



# DeWitt Carter Public School

## Dragon's Digest

### March 2018 "Perseverance"



Mr. Todd Acaster - Principal  
Ms. M. Sager - Secretary

Mr. John Dickson - Superintendent  
Mr. Dave 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

"Warmer days?...Longer Days?...Hurray!"

The stretch between the Winter Break and March Break is the longest stretch of time we have in our elementary classrooms. During this time, which often goes for nine weeks, there is a tremendous amount of knowledge and skills that students have to demonstrate. I am very proud of the students, who have shown great engagement and perseverance. Our junior and intermediate classes have been working very hard on digging deeply into math problems and demonstrating their understanding in both oral and written work. The combination of these activities makes the students think deeply about the mathematics.

There are many extra-curricular events coming up in the next weeks. Congratulations to our intermediate basketball teams who had a great season of growth and have just wrapped up. We have junior basketball about to begin and then badminton right behind it. Chess is underway and we will be hosting an Area 2 tournament in April. We have a karaoke club singing away and our Student Council is working on a Beach Day on the Friday before the March Break begins. Boys and girls - there are many different things in which to take part. Give some of them a chance - you may end up loving it!

In a week, we will begin our March Break. I share your hope that we will be blessed with some sunny days with warm temperatures so that we may pull out the bicycles and baseball gloves to enjoy the nice weather and pretend that summer is just around the corner. It is always nice to be outside with our family and friends. While walking the other day in the late afternoon, I realized the days are starting to feel longer... yay! Whatever your plans, be safe and enjoy every day. May you all feel a little Irish on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Happy St. Patrick's Day.

### **Reminders:**

March Break is Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Students return to school on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

On Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> the Chocolate Bar Fundraiser ends. All leftover chocolate bars and money is due back to the school. Please take advantage of paying for full cases of chocolate bars (\$90) on DSBN School Cash Online.

Thank you for your continued support.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

It isn't too late to register for 2018-2019 Kindergarten. If you have a child or you know of a child who turns 4 or 5 before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 (who has not yet registered for Kindergarten) it's not too late!

Please come in or contact the school at 905-834-7440.



## Hot Lunch Dates

Wednesday, March 7 <sup>th</sup>	Pizza
Wednesday, March 21 <sup>st</sup>	Pizza
Wednesday, March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Archie's

## School Council

The next DeWitt Carter School Advisory Council meeting will be on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

## Chocolate Bar Fundraiser

DeWitt Carter is presently holding our Chocolate Bar Fundraiser. This fundraiser started on Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> and will end on Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. Students must have a permission form signed by a parent to participate in this fundraiser. Students will only be allowed to sign out one case of chocolate bars at a time and will not be given another case until the payment for the first case is received. Payment for full cases of chocolate bars (\$90) can be paid on School Cash Online. Each complete box sold will earn the seller a 10" chocolate bunny. Each complete box sold will also qualify the seller for a chance to win some great prizes!



## Fun Fair

The process of planning our annual Fun Fair has begun! This year the Fun Fair will be held on **Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**. A form will be sent home closer to this date asking for volunteers to help work a shift during this busy day. We will also be looking for donations towards our Cake Walk and Bake Sale (all items must be nut free). We greatly appreciate our parent involvement!

## EQAO Testing

The Grade 3 and 6 classes will be participating in the Ministry EQAO testing from May 22<sup>nd</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>. Please try not to book any appointments, trips, etc. during this block of time if your child is writing the EQAO test. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

## Grad Photos



If a picture is worth a thousand words, can you just imagine what our graduation pictures could say! It is time for our Grade Eight students to begin rehearsing those million dollar smiles! The Grade 8 graduation photos will be taken on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> in the morning. There will be a short information notice sent home closer to this date as a reminder.

## Student of the Month

The following students received recognition during our assembly on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. These students were recognized for their hard work, class participation, school spirit and/or demonstrating our monthly character trait - "Optimism".

 Student of the Month	Character Trait "Optimism"	Literacy	Numeracy
Mrs. Laur	Jo Jo Brown	Elliza Duquette	Owen Newton
Mrs. DiCostanzo	Riley Robinson	Marley Paterson	Ellie Argent
Mrs. Calberry	Tonya Haywood	Bryson Bowx	Avery Erdei
Mrs. Meinzinger	Payton Sherk	Zoe Reber	Laura Buzila
Miss Baldinelli	Anabelle Bunz-Paxton	Amber Moore	TJ Jacques
Mr. Fraipont	Macy Melinko	Tyler Gretzinger	Colin Rogers
Mrs. Froude	Cora Duncan	William Murray	Noah Stenson
Miss Ghoujalou	Logan Arsenault	Aiden Rogers	Kamron Moss
Miss Audibert	Jacqueline Westover	Delcia Deschamps	Megan Murray
Mrs. McBride	Chelsey Eaton Turner	Jacqueline Woehl	Gracie Winger
Office Award	Jocelyn Prowse		
French Award	Dreadin Haywood, Noah Stenson, Damien Reid, Logan Dickie, Chelsey Eaton Turner		

## Attendance

Reminder: Please remember to call the school office to report any student absences at (905)834-7440. We have an answering machine that is available 24 hours a day. Feel free to leave a message. Student's attendance and arriving to school on time is important for a student to be successful. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

## Math Phobia\*

With our school year well underway, experts in numeracy (mathematics) have an important message for math-averse parents: Your anxiety is contagious.

Research shows that our seemingly benign statements about math ("I never liked this stuff," "This never made any sense to me") rub off on our children and do lasting harm.

In [a 2015 study](#), math-anxious parents who frequently helped their elementary-aged children with homework saw their kids learn significantly less math by the end of the school year than kids whose parents didn't express an aversion to math. The kids of math-averse parents also reported more math anxiety than kids of parents who were not math-averse.

"The idea that you could make it worse by trying to help seems so diabolical," said Jennifer McCray, principal investigator at the Erikson Institute's Early Math Collaborative.

But, when trying to help includes math-bashing, making it worse is precisely what we do.

"Statements from parents are extremely powerful in terms of helping a child decide, 'Who am I going to be relative to math? How should I feel about math?'" McCray said. "Somewhere along the way, we decided some of us are math people and some of us are normal people, and that's the way the world is."

McCray is on a mission to show us a better way. Her tips for a better, math-friendlier year:

**Look for math in everyday moments:** Count steps aloud as you're climbing them together. Keep a running tab in your heads at the grocery store. Talk about measurements — when you're pumping gas, baking cookies, doing home repairs — to reinforce how often mathematics is woven into your days.

**Play math games together.** "Games that involve math are a really powerful, positive way for parents and kids to have fun mathematics interactions," McCray said. She suggested card games such as capture (also known as war) and dice games such as Yahtzee or Farkle.

**Don't automatically check out at math time:**

"I don't want to send the message to parents that they shouldn't try to help with math homework," McCray said. "Be willing to struggle and bring your best adult reasoning skills to the situation."

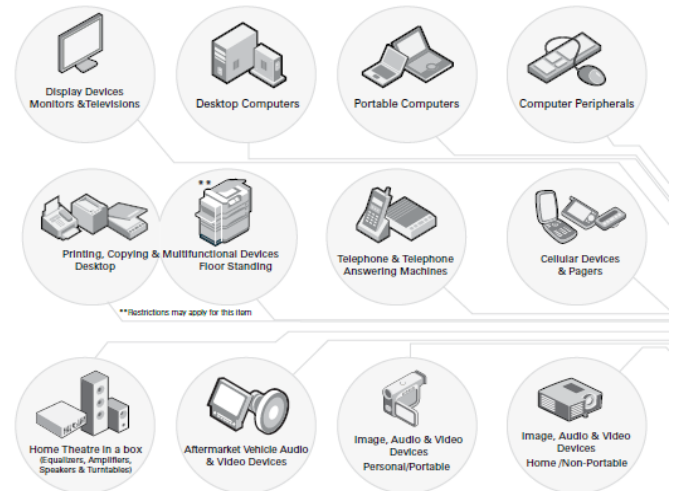
\*Taken from an article in the Chicago Tribune. The full, original article was posted on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## Recycle Your Electronics

On Saturday, April 14, 2018, DeWitt Carter School will be hosting a 'Recycle Your Electronics' fundraiser for the Grade 7 & 8 trip to Camp Wahanowin. The event will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and you will be able to drop off any old or unwanted electronics for recycling. Please see the list below of acceptable electronics.



### **WHAT'S ACCEPTED?**



**Wipe your drives. Clear your SIM cards.**

To learn more, visit:  
[recycleMYelectronics.ca/ON](http://recycleMYelectronics.ca/ON)

## Make Change for Children

During the week of Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> our school will be participating in the Make Change for Children Campaign. All monies raised go to provide support for DSNB students in need with basic necessities. See the calendar attached for details.