

A. K. WIGG PUBLIC SCHOOL ANNOUNCER

Staff Growth Goal: By May of 2011, all staff members will increase their understanding and usage of effective questions in Literacy and Numeracy classes.

Literacy SMART Goal: By May of 2011, 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 2011, 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.

January 2012

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

January's Character Trait is Optimism

From Us, To You

Once again we were proud of the giving nature of our community, especially at this time of the year.

We received much appreciation from the staff of volunteers at Pelham Cares. We are very thankful to any and all who were able to help us in our Food Drive. Thank you to Mr. Triano and Mrs. Young, the Student Council and the Grade 7 and 8 students for taking on this valuable initiative to benefit others. Our community donated in excess of five truck loads of food items.

Further to this, the entire school collected gift donations to support our "**Adopt-a-Family**" initiative. We would like to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Szpurko for co-ordinating this wonderful initiative and organizing the gifts. These donations provided a very happy Christmas for nineteen very needy families.

In addition, many coats and other winter clothes were collected to go to children to help make through a chilly winter which is sure to get to us eventually. This valuable operation, called Koats for Kids, was organized through the efforts of Mrs. Wouthuis.

Your response to these programs was overwhelming and much appreciated by families less fortunate. Thanks to all of the A.K. Wigg Community who contributed to these worthy causes.

Christmas Activities

Special thanks to all of our volunteers who assisted with our Christmas activities before the holiday. Our grade 8 students were fantastic helpers at the Santa Brunch and we received positive comments about their participation. Our parent volunteers who cooked and cleaned and helped all those excited children make crafts are truly appreciated.

Thank you to the staff for the presentation of a highly enjoyable Christmas Concert with special recognition to Mrs. Brazeau who coordinated the concert and conducted the primary and junior choirs, as well as the intermediate ensemble.

School Council Update

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

Graduation News

This is the time of the school year when grade 8 students receive information about the transition to high school. The class will be visited by E. L. Crossley Secondary School representatives on Thursday, January 12th, at 9:00 a.m. The intention sheets are now going to be done electronically. Mrs. Young and Mrs. Fucile were in-serviced in this and will help the students through this new process with the E.L. Crossley staff members. Course Calendars will be sent home shortly thereafter.

These completed intention sheets need to be returned to Mr. Acaster shortly after. The date will be given during the class presentation.

In addition, we have already started to plan for the Graduation ceremony. Please contact Mrs. Young or Mr. Acaster for further details. ***The date for the Grade 8 Graduation Ceremonies has been set for Wednesday, June 27th at 6:00 p.m.*** More details will follow as the year progresses.

Graduation photos will be taken on April 13th, in the morning for the Grade 8's and our Kindergarten Graduates throughout the day. Details will be sent home the week before the March Break.

Girls' Basketball Team

The girls basketball team is off and running. All of the team members have been very busy practicing hard for their first game which is in the first week of January. It promises to be a busy month for the girls with games every week. ***Team Members are:***

Chelsea D., Emily T., Sophie P., Miranda S., Angel K., Rachel H., Anika C., Alexis F., Alanna P. and Mikayla T.

Boys' Basketball Team

The A.K. Wigg Boys Basketball Team has already started practicing for the upcoming season. We look forward to a great season from the boys. Our first game is here on January 12th vs. Prince of Wales School.

Team Members are:

Ryan K., Richard P., Daniel S., Curtis W., Jake B., Thomas Y., Michael K., Hendrix H., Andrew P., Raj S.

We would like to take this time to thank all of our parent drivers who assist us in transporting students to and from these games and tournaments.

Check Mate

The A. K. Wigg chess club will be continuing to meet into the months of January, February and March. We always meet for the whole first nutrition break (we bring our snacks) in the library with Mr. Kurland. This includes all students from grade one to eight. Our students are enjoying themselves and learning a great deal.

Kindergarten Open House

If you know a family with a child who will be 4 or 5 in 2012, please pass this information to them. Help them get ready for their big first day of school with the DSBN's Kindergarten Countdown. Parents and children are invited to a **KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE at our school on Thursday, February 2nd from 4:00 to 6:00 pm**. Attending an open house is a great way for children and their families to meet teachers and staff, and register for the coming school year. To find out all the information you need to prepare your child for Kindergarten, go to www.dsbn.org and click on the "Kindergarten Countdown".

Secondary School Open Houses

Our DSBN Secondary Schools will be hosting open houses during the third week of January. We would encourage you to attend the open house. It is a great opportunity to tour the facility, familiarize yourself with the surroundings, meet new friends and be introduced to some of your new teachers. You will also be able to ask questions about courses, programs and extra-curricular activities. Our local open houses are:

E.L. Crossley – January 18th, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Eastdale – January 19th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm

French Immersion in South Pelham!

The school board has announced that starting this fall, DSBN will have a grade 4 start up in **French Immersion**. (We will continue the grade 5 entry for 2012 only.) In addition, there will also be a Grade 1 pilot French Immersion entry available in 5 schools. What is even more exciting is that the location for our French

Immersion classes will be in **Gordon School on Thorold Ave.**

Gordon School will be hosting an open house/parent information night on February 6th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm where you can see the school, ask questions and find out more details. If you are unable to attend Gordon's information night, you can attend one of the other nights that were listed in the letter which went home on December 22nd.

The registration can be done electronically on our Board website (www.dsbn.org), click on the **Parent** tab, under **Programs** click on **French and International Languages**, click on **French Immersion Registration**). This will open on January 9th. Application packages will also be available here, at the school on January 9th as well.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURES

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures.

Information about transportation changes and school closures will be available on the School Board website as well as radio and television stations listed below as soon as it is available. **Please do not phone the school for transportation or school closure information.**

Websites:

www.dsbn.org

www.nsts.ca

Television Stations:

COGECO cable 10

CHCH TV

City TV

Radio Stations:

CKTB 610 AM

CHML 900 AM

K-lite 102.9 FM

EZ Rock 105.7 FM

Y 108 - 107.9 FM

WAVE 94.7 FM

HTZ 97.7 FM

The River 105.1 FM

If early dismissal becomes necessary, we will use the emergency numbers you provided on the confidential form which was sent home in September. If your contact numbers have changed, please call the office with your updated information.

PLEASE NOTE: The school may be open even though student transportation has been cancelled. The decision to send children to school is always at the parent's discretion.

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

Zehr's Receipts

Ever wonder what we do with all of those Zehr's receipts we ask you to send in to the school? Well, a member of the School Council adds them all up and submits them to Zehr's every time we reach \$100 000 in total. The Zehr's "SAVE A TAPE" program then gives the school a rebate of \$1 for every \$450 in receipts. Each time we submit our receipts, we receive a rebate of approximately \$220. Please keep those Zehr's receipts rolling on in!

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"JANUARY NEWSLETTER BALLOT"

Draw to take place on Friday, January 13th.

Student:

Teacher:

Parent Signature:



District School Board of Niagara
Achieving Success Together