



The Crossroads Connection

School Newsletter

November 2014

Crossroads Public School
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Troy Wallace,
Principal
Steve Holowchuk,
Vice-Principal

News from the OFFICE!



Progress Reports are being sent home on Thursday, November 6th. This is an excellent opportunity to sit down with your child and look over the report together. Highlight where you think he/she has done well and congratulate your child's efforts! Pay close attention to the Learning Skills on the first page as these skills are the pillars that allow children to achieve success.

Parent-teacher conferences are currently being scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, November 11th to provide you the opportunity to arrange a meeting with your child(ren)'s teacher. Here are a few tips to help make this year's parent-teacher conference a success:

Take Notes - before the conference, jot down your child's areas of success and any concerns you have about your child's progress. Write down the questions or suggestions you have about the strategies that will be used to support your child.

Teamwork - Children benefit most when parents and teachers work together to develop strategies to support learning. If there are concerns, focus on ways to work with your child's teacher on solutions.



Next Step - Develop a clear action plan. Discuss how you at home and the teacher at school will follow up on concerns raised. Maintain regular communication with your child's teachers to monitor progress.

This is the perfect time to set goals with your child for the remainder of this term. Post the goals in a visible spot such as on the fridge. Working together as a collaborative team will allow us to best support your child's learning needs.

Important Information and Dates to Remember:

- Our Character Trait for November is **RESPECT**.
- Friday, November 1st is Crossroads Night at the ICEDOGS!
- Sunday, November 2nd is Daylight Savings Time begins! Don't forget to change your clocks!
- Thursday, November 6th Progress Reports will be going home.
- Friday, November 7th is Random Acts of Kindness Day.
- Friday, November 14th is a Professional Development Day for staff, and there will be no student attendance.

Lunch room supervisor still needed!

We are currently looking for lunch room supervisors. If you are interested, please phone the office as soon as possible.

Interested in listening to our students READ?

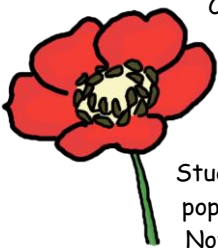
Volunteers are an essential part of your son/daughter's school experience! If you are able to assist us with **LISTENING TO STUDENTS READ**, please contact the office. Volunteering doesn't mean you will do it EVERY day, but just interested in helping out now and then.



Grade 8's Visit Laura Secord Secondary School

On Wednesday, November 5th all Grade 8 students will be participating in the DSBN Grade 9 Preview Day. This opportunity allows our Grade 8 students to experience "a day in the life" of a high school student, and our students will be visiting Laura Secord Secondary School.

Remembrance Day at Crossroads - Loonie for a Poppy Donation



Canadians honour those who have fought and died, defending our values, freedom and democracy.

On Tuesday, November 11th, our school will honour and remember those who continue to defend these values. We invite all of our Crossroads community to participate in our Remembrance Day Ceremony at 10:00 a.m. in the school gymnasium.

Students are asked to donate \$1.00 to this year's Legion Poppy Campaign. All students will receive a poppy on Remembrance Day to be worn to the ceremony. Please send your money in by Tuesday, November 11th,

The Elementary Progress Report

On November 6th, your child will bring home their Elementary Progress Report. The format was created after years of consultation with parents, teachers, principals, and students across the province. Although it looks much like the Report Card, this report has a very different intent. The purpose of the Progress Report is to share early and specific feedback on your child's development of work habits and learning skills as well as his/her progress towards achieving the curriculum standards by the end of the school year.

Traditionally, when reporting to parents about their child's progress, teachers have prepared by looking back over the work done. The teacher evaluated your child's progress from the beginning of the school term to the current point in time, and reported on the highlights of achievement as they compare to overall curricular expectations. Teachers continue to report on Provincial Term One and Term Two Report Cards in this manner.

Reporting on the Progress Report is about looking forward. The purpose is to set the course for the learning journey ahead. Based on the evidence teachers see, as well as what teachers know about learning at this grade level, the report communicates the path your child is on towards achieving the grade level expectations by the end of the year. For students who are on a modified Individual Education Program, the teacher uses those modified goals when determining whether a child is progressing well, progressing very well, or progressing with difficulty.

All subjects that are part of your child's program in the first weeks of school will be assessed according to the following indicators:

Progressing Very Well: In the first weeks of school, evidence shows that the student is demonstrating consistent progress and is on track to meet and/or surpass the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

Progressing Well: In the first weeks of school, evidence shows that the student is demonstrating consistent progress and is on track to meet the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

Progressing With Difficulty: In the first weeks of school, evidence shows that the student is experiencing difficulty towards meeting the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

For subjects in which your child is Progressing With Difficulty, the teacher will discuss specific next steps plans needed for success. We look forward to partnering with you and your child for a year of great learning and growth.

Coyote Athletes

Congratulations to the following coyotes who proudly represent Crossroads both on and off the court!

Junior Coed Soccer - Consolation Champions!

Riley V., Mikey L., Logan B., Nolan P., Lucas J., Ben T., Sheridan P., Logan H., Gannon D., Owen K., Madison D., Alexis H., Felicia M., Jenna C., Lauren P., Michael D., Clare C., Miguel G., Baley G., Kallie P., Spencer A., Lucas P., and Will C.

Intermediate Coed Soccer:

Keona A., Maddie B., Emma M., Felicia M., Lauren N., Hailey R., Kayleigh V., Kai B., Travis C., Griffin D., Reuben E., Josh F., Tyler J., Jake L., Ethan L., Ben M., Zack M., Ethan S and Andrew Y.

Senior Girls Volleyball Team:

Emma M., Emma A., Maddie B., Olivia K., Hailey R., Tiana H., Leah K., Olivia K., Zoe P. and Felicia M.

Senior Boys Volleyball Team:

Ethan S., Mike W., Sam P., Robert F., Matt G., Colby C., Nick L., Reuben E., Austin B., Griffin D., Tyler J. and manager Ben M.

Our Intermediate Boys Volleyball Team have worked hard displaying growth both in their individual skills and in their team play since September. The Intermediate boys finished a strong regular season ending up with a 5 win 2 loss record, 3rd out of 8 Tier 1 Schools. Both losses came in the final set after splitting the 1st two sets and both losses were by the minimum 2 pts.

Good luck to our Coyote Boys as they take on Dalewood in their 1st play-off match. They will play further play-off games and a couple of tournaments later on in November.

Cross Country at the DSBN Finals:

Taylor A., Megan H., Rachel D., Elena S., Kody J., Nicholas D., Ella D., Sarah J., Caitlin M., Maddie D., Abby H., Lukas K., Mitchell B., Ethan C., Jaedon L., Reid A., Felicia M., Tyler J., Lexi H., Leah K., Emma M., Kayleigh V., Maddie B., Reuben E., Ben M., Nick K.

The cross country team had 65 runners this year, more than any other school in Region 4. After two qualifying races, the 26 runners listed below qualified for the DSBN Championships held on October 14. At Fireman's Park in Niagara Falls, close to 1000 runners competed from across the Niagara Region. Lexi Hale & Leah Klassen lead the Coyote charge in 4th & 6th place in the Midget Girl's race. Luke Klassen finished 7th in Peewee Boys, Ella Duguay 8th in Peewee Girls, and Kody Jenkinson 9th in the Atom Boys. Congratulations to the entire team for their hard work and dedication over the season.



Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school November 25th - 28th! It's a great opportunity to promote reading to our students by supporting this literary event.

We invite your entire family to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books. Did you know that for every \$10 you spend at the Fair up to \$6 goes directly back to our school? Your support of this fundraiser is key to our obtaining new books and resources for our library and classrooms.



You'll find hundreds of quality books at our Book Fair with a wide assortment for all reading levels. A Book Fair flyer, that provides a preview of only a FEW of the many books available to purchase at our Fair, will be sent home with students the week before the fair begins. The flyer also contains a special Family Event Draw ballot that parents can deposit during our Family Event. You could win \$50 in books - \$25 for your family PLUS \$25 for your child's classroom!

Our classrooms are also in need of more books. We invite you to increase the size of your child's classroom library by purchasing books. Visit our Classroom Wish List display at the book fair if you're interested in purchasing a book for a classroom. Each teacher was asked to fill-in their "book wish list" prior to the Fair. Look for your child's teacher's name on the display. Teachers have selected books to meet their students' reading levels, interests and learning needs. The books will become a permanent part of the classroom library. Every gift, will be recognized with a bookplate, identifying your family or child as the donor. Alternatively, you may wish to purchase a book from the wish list and save it for Christmas as an option for a teacher Christmas gift.

Don't forget to mark the Book Fair dates on your calendar! You're welcome to attend the book fair along with your child's class (visit times will be in agendas closer to the event) or if you want to stock up on Christmas presents, please feel free to come in during any of the scheduled book fair hours. In the event that you cannot attend, fill out the Student Wish List order form and send it in with your child along with cash or a cheque. Taxes are included in prices listed. We look forward to seeing you during our Scholastic Book Fair and thank you, in advance, for supporting this great literary fundraiser.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Book Fair, please contact Ms. Andres.

Book Fair Dates: Tuesday, Nov. 25th through Friday, November 28th
 Times: 8:30 - 3:45 p.m. (closing at 1:30 pm on Friday)
 Location: Crossroads Learning Commons

We accept cheques made payable to Crossroads Public School. Visa and MasterCard are welcome, too.



School Council News

NOTL Home Show:

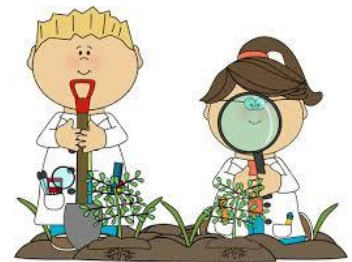
Plans are well underway for the 7th annual NOTL Home Show, to be held on Saturday, March 7th, 2015. Once again our platinum sponsor is Meridian Credit Union.

We have added two sponsorship levels! Gold Sponsorship (\$1000) entitles you to a 5x8 booth, a medium sized logo on all print media and the opportunity to put 600 flyers in the gift bags that are handed out at the door. Silver Sponsorship (\$500) gives you a small logo on all print media, as well as 600 flyers in the gift bags. This is a great way to show your support for the home show and showcase your business at the same time! If you would like to participate in our successful home show please contact the school, or email notlhomeshow@gmail.com by November 30th so we can start advertising your involvement.

If you, or someone you know would like to be a vendor, please email us! We would love to hear from you!

Outdoor Classroom Update:

In Spring 2014 we began work on the first stages of our Outdoor Classroom. We would like to extend a special thank you to the Toyota Evergreen Learning Grounds Program for their generous contribution towards our Outdoor Classroom Project. Along with funding from Tree Canada's Greening Canada's School Grounds Program and TD Friends of the Environment, they have helped us to create a green space which will become a wonderful outdoor learning environment for our students by funding native trees and shrubs, as well as the mulch required to protect these plants. Now that we have almost completed the planting stages of our project, we look forward to seeing our Outdoor Classroom take shape!



Stop the spread of Infection

- Stay home if you are sick and return when you are well
- Wash your hands with soap and water or use a hand sanitizer
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or in your sleeve
- Keep your distance
- Get a flu shot

For more information, talk to your school nurse or go to www.niagararegion.ca/health

When to keep your child at home

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 advice about care and treatment. For more information, talk to your school nurse or go to www.niagararegion.ca/health



Shining Stars - October 2014



Kindergarten - Mrs. K. Willms/Mrs. Foley	Hayden N., Archer H., Addisyn W.
Kindergarten - Mrs. Lisi/Miss Thiessen	Jillian D., Camryn W., Tanner W.
Kindergarten - Mrs. Bartel/Ms. Crawford	William S., Martha K., Emma P.
Kindergarten - Mrs. Whitwell	Reese J., Teresa H.
1 Miss Kent	Ashley N., Gavin T.
1 Mrs. DeBrouwer	Jessica G., Noah K.
2 Mrs. R. Willms	Quinten D., Hailey E.
2 Ms. Komandanski	Ariel C., Braeden D.
2/3 Mrs. L. Willms/N. Romanowich	Charlotte B., Allie K.
3 Mrs. Smith	Bailey N., Mackenzie O.
3 Mrs. Anderson	Jacob B., Kody J.
4 Mrs. Peters	Kristian K., Johnny N., Alisha Y.
4 Mr. O'Connor	Griffin D., Ethan P., Alice V.
5 Mr. Reschke	Logan F., Lukas K., Ashley R.
5 Mr. Kenworthy	Sofia D., Nolan P., Samantha V.
6 Ms. Edmands	Logan B., Alexis H., Sheridan P.
6 Mrs. Code	Mary B., Jacob H. Kaitlyn H.
7 Mrs. Kerr	Keona A., Garrett C., Olivia K., Felicia M.
7/8 Mr. Mannella	Jake N., Zoe P., Hunter M.
8 Mrs. Krake	Tyson H., Julia H., Sam P.
French Mme. Zoccoli	Kaitlyn H., Ben M., Riley V., Isaiah C.
Music Mrs. McMahon	Felix V., Archer H.

It's almost time to register for

Kindergarten

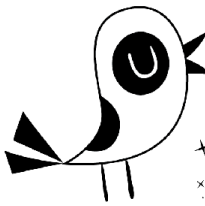

at the DSBN

Do you know a child who will be turning 4 or 5 before December 31, 2015?

Visit a DSBN Kindergarten Open House from 10 am-6 pm on February 5th, 2015 to register and to help your kindergartener get ready for their first day of school at the DSBN.

See the classroom, meet the staff and get a gift bag full of fun learning resources and information to help children develop their school readiness skills.

Looking for more information? Visit our website at www.dsbn.org/kindergarten



WORLD PLANNING DAY with Mrs. Krake's Grade 8's

We are very excited to announce that on Friday, November 7th, Mrs. Krake's Grade 8 class will be given the opportunity to pilot a program supporting 'World Planning Day'.

Each year on 'World Planning Day', planners from different places come together to teach children and teens about planning and road construction. The Grade 8s will be given a chance to take part in activities to raise awareness of the importance of planning and helping our community.

Professional planners from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, will visit Mrs. Krake's class for half of the day to engage the students in activities that revolve around planning, construction, and helping our community.

According to the planners, some activities include: An introduction to planning, land use, and active transportation; A walk around school property; A showing of a map of the neighborhood so students can take notes and come up with ways to improve active transportation. After being put in small groups, the students will be marking a map of the area with ideas for improvement, and then they will be presenting their ideas to the class.

World Planning Day is a wonderful way to speak up with your ideas for the community, and gets kids interested in planning and making our home an even better place.

If you wish to learn more about World Planning Day and planning in our communities, we encourage you to visit this page:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dT93bnZk7U8&feature=youtu.be>

World Planning Day is an amazing experience for children and teens across the Province (and maybe even further!). We encourage you to support this fantastic event.

Thank you!

Christian R. and Rebecca H.
Grade 8 students

ME2WE - small efforts making a BIG difference in our world!

Me2We is very excited to say that we have our very own newsletter page to keep you updated on what we are doing in and outside of school! The past two months have been exciting months in which Me2We has already been having fundraisers and we'd like to share with you our success.

Our latest fundraiser was Harvest for Hunger. We asked students and teachers to bring in non-perishable food items in support of Community Care. In the end FOUR food barrels were filled and brought to a Community Care center. Thank you to everyone who contributed. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Can you imagine what it would be like to walk barefoot all day? Walk in their shoes (flip-flops for Burundi) was a successful campaign. We raised \$300 for children in Burundi, Africa, and are sending 125 flip-flops to Muramvya School. Big thank you to all Crossroads families who helped us with our international initiative.

Terry Fox was a Canadian hero who helped raise money and awareness for cancer research in Canada. To this day we still run for Terry. We raised \$700 to support cancer research. Once again, thank you, and fantastic job Coyotes!

Me2We is proud to announce our newest fundraiser "Operation Christmas Child". We will be asking classes and teachers to bring in appropriate items to fill shoeboxes with items for needy children around the world.



**More details to come.
Stay tuned.**