



DeWitt Carter Public School

Dragon's Digest

February 2019 "Optimism"



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

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

I cannot remember ever having three days in the winter when the transportation has been cancelled due to the wintry weather. Global Warming? We still have 6 weeks left of this. This is the time of year when we have to make a conscious effort to keep busy. There are a lot of things going on here to help us with just that. We have had the Niagara Ice Dogs here to visit the school and followed it up with our annual skate and hockey game at the Meridian Centre. The weather wasn't cooperative, but it is always a fun night. The 4/5 and 5/6 classes had Scientists in the School recently. Their program was really interesting and had the students inquiring and learning about the world around them. We have started up our chess club and Forest of Reading and our intermediate basketball season is underway. We have Mad Science coming by to do a presentation for the students shortly and there will be a club that you can sign your child up for several recess sessions. Our first term report cards will be coming home on February 8th. Remember to use this opportunity to chat with your child about the great things they have accomplished and to discuss goals that they want to set for continued success in Term 2. I would encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher to go over anything about their progress and goals. We always want to work as a team and we believe that anything is possible with determination. Remember that February is Kindergarten registration month. If you know of anyone with a child born in 2015, please have them give us a call to register for Kindergarten in the fall of 2019. We are so excited to welcome our new dragons to DeWitt Carter. Our Kindergarten open house was January 31st but we would love to tour new families through the school if they missed the open house. If you get the chance, check out our school newspaper that several students in Grade 6 have been preparing monthly. They are doing a fantastic job. I love reading them before they go out. Have a great month, dragons!

The Open House is over but it's not too late!!

Hot Lunch Dates

Wed. Feb. 6th - Pizza Lunch
Wed. Feb. 13th - Archie's Subs
Wed. Feb. 20th - NO HOT LUNCH
Wed. Feb. 27th - Pizza Lunch

www.dsb.org/schoolcash

SAVE THE DATE FOR
KINDERGARTEN
KICKSTART
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.

Term One Report Cards

On Friday, February 8th 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.



Chocolate Bar Fundraiser

On Thursday, February 21st DeWitt Carter will have the Chocolate Bar Fundraiser Kick-Off Assembly.

Chocolate Bar Sales will begin on Wednesday, February 27th and run until

Monday, March 25th. We will be selling the Gourmet Selection from World's Finest Chocolate. A full case sold is \$90 with a \$45 profit for the student to use towards their end of the year trip. For every full case sold, the student will receive a ballot to put in the draw for a "Gyrocopters Hoverakart X4". That's right, some lucky student at our school will be winning a "Gyrocopters Hoverakart X4" of their very own. Good Luck Dragons!!



Gyrocopters Hoverakart X4

11th Annual Bilingual Family Literacy Event:

CELEBRATING LITERACY!

A free literacy event where families can...

Enjoy Interactive Activities

Create with Playdough

Explore Literacy Through Drumming

Read a Book ~ Take a New Book Home

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 2, 2019**

12PM TO 3PM

Vale Health & Wellness Centre
550 Elizabeth Street, Port Colborne

For more information call 905-834-9071



Student of the Month

The following students received recognition during our assembly on Friday, February 1st. 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	Scarlett Beckett	Devilyn Adams-Swain	Lucas Zeljkovich
Mrs. Churchill	Austin Hunt	Zaylah Lafayette	Decklyn deRuyte
Mrs. Feduck	Jackson Walker	Aubree Queffelec	Laike Holmes
Mrs. Meinzinger	Kenneth Eaton-Turner	Jaymie-Lynn Reece	Kalvin Ozog
Mrs. Boyer	Talon Biggs	Ben Farrer	Kaysha Golding
Mr. Fraipont	Taylor Lee	Alexis Fredrich	James Fry
Mrs. Froude	Joshua Lowry	Sergio Fernandez	Jersey Warner
Mrs. Dixon	Mackenzie Robinson	Avalon Olds	Drake Schoenhals
Mr. de Waard	Anestin Yim	Kailee Torok	Chantell Kovach
Mr. Nahli	Fantessa Swartz	Brianna Buchanan	Ethan Millar
Miss Dal Bello	Alyssa Young	Hailee Queffelec	Aidan Olds
French	J. J. Fry	Jessica Estey	Noah Stenson
	Logan Arsenault	Max Latham-Wood	Makenna Marsh
Office	Zachary Brown		

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 use the new Safe Arrival System or call our school at 905-834-7440 to inform us 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 us 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

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



Safe Arrival System (New)

At District School Board of Niagara, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely at school each day.

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure, we are introducing a **new, more efficient** student absence reporting system called **SafeArrival**. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, make it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unexplained student absences. With **SafeArrival**, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the **SchoolMessenger** app (BLUE) from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>). The first time you use the app, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
2. Use the SafeArrival website, at <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
3. Call the toll-free number 1-866-606-5567 to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week.

Future absences can be reported at any time.

SafeArrival app will have a number of benefits for both parents and staff. It is quick, convenient and will allow you to report daily absences as well as schedule future absences for your children for medical appointments and other important events in your lives. Using SafeArrival, you will be able to update your contact information easily, should it change. SafeArrival will also reduce the amount of staff time dedicated to tracking student absences, allowing them to spend more time supporting students.

In addition, we will use the **SchoolMessenger Communicate** automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up. If you report your child's absence in advance using the SafeArrival toll-free number, website or mobile app, you will NOT receive these notifications.

