

## A. K. WIGG PUBLIC SCHOOL ANNOUNCER

Staff Growth Goal: By May of 2012, all staff members will increase their understanding and usage of effective questions in Literacy and Numeracy classes.

Literacy SMART Goal: By May of 2012, 51% of students will have moved up, within a level and 49% of students will have moved up to the next level in effectively communicating thoughts with supporting details as evidenced by teacher-created AEO style questions.

Numeracy SMART Goal: By May of 2012, 52% of students will have moved within a level and 48% of students will have moved up a level in communicating their problem solving strategies as evidenced by teacher-created math problems.

## February 2012

*Academics, Arts and Athletics through Concentration, Co-operation and Courtesy*

### **February's Character Trait is Perseverance**

***Reading just doesn't happen.*** It is a skill that must be encouraged and supported from a child's earliest years. Once a child knows how to read, he/she still needs encouragement to reach his/her full potential as a reader.

*Tips to help your child with reading:*

- 1. Read with your child every day.*
- 2. Be sure there are plenty of interesting books and other materials for your child to read.*
- 3. Help your child find reading materials that match his/her ability and interests.*
- 4. Respect your child's choice of reading material.*
- 5. Praise your child's growing skills.*

*6. Help your child build a personal library (bookshelf or shelf, basket, etc.)*

*7. Check up on your child's progress by listening to them read and asking his/her teacher.*

*8. Go places and do things with your child to build his/her background knowledge and vocabulary to assist with understanding of material read.*

*9. Be a reading role model.*

*10. Encourage writing along with reading (shopping lists, messages, cards, etc.)*

### **Grade 8 Graduation Photos**

It's time to make those smiles shine! The Grade 8 and Kindergarten graduation photos will be taken on Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, in our school library. There will be a short information notice sent home closer to that date as a reminder. Pictures will once again be facilitated through Groff Photography.

We would also like to remind our grade 8 families that the date for graduation is Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony will be held in our gymnasium.



### **Dental Screening**

A Public Health registered dental hygienist is scheduled to visit our school February 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. They will be assessing students in grades JK, SK, 2, 4, 6 & 8. During this time the hygienist will perform a visual assessment of each child to determine their dental needs. Parents will be contacted if their child requires immediate dental care. Public Health dental programs may financially assist children who do not have access to required dental care. If your child is not in one of the targeted grades and you would like them to take part, please call the Public Health dental program at 905-688-8248 ext. 7399 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7188 or email [dental@niagararegion.ca](mailto:dental@niagararegion.ca)

### **Extended French**

For any parents of students in Senior Kindergarten, Grade 3 or Grade 4 who are interested in starting their child down the

path to bilingualism, the registration forms are available at [www.dsbns.org](http://www.dsbns.org). From there, click on the French Immersion Registration icon. Paper versions of the registration are available, here at the office. If you have any questions, feel free to call us at the school.

### **REPORT CARDS**

Our term 1 report cards will be coming home on February 9<sup>th</sup>. This is our second year using the new format of the Ontario Report Card. You will see that this format has the learning skills placed before the subject marks and comments.

Please take some time to go over the report card with your son/daughter and celebrate the successes and think of goals for improvement in term 2. There is a tear away section for both the parents and the student to comment on the progress and set goals. The learning skills comments at this time will indicate the progress that has been made from the progress report card. The subject mark is indicative of the work from September up to this point.

### **School Council Update**

Our next meeting will be held on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in our Library. All parents are welcome to attend.

### **FAMILY DAY / EARLY RELEASE DAY**

On February 17<sup>th</sup>, all DSBN schools will be having an Early Release Day. For us, that means that students will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. Our staff will be working in the building, preparing classroom websites in

an effort to provide electronic calendars, homework information and newsletters. Eventually, we will be able to link these to our school website.

There are no classes scheduled on February 20<sup>th</sup> as it is Family Day. This is a board designated P.A. Day. Classes will resume the following day. Enjoy the day with your loved ones!

### **PUBLIC SPEAKING AT A. K. WIGG**

Grades 4 to 8 students have been busily brainstorming, writing and rehearsing speeches for the last several weeks. Last week, in the gymnasium our junior and intermediate finalists presented to the school and parents in our gymnasium. We would like to acknowledge all the work and time that you put into preparing your speeches. The efforts really paid off. Special congratulations go to our finalists:

#### Junior Division

Isaac A. (1<sup>st</sup>), Hailey K. (2<sup>nd</sup>), Julia L. (3<sup>rd</sup>), Audrey M., Sofia L., Nicole G., Andrew S., Bailey O., Andrew B.

#### Intermediate Division

Ben D. (1<sup>st</sup>), Rachel H. (2<sup>nd</sup>), Anika C. (3<sup>rd</sup>), Claudia H., Andrew P., Chelsea D., Richard P.

Thank you to our judging panel; Mr. Siegel, Mrs. Breadner and Mr. Young

### **Knight takes Queen**

The A. K. Wigg chess club is still working at morning nutrition breaks to refine their skills and strategy in the game of chess. They will continue for the rest of February and March. The group includes students from grade one to eight. Thank you to Mr. Kurland for organizing and supervising this club.

### **Kindergarten Open House**

We are proud to report that we had many families attend this year's Kindergarten Open House, held on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you were unable to attend but have a Junior Kindergarten-aged child or if you know a family with a child who will be 4 or 5 in 2012, please call or stop by the office for a registration package. We will show you around the school and help register your child for 2012. To find more information about preparing your child for Kindergarten, go to [www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org) and click on the "Kindergarten Countdown".

### **News from our Family of Schools**

Some of our neighbouring schools are hosting events this month. They sound like a fun evening for family and friends. Pelham Centre is running a Trivia Night at the Pelham Old Towne Hall at 7:00 pm on February 24<sup>th</sup>. E. L. Crossley's Alumni Association is presenting a Community Family Feast 'n' Fest Celebration on February 25<sup>th</sup> at Club Castropignano. Doors open at 5:00 pm. For more information, contact the schools directly.

### **A Musical Note**

Junior and Intermediate Choirs will begin rehearsals with Mrs. Brazeau this week. These choirs, as well as the Primary choirs will be travelling to Port Colborne in May to take part in the Port Colborne Festival of the Arts.

#### Music Awards

Gr. 1	Zander D.
Gr. 1	Hannah H.
Gr. 2	Hudson F.
Gr. 2/3	Jazmyn P.
Gr. 3	Parker T.
Gr. 4/5	Ashley J.
Gr. 5	Zachary P.
Gr. 6	Abigail O.

### **Make Change For Children**

This month, our Student Council will be organizing a fund-raising campaign on behalf of the Education Foundation of Niagara (EFN). Many DSBN schools will be running a similar campaign during this week. We will be collecting spare change from classes during the week of the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>. This is a voluntary drive. We are hoping that everyone can help out as the funds the schools collect goes directly to helping families who have children enrolled in DSBN schools. The EFN organizes programs such as clothing for kids in the winter months, prom clothes for grads in May, getting eyeglasses to children who need them and a variety of other ways to help families in the economically difficult time.

### **DSBNAcademy**

The DSBN Academy has started to take registrations for students who will be entering grade 6, 7 or 8 for the start of September 2012 and will be the first in his/her family to graduate from a post secondary program. The Academy is located in Welland on East Main Street and focuses on supporting and empowering students to attend and graduate not just from high school, but also from College or University. The school accepts students from across the region. Applications are available at the A. K. Wigg office, or you can download one on line from the Academy website. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Acaster at the school.

### **Zehr's Receipts**

Ever wonder what we do with all of those Zehr's receipts we ask you to send in to the school each month? Well, a member of our fabulous school council adds them up and submits them to Zehr's every time we reach \$100 000 in total. The Zehr's "SAVE A TAPE" program then gives our school a rebate of \$1 for every \$450 in receipts. Each time we submit receipts, our rebate amounts to approximately \$200!! So please – make every effort to keep those Zehr's receipts coming in.

### **Nevada Tickets**

The Avondale store on the corner of Canboro Road and Haist sells Nevada Tickets. A part of the proceeds from this License go to A.K. Wigg to support our playground maintenance. If you like to play, please consider purchasing tickets from this location.

**Labels for Education**

We would like to remind you that A.K. Wigg's Labels for Education Program is continuing this year. If you use any of the products listed below, please send the labels in to the school. We have a collection container outside the office and the labels can be redeemed for points to use towards purchasing educational products.

Campbell's Soups

Ready to serve Soups

Soup at Hand

Campbell's Easy Cooking Sauces

Pace Salsas

Ramen Hearty Noodles and Gattuso

Habitant Soups

Goldfish Crackers

Chunky

**A.K. WIGG PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**"FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER BALLOT"**

*Draw to take place on Friday, February 17th.  
(Return ballot to the office before this date)*

**Student:**

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**Teacher:**

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**Parent Signature:**

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**District School Board of Niagara**  
*Achieving Success Together*