



# The Crossroads Connection

School Newsletter

September 2014

Crossroads Public School  
1350 Niagara Stone Road  
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON, L0S 1J0  
905-468-7793  
crossroads.dsbns.org

Troy Wallace,  
Principal  
Steve Holowchuk,  
Vice-Principal

## News from the OFFICE!

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**Welcome Back Coyotes!** We hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful and relaxing summer vacation and are ready for another year of learning and fun! The staff at Crossroads have been busy preparing for the students to arrive, and we look forward to a wonderful year of learning and growing together.

Below you will find important dates and information of happenings here at Crossroads. As always, feel free to visit or call the office if you have any questions.

- Early Release Day is Friday, September 12th. Further details in this newsletter.
- Our Terry Fox Run is Friday, September 12th.
- School Council Meeting is on Tuesday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons. You are all welcome.
- Thursday, September 18th is our Meet the Staff Open House from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Photo Day is Monday, September 22nd.
- Our Milk and Pizza programs will be starting in October. Details will be sent home in the very near future.
- We have many students in our school with a life threatening allergy to peanuts and nut food products. Please discuss this issue with your children and discourage the sharing of potentially dangerous snacks.
- The halls and classrooms are spotless and shining here at Crossroads. A special thank you is extended to Mr. Klassen, Mr. Laurin and our fantastic caretakers for their hard work.
- Facebook users are welcome to join us online at [www.facebook.com/CrossroadsPublicSchool](http://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsPublicSchool)
- If your son or daughter is ill or away from school for any reason, please call the school office. Crossroads has voicemail, so calls can be made at any time during the day or evening. We are very conscience of the safety of the students. Regular phoning by parents will inform us immediately of the whereabouts of students not in school, and it will save us time in getting this information. We will call the homes, workplace and, if necessary, the emergency number of parents whose children do not arrive at school and about whom we do not receive a telephone call.
- We are currently looking for lunch room supervisors. If you are interested, please phone the office as soon as possible.



## NEW THIS YEAR!



To be more environmentally friendly and reduce our footprint on the environment, our monthly newsletters will be available online only. On the first of every month you can visit [www.crossroads.dsbn.org](http://www.crossroads.dsbn.org) and click on the "CALENDARS AND NEWSLETTERS" tab and select the appropriate month.

## Meet the Crossroads Staff!

Mr. T. Wallace	Principal	Mrs. H. Smith	Grade 3
Mr. S. Holowchuk	Vice-Principal	Mrs. T. Anderson	Grade 3
Mrs. K. Eden-Smith	Secretary	Mme. D. Peters	Grade 4
Mrs. L. Martin	Secretary	Mr. S. O'Connor	Grade 4
Mr. M. Klassen Mr. J. Laurin Mrs. B. Driedger Mrs. K. Corbet	Head Caretaker Night Caretaker Asst. Caretaker Asst. Caretaker	Mr. L. Reschke	Grade 5
Ms. D. Dawson	Youth Counsellor	Mr. J. Kenworthy	Grade 5
Mr. R. Primerano	Education Assistant	Ms. J. Edmands	Grade 6
Mrs. R. Sabourin	Education Assistant	Mr. N. White	Grade 6
Mrs. M. Olsen	LRT	Mrs. C. McNarry	Grade 7
Ms. C. Andres	Librarian/LRT	Ms. F. Ho	Grade 7/8
Mrs. T. Lisi Miss K. Thiessen	Kindergarten	Mrs. R. Krake	Grade 8
Mrs. B. Bartel Ms. C. Crawford	Kindergarten	Mrs. K. McMahon Ms. L. Willms	Music
Mrs. K. Willms Mrs. D. Foley	Kindergarten	Mme. M. Zoccoli	French
Miss T. Kent	Grade 1	Mr. J. Thorpe	Rotary
Mrs. V. DeBrouwer	Grade 1	Mr. S. Zaporzan	ESL
Ms. R. Willms	Grade 2		
Ms. L. Komandanski	Grade 2		
Ms. L. Willms (am) Mrs. N. Romanowich (pm)	Grade 2/3		

## School-Day-ONLINE PAYMENT PORTAL

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Thank you to those families who have registered with School-Day. For those families new to Crossroads, School-Day is an online portal that you can use to approve permission forms and make payments with your debit or credit card using the device most convenient for you. We're confident you'll find School-Day to be a safe, secure and reliable service. To learn more, visit our school website at <http://crossroads.dsbnet.org/> and click on the School-Day link.

**Please contact the office if you need to learn more, or to receive a Secure Match Key code.**

## Safe and Secure Schools

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We strive to maintain our school as a safe and secure learning environment for our students. Access to our school will only be through the front door, and visitors will be buzzed in. To ensure student safety, all visitors must:

- only access the school through the front door,
- check in at the office before going to a classroom,
- sign in using the "Visitor Sign In" book located in the main office,
- wear a visitor's tag during your stay with us,
- and use washrooms designated for adults, as student washrooms are for children only.

If you are dropping off an item for your child or picking him/her up for an appointment, you may simply check in at the office as per usual and allow one of our staff members to take care of your request.

Thank you for your support in this matter of student safety.

## Meet the Staff Open House

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It's time for our annual "Meet the Staff Open House"! We welcome all our Crossroads students and their parents on Thursday, September 18th between 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and of course take a walk through our beautiful school.



## Coyote Wear

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Again this year we will be offering our students the opportunity to purchase Crossroads Spirit Wear! You will find the order form online at [school-day.com](http://school-day.com) by visiting <http://crossroads.dsbm.org/> and clicking on the School-Day link! Order forms are also available at the office.

Samples for sizing are now available at the school. We encourage you to visit the school and size your child to ensure that the clothing you order fits properly as we are not able to accept any returns of clothing that does not fit.



## Student Agendas

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All students in grades 1 to 8 have been provided with a customized planner. This is an ideal tool for both organization and communication. We are asking that each student pay **\$6.00** toward the cost of the organizer as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter. You can pay online by visiting <http://crossroads.dsbm.org/> and clicking on the School-Day link!

Please take a few minutes to discuss the importance of using the organizer faithfully with your son/daughter. Look over the "Conduct Code" information presented in the first and last four pages of the organizer and talk about it with your child at an age appropriate level. Your support in this important matter is appreciated.

## Early Release Day

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Our Board has recognized the need to provide on-going professional development to our staff to ensure continued student success. Part of the P.D. program will involve an Early Release Day to be held on Friday, September 12th. The staff will be involved in School Growth Planning workshops on that afternoon.

Dismissal for "walk in" students or those being picked up by parents/designated adults will be at 12:00 noon. Bussed students will be transported home at approximately 12:15 p.m., and can be expected to arrive home approximately 3 - 3 1/2 hours earlier than usual.

We appreciate your support in this matter.

## Students and Medication

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Please inform the school of any serious allergies (asthma, bee stings, peanut, nuts, milk and medications, etc.) or any serious health concerns that require medication. The District School Board of Niagara requires that you complete an "Emergency Action Plan and Physician's Authorization" in order for medication, which must be signed by your child's physician, to be given at school. These forms may be obtained from the office. All medication must be in its original container from the pharmacy. Medication should be brought to the office by an adult. All medication must be kept at the office. Students who require an epi-pen may have one on themselves, however, a second epi-pen must be kept at the office as well. The classroom teacher must be notified of any such medication in the student's possession.

## School Council

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If you are interested in becoming more actively involved in your child's education and the inner workings of Crossroads Public School, we encourage you to join our School Council! A council nomination form is attached to this newsletter for your convenience.

This group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. to discuss current issues, educational trends, and the future of our school. We welcome new members!

Please consider joining us at our first meeting on Tuesday, September 16th from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. We will be electing our executive and establishing our general membership during this meeting.

## Online Donations

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If you take a look at our school website [crossroads.dsbn.org](http://crossroads.dsbn.org) there is a "Support Your School" button that allows people to make an online donation to the school using a credit card on a secure site. Tax receipts are issued automatically, and the funds are transferred directly into our charitable trust account. Supporting our school has never been easier!

## Can you lend a hand?

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We are very fortunate to have many hard-working and enthusiastic parents who have expressed a willingness to work together with the Crossroads staff on a wide variety of projects including fundraising, classroom help, gardening and special events. If you are able to lend your time and talent to Crossroads, please indicate your willingness on the Volunteer Sheet which is attached to this newsletter. There are lots of ways to become involved. Remember, "Many hands make light work!"

## Mabel's Labels

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As a way to target the problem of lost belongings and a large lost and found, Crossroads Public School is fundraising with **Mabel's Labels**, a company with all types of labels that are colourful, indestructible, easy-to-use and fun!

Iron-Ons, Stickies, Bag Tags, Allergy Alert labels & more! Personalize your labels with names, nicknames, initials - whatever you choose. Cool icons help even little ones identify their own belongings. Dishwasher, microwave, laundry & kid tested! Dispatched within 24 hours!

Visit [www.crossroadsp.s.mabel.ca](http://www.crossroadsp.s.mabel.ca) to place your order. It's easy, paperless, and a great way to support our school.

About Mabel's Labels: We are moms who were frustrated by the amount of stuff that left our houses, never to return. After lots of research and testing we created the perfect fun, durable labels for the stuff kids lose!

Our sticky labels and clothing labels, which are dishwasher, microwave and laundry safe, are not only practical, but also designed to be very special to each child. The labels are customized with a child's name, favourite mix of colours and an icon (animal, symbol, etc.). We have also expanded our product line to include personalized stationery products, ID wristbands and household labels. We strive to continuously design innovative labels for babies, kids and grown-ups alike. You'll be amazed at what you can label.

## From your School Nurse

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Did you know that every elementary and secondary school in Niagara has a school nurse? The school nurse provides teachers, parents and students support and resources on health related topics, including:

- Healthy eating
- Physical activity
- Tobacco use prevention
- Parenting
- Mental and emotional health
- Puberty and sexual health
- Drugs and alcohol



To learn more about the school nurse call 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7379 or visit [www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca) and search "School Nurse".



## Clock and Bell Times 2014/2015



8:35 a.m.	Morning Yard Supervision Begins
8:50 a.m.	Entry and Announcements
8:50 - 9:40 a.m.	Period 1
9:40 - 10:30 a.m.	Period 2
10:30 - 11:10 a.m.	Fitness/Nutrition Break 1
11:10 - 12:00 p.m.	Period 3
12:00 - 12:50 p.m.	Period 4
12:50 - 1:35 p.m.	Fitness/Nutrition Break 2 <b>Students with parent and teacher permission may go home at this time.</b>
1:35 - 2:25 p.m.	Period 5
2:25 - 3:15 p.m.	Period 6
3:15 p.m.	Dismissal

## 2014/2015 Important Dates

September 2, 2014	First Day of School
September 12, 2014	Early Release Day
October 10, 2014	Professional Activity Day
October 13, 2014	Thanksgiving Day
November 5, 2014	PIC Conference
November 14, 2014	Professional Activity Day
December 22, 2014- January 2, 2015 (inclusive)	Winter Break
January 5, 2015	First Day of Class After Holiday
January 16, 2015	Professional Activity Day
February 5, 2014	Kindergarten Open Houses
February 13, 2015	Early Release Day
February 16, 2015	Family Day
March 16, 2014 - March 20, 2015	March Break
April 3, 2015	Good Friday
April 6, 2015	Easter Monday
May 15, 2015	Professional Activity Day
May 18, 2015	Victoria Day
June 12, 2015	Professional Activity Day
June 25, 2015	Last Day of School for Students

2014 - 2015 Parent Volunteer Form

Name of Parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Student(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteers are an essential part of your son/daughter's school experience! If you are able to assist us, please check off any areas you may be interested in and return this form. Volunteering doesn't mean you'll do it EVERY day, but just that you may be available/interested in helping out now and then.

- School Council Member (see form below)
- Assist a Classroom Teacher: Grade(s)
- Listen to Children Read
- Assist in the Library
- Assist in the School Gardens
- Help with food preparation and distribution of Healthy Snacks (morning break)
- Noon Supervision (substitute or on call for emergency situations)
- Decorative Painting (i.e., mural painting, touch ups, etc.)
- Other: Do you have a special talent you can share? \_\_\_\_\_

Crossroads Public School Council  
Parent Self-Nomination Form

I wish to nominate myself to be a member of the Crossroads School Council.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I am the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, who is currently registered at this school.  
(name of student)

The person I have nominated is an employee of the board:  yes  no

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please return this form to the school office or bring it with you to the School Council Meeting on September 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the library. We will be electing our executive and also establishing our membership that evening.



# THRIVE!

DSBN PARENT INVOLVEMENT CONFERENCE 2014

## THRIVE: RAISING HAPPY & ENGAGED 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY KIDS!

**Save the Date!** Details and Online Registration information coming in mid-September.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2014**

**A FREE EVENING EVENT OF LEARNING, SHARING AND NETWORKING FOR ALL DSBN PARENTS**



**EDEN HIGH SCHOOL**  
535 Lake St. • St. Catharines

For more information visit:  
[www.dsbni.org/pic](http://www.dsbni.org/pic)

