



OUR **Maywood Mad Dogs** MOTTO :
*TREAT EACH OTHER HOW YOU
 WOULD WANT TO BE TREATED*



**Principal's Message
 from Mr. G. Osmond**

Welcome back. The Staff at Maywood would like to wish each and every one of you a very Happy New Year. After a restful and enjoyable holiday with family and friends, we are looking forward to a very productive term.

In December we had a very busy month preparing for our wonderful holiday production. For those of you who had the opportunity to take in this great performance, thank you for the positive feedback.

Character Trait

The Character Trait for January is "Optimism".
"We have a positive attitude, the resiliency to bounce back from adversity, and hope for the future. We do our part to make the world a better place."

December's Student of the Month winners for "Caring"

- Ms. Palcso-am – Lauryn B. and Hailey H.
- Ms. Rickerby – Abby P. and Joshua P.
- Mrs. Rossi – Bryce B. and Mujeeb O.
- Ms. Doan – Hannah B. and Mariah L.
- Ms. Warkentin – Tianna W. and Hailey K.
- Mrs. Miles/Mr. Schram – Macy F. and Tyrese K.
- Mrs. Etherington – Jayson C. and Davin V.
- Mr. Taylor – Daisy N. and Olivia M.



We are Counting Down to Kindergarten!

Children who will be four years of age or older by December 31 are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten starting September 2012.



Going to school for the first time is a major step for children and their parents. At the DSBN, families start that journey together at the 'Kindergarten Countdown' open houses. Families can visit our school, meet the kindergarten teacher, and receive a gift bag filled with fun learning resources and information that will help children develop school readiness skills.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, February 2, 2012 from 4-6 p.m. for our Kindergarten Countdown open house. Visit www.dsbn.org and click on "Kindergarten Registration" for all the details!



P.A. Day

Friday, January 20, 2012 will be a Professional Activity Day for teachers. There will be no school on this day.

MCA (Maywood Community Association)

Next meeting will be held on February 2, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. All parents are Welcome. They will be discussing the upcoming Trivia Night Fundraiser and would appreciate volunteers to help and participate in this event. Any questions please contact the Chair – Alyson Campeau at 905-687-6960.

Mr. Schram – Grade 3/4

In Math, the 3/4's will continue to be working with measurement concepts as well as basic multiplication facts. Students have been informed and I would strongly encourage parents to follow up with nightly homework assignments and drills (basic facts drills, card games, roll dice and multiply, etc.). Ten to fifteen minutes a night is all it would take, and make it a fun activity for the students to help them increase their speed and accuracy with our basic multiplication facts up to ten times ten.

From The Sports Desk

The junior volleyball season wrapped up for the Mad Dogs in fine style! The Boys advanced to the DSBN tournament where they lost in the Championship Final to Pine Grove. Coaches Taylor and Doan are thrilled with the performance of our boys. 8 of the boys return to the team next year!



The Girls also played in the DSBN tournament and for the first time in Maywood's history they won the DSBN Tier Two Championship. The girls went undefeated in the tournament defeating Pine Grove in the semifinals and Meadowvale in the



Championship. Coaches Taylor and Warkentin are very proud of the girls. 6 of this year's team returns next year.

We now turn our focus to basketball. Tryouts for the two teams will begin early in the New Year. Basketball clinic resumes on Saturday, January 14th. Mr. Taylor and Ms. Doan will be there between 10 a.m. and noon for our Maywood kids to improve their basketball skills. Our novices start at 10 and the more experienced start at 11. If your child, gr. 3 and up, wishes to attend please see one of these coaches for a permission form. There is no charge for this clinic.



Library/Computers

In a world of information overload, information literacy has become a survival skill. When assisting students with projects and research, remember that more is not always better. Collecting information in an organized, efficient and ethical way, finding selective content pertinent to the focus of the assignment is as much a skill as the assignment itself. Providing guidance and teaching students about sifting through a multitude of information to find what best suits the focus of the project saves time and effort, and makes for a much improved finished product. Be sure to check out our Maywood School Web Page for any news and calendar updates . You can find us at: <http://www.dsb.edu.on.ca/Schools/Maywood/>.

Clothing And Footwear: Indoor Shoes, Proper Attire, And Staying Warm

As the weather gets colder, we want everyone to be warm, healthy, safe and studious. When parents send a student with mittens, hat and gloves, we expect them to wear them.



As the Autumn weather usually brings rain and sometimes snow, it is important for students to wear proper shoes/boots to keep warm and dry. It is our expectation that all students have indoor shoes.



Where can I go to find out about school closures?

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 websites, social media, 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/Social Media:

www.dsbniagara.org

http://twitter.com/D_S_B_N

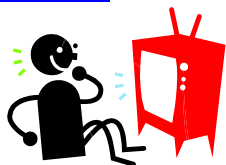
<http://www.facebook.com/DSBniagara>

Television:

Cogeco Cable 10
CHCH Television
City TV

Radio:

CKTB 610 am
CHML 900 am
EZ Rock 105.7 fm
Htz 97.7 fm
KLite 102.9 fm
The River 105.1 fm
Wave 94.7 fm
Y-108 – 107.9 fm
Z 101.1 fm



At times when student transportation has been cancelled and schools remain open, the decision of whether or not to have children go to school that day rests with the parent or guardian.

Should you decide not to send your child to school when transportation has been cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call the school to inform them of your child's absence.

Snowballs

Here at Maywood we have a "NO THROW SNOW" policy. This means that any student who is caught throwing snowballs will be given fair warning and should he/she be caught again they will be suspended from school. Snowballs can be very dangerous should a child be hit in the face. Safety on the playground is our uppermost priority.



Cold Weather Alerts at DSBN

Winter is a time of wonder for many children; many enjoy the crisp air, the freshly fallen snow and participating in a whole host of exciting winter sports and activities.

Although we feel it is important for students to spend some time outside each day exercising and socializing with their peers, there are times when bitterly cold temperatures and other inclement weather conditions require that we keep children inside.

Because Niagara is such a large geographical area, and weather conditions may vary from one municipality to the next, the decision whether or not to hold recess outdoors is made by the individual school principal. When making this decision, principals will often consult with neighbouring schools, talk with parents as they arrive in the morning, and if the decision to send children outside is made, will equip yard duty staff with walkie-talkies so that they can communicate with the office to sound the bells to bring students in earlier.

The health and well-being of our students is a top priority at the District School Board of Niagara, and if it is determined that the weather conditions pose a risk to their safety, students will be kept indoors. Extreme cold weather alerts issued by the Niagara Region are often good indicators that students will stay inside.

Even when temperatures are not low enough to necessitate an indoor recess, it still may be quite cold outside. Here are a few tips to help ensure that your child stays warm during the cold winter months.

- Try to send children to school with plenty of layers, such as long underwear, sweatshirts, sweaters and pullovers. Layering their clothing will allow them to add or remove items depending on the weather.
- Students should have a warm winter coat that repels the snow, sleet and rain, while blocking the wind.
- Warm socks and boots will keep their feet warm and dry in the snow and slush.
- Hats are one of the most important parts of dressing warmly in the winter. A thick winter hat will keep students from losing too much of that essential body heat.
- Put on a good pair of gloves or mittens that are water-resistant as well. Gloves will keep kids' hands toasty warm and protect their skin from becoming damaged by the wind and chill.

If you have any questions about our inclement weather procedures, please visit our website dsbn.org, or contact the principal.

Vaccines and elementary school children

Niagara Region Public Health is conducting an annual review of vaccination records for all elementary school children in the Niagara region. **If the vaccination information we have on file for your child is NOT complete, you will receive a letter and questionnaire from us in the mail later this month (January, 2012).**

- Please follow the instructions for reporting your child’s vaccinations to us, as outlined in the letter. Various options for reporting are available.
- If your child is overdue for one or more vaccinations, you will need to make an appointment with your child’s doctor to get your child vaccinated. You can also make an appointment for your child at one of Public Health’s General Immunization Clinics by calling 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.
- If you are a parent/guardian not wishing to vaccinate your child, you will need to provide Niagara Region Public Health with an original legal exemption document.

Students under 18 years of age attending Ontario schools must have proof of immunization against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella (German measles). We are required to have this information by law (*Immunization of School Pupils Act, 1990*). **Please provide us with your child’s missing vaccination information by March 8, 2012 or your child may be suspended from school.**

For more information, please call the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.

“Hey Parents! Do you know what your kids are watching?”

Young people look to celebrities for reassurance about their fashion and behaviour.

The evidence is clear....

The more youth see smoking in movies, the more likely they are to start smoking.

Ways to Protect our Kids

1. **Be aware** of what your children are viewing and learn which movies have smoking in them. Updates available every Thursday at facebook.com/hookedbyhollywood.
2. **Talk to your children** about tobacco and movies and teach them to be media aware.
3. **Show your support** to get tobacco out of youth-rated films in Ontario at smokefreemovies.ca.
4. **Spread the word** to other parents and join the discussion on facebook and twitter.

www.smokefreemovies.ca

facebook.com/hookedbyhollywood

HOPE (Helping Others Parent Effectively)

The next HOPE group meeting will be held on January 18, 2012 from 7:00pm - 8:30pm at the St. Catharines Regional Child Care Centre- 179 Carlton Street, St. Catharines. The HOPE group is a support group for parents of children with ADHD.

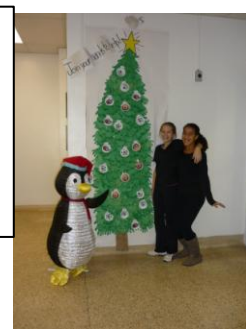
All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

The topic will be: Healthy Eating Tips for the Whole Family - Sandy Maxwell, Registered Dietitian, Suggestions for weight, sleep and physical activity concerns.

The following are a few pictures of our “How the Penguins Saved Christmas” performance and the Character Education Assembly



Due to an oversight Sloane’s name was not mentioned in the program, our apologies.





District School Board of Niagara Expanding French Immersion for 2012

The District School Board of Niagara is pleased to now offer French Immersion beginning at the Grade 4 level across the system. In addition, as of September 2012, we will be implementing a Grade One French Immersion Pilot at 5 locations. As well as the new grade 4 entry, Grade 5 entry will continue across the Board for the 2012-2013 school year (Grade 7 entry will continue in St. Catharines and Niagara-on-the-Lake).

Information re: entry levels and the application process is on the DSBN website www.dsb.org. Click on the Parent Tab, under Programs, click on French and International Languages, click on French Immersion Registration. Applications for Grades 1, 4, 5 and 7 (at select schools) will be online. Application packages will also be available at your child’s school starting January 9, 2012. Further program information will be sent home with your child in January.

“The ability to communicate in French is a valuable skill, because French is **one** of Canada’s two official languages and because it is a language used widely around the world. Research confirms that knowledge of a second language strengthens first-language skills and that the ability to speak two or more languages generally enhances reasoning and problem solving skills, as well as creative-thinking skills. Learning a second language not only strengthens students’ ability to communicate, but also develops their capacity to understand and respect other cultures. In this way, second-language learning prepares students to participate more effectively in the workplace and in the global economy, and provides them with a distinct advantage in a number of careers, both in Canada and internationally.” (pg 3 of the E.F./F.I. Curriculum Document (C.D.) 2001)

Parent Information Evenings will take place during the weeks of January 30 – February 10th. If you wish to find out more details about the French Immersion program, please attend one of the Information Evenings listed below or call your school.

Central	January 30, 2012 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Alexandra	January 30, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Parliament Oak	January 31, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Dalewood	January 31, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
McKay	January 31, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Prince Philip (Niagara Falls)	February 1, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Sheridan Park	February 1, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Gordon	February 6, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Princess Elizabeth	February 6, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Oakridge	February 6, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Briardale	February 7, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Queen Mary	February 7, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
John Marshall	February 8, 2012 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Bienvenue!