achievement and next steps for learning with his/her teacher. We encourage you to take advantage of this.

### Keep Bringing in your Batteries!

DeWitt Carter is still competing with other schools in the province to see who can collect the most batteries. Ask your family and friends if they have batteries you can recycle for them and bring them into the school! Remember only single use batteries will count towards the school's point score. In April, the top 3 schools in the province will be awarded CASH prizes!!  
**RECYCLE YOUR BATTERIES!!**

### Mindful parenting, mindful kids

Mindfulness involves being present and accepting of our moment-to-moment experiences, without becoming lost in thought about the past or future. Life as a parent is busy and as a result it's easy to operate on auto pilot. Being a mindful parent means taking the time to enjoy the everyday moments with your children. As parents, mindfulness is especially important because it allows you to **role model** mindfulness practice, allowing your entire family to reap the benefits.

- 1) Going for a walk and giving everyone the task of finding 5 things that they hear, see or feel/touch during the walk.
- 2) Spending time unplugged and together as a family. Take turns sharing stories about your day and listen to each with kind attention.

Practicing daily mindfulness activities prepares you to respond thoughtfully to situations rather than react to them. For example, if your child is showing signs of anger, rather than reacting with discipline, take the time to think about why they are upset. Connecting in this way, with compassion can help defuse the situation. Dan Siegel, best-selling author of several parenting books, co-director of the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Centre and executive director of the Mindsight Institute, offers a wonderful description of what it means to be a mindful parent in this short video clip:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FXxrJEnlboM>  
Being a more attentive, mindful parent can help you feel more confident and content within your family!

## Student of the Month

The following students received recognition during our assembly on Tuesday, January 31st. These students were recognized for their hard work, class participation, school spirit and/or demonstrating our monthly character trait - "Caring".

|               | Character "Caring"     | Literacy           | Numeracy                 |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Mrs. Laur     | Peyton Thususka        | Thalia Reber       | Kenneth E Eaton-Turner   |
| Mrs. Piazza   | Aiden Lee              | Aubree Queffelec   | Isaiah Parker            |
| Mrs. Nicholls | Sabian Bloomfield-Kuck | Taylor Lee         | Channing Haywood         |
| Mrs. Meinzing | Jillian Prowse         | Daniel Allen       | Liam Neveu               |
| Mr. Fraipont  | Jaxon Conrad           | Amber Moore        | Colin Rogers             |
| Ms. Forand    | William Geerdink       | Jax Gregotski      | Jessica Estey            |
| Mrs. Froude   | Zachary Brown          | Ashleigh Reczynski | Damien Reece             |
| Mr. Deiter    | Santana Stewart        | Tyler Frommelt     | Haylee Allen             |
| Mrs. Garcia   | William Prowse         | Emma Laur          | Dylan Graham             |
| Mr. Curran    | Erin Millar            | Emma Dunlop        | Angelina Channon-Fougere |
| Office Award  | Madelyn Goulding       |                    |                          |
| French Award  | Haylee Allen           | Max Latham Wood    | Chelsey Eaton Turner     |
|               | Nick DiNunzio          | Ethan Moss         |                          |
| Dreambox      | Abby Kish              | J. J. Fry          | Levi Legros              |
|               | Nevaeh Dempsey         | Cooper Chambers    | Kyle Schoenhals          |
|               | Makenna Marsh          |                    |                          |

## 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.

**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 procedure 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:**

<http://www.dsbn.org/inclementweather/>  
[www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.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  
WAVE (94.7 FM) Hamilton  
CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton  
CHML (900 AM) Hamilton  
CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton  
Y-108 (107.9) Hamilton  
CHRE (105.7 FM) St. Catharines  
CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines  
2DayFM (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls  
K-LITE-FM (102.9 FM) Hamilton  
GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland

### **Television Stations:**

CHCH - Hamilton  
City TV Breakfast Television

## Spirit Day

February 24<sup>th</sup> is  
Crazy Hair Day!!!



Don't forget to show school spirit and show up to school with a crazy hair do!!!!

## Niagara Falls Art Gallery



The Niagara Falls Art Gallery is coming to DeWitt Carter Public School for grade specific workshops.

**All classes will be participating in this program.**  
This program will augment the Art Curriculum.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to enjoy and explore different art techniques with qualified instructors.

The cost of the workshop is **\$6.00 per student**. All payments must be received by **February 13th**. We recommend payment for the Art Gallery on School Cash Online. (forms are available in the office if you are unable to pay online)