

## FROM THE DeWITT CARTER DRAGON'S DEN

### Summer 2017

#### Have a Wonderful, Safe Summer!

##### Canada 150!

I think many of us are counting the minutes, never mind the days until we are able to say summer is here! Soon, we will all be enjoying some lazy days where homework and studying are a distant memory – at least for a couple months. I hope everyone has fun, chillin' in the yard or at the beach or up at the cottage.

Thank you to all of our wonderful families for making 2016-17 such a great year. Have a long, relaxing summer. Whatever you do, make sure you stay safe and have fun.

Staff, I truly appreciate the dedication you show to our school and students each and every day. I take every opportunity I can to brag about this team. I hope you know what a great difference you make in the lives of our students and families.

I would also like to welcome new staff members to our Dragon's Den and wish leaving Dragons a fond farewell. We will have a new E.A., Mrs. Chevalier as a member of our Educational Assistant team. Mrs. Chevalier has been working with us this spring and will now be here on a regular basis for the year. Additionally, welcome back to Mrs. Gibson, who is returning from her maternity leave. Joining our teaching staff, from Diamond Trail, I would like to welcome Mrs. Lafleur who will be teaching grade 5/6 and sharing LRT duties with our new LRT, Mrs. McIntyre.

At this point we are currently in the hiring process for our Grade 7 class. Come September we will also be hiring two LTO teachers to fill in for Mrs. Nicholls and Mrs. Piazza who will be on their maternity leaves. All the best for both of you and we can't wait to see you when you visit. Sadly, we have to say good-bye to a few well-loved colleagues. Miss. Babcock will be heading to Plymouth School for September. We will miss your presence in the halls. It was wonderful how you could always bring a smile to our students' faces. Mrs. Garcia is heading to Princess Elizabeth School as their new Learning Resource Teacher and Mrs. Zanutto is joining our school board's central resource team as a Resource Teacher. Of course, I think everyone knows that we will also be saying goodbye to Mr. Curran as he enjoys his retirement. Lucky guy!!!! To each of you, your presence here will be greatly missed. The contributions you have made to this school, for our students, are going to leave a lasting impact. All the best!

##### School Council Update

Parents- please consider coming out for School Council next year. It is a great way to get involved with the school. Our group does tremendous work for our school and our students. We couldn't do some of the things we do without the hard work of this group. Our first meeting is already scheduled for

Tuesday, September 26th - 6:00 p.m. This is an exciting and meaningful role - come on out.

### **Kindergarten Classes**

We will be setting up our Kindergarten classes for the students starting Junior and Senior Kindergarten in September 2017. Mrs. Laur and Mrs. Piazza will be sending this information to the Kindergarten families through a mail out at the end of June. In the letter, they will notify you of the classroom teacher and some "good to know" ideas for the first day of class.

We will not be having a staggered entry for Junior Kindergarten students. All of our Kindergartens will start on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Please note that this a new procedure for September.

### **Class Organization for September**

Again this year, we wish to inform all of our students and parents that we will be formally organizing classroom placements in August. Class lists for grades 1 to 8 will be posted on the first day of school in several locations around the building.

With the Ministry directives on class size in the primary grades, we wish to avoid as much disruption for the coming school year as possible. As such, class lists are not finalized until this point so that we have a firmer idea of the number of students enrolled for our 2017/18 school year. Currently, our organization looks like this:

KG 1	Mrs. Laur & Mrs. Hurst
KG 2	LTO who will be hired in July
Gr. 1/2	LTO who will be hired in July
Gr. 2	Mrs. Meinzinger
Gr. 2/3	Mrs. Forand

Gr. 3/4	Mr. Fraipont
Gr. 4/5	Mrs. Froude
Gr. 5/6	Mrs. Lafleur
Gr. 7	Contract to be hired in July
Gr. 8	Mrs. McBride
French	Mme. Winn
Phys. Ed.	Mr. Turonski
LRT	Mrs. McIntyre
VP/Library	Mr. Herfst
Principal	Mr. Acaster

### **First Day Back**

It is probably the last thing on many people's minds right now, but the first day of classes is on September 5th, the day after Labour Day. Please bring your children on to the playground and look for one of the posted sets of class lists. Teachers will be identifiable by name tags and safety vests the first day. Any students who arrive on the bus will be greeted and directed to the appropriate school yard entrance. Our primary classes line up at the South entrances and our junior/intermediate classes line up at our North entrances. If it is raining, we will bring students into the gym. If that is the case, we will have to ask parents of grade one to eight students to depart at that time.

For the first week of school, if you feel it will help in the transition, please feel free to accompany your child during the pre-entry time on the playground. I would ask that as we enter the second week, parents kiss and wave to their children at the gates (or Kiss and Ride, if you drive your child to school).

### **Moving Over the Summer Months?**

Parents / Guardians please note that the Transportation Department will be open during regular hours for the summer months. In the event of a move over the summer and transportation had been arranged or may be required at the new location, please call **(905-346-0290)** to update student records and to ensure that bussing services will not be interrupted.

Bus routes are organized in advance and this will be appreciated by our Transportation Department. If you are moving over the summer, please contact us at the school as well. This assists us in organizing our classes for next year.

### **Breakfast Club**

I cannot express the gratitude that we have for our incredible B.C. volunteers from the community who give countless hours for our children. We really appreciate this time and effort you have put in. We could not have done it without you! An extra special thank you goes to Patty Moss. This program could not be the fine example of a Breakfast program that it is without your tireless work!

We would like to ask if there are any parents, uncles, aunts or grandparents interested in helping out with our Breakfast Club next year. We can use the extra hands in the kitchen. Please call us at the school, at 905 834 7440. Thank you

### **School Supplies**

Once August rolls around, parents start to plan their back to school shopping. All supplies to run our curriculum are provided by the school. However, it is beneficial if the students come to school with their own writing utensils. This would be:

- pencil crayons/markers /crayons for colouring
- pencils (and pens for our intermediate students) for writing
- A simple arithmetic calculator for our junior and intermediate students
- A math/compass set for intermediate students
- One or two binders with a package of three ring paper for junior and intermediate students
- Indoor shoes for all students; Phys. Ed. Clothes for students in grades 4 to 8

When students arrive in September, their classroom teachers will give more specifics to material needs.



