

# Memorial Messenger

**Memorial School January Newsletter**  
[www.dsbny.edu.on.ca/schools/memorial](http://www.dsbny.edu.on.ca/schools/memorial)

## **Memorial School Believes...**

“That at Memorial School we will strive to create a community that values academic excellence, personal responsibility and respect of self, others and property.”

### ***Anaphylaxis - Nut Allergies***

Just a reminder to all parents and students, Memorial School continues to be as nut/peanut safe as possible. Please remember when packing lunches and snacks to eliminate those products that contain nuts/peanuts. Also please check labels as many products contain nut/peanut oils or may not be “nut/peanut safe”. Your co-operation will help keep our students as safe as possible.

### ***Book Fair***

We will be having a Scholastic Book Fair at Memorial from January 24 to January 27, 2012 in celebration of Family Literacy Day. The book fair will be set up in the library and students will have the opportunity to attend the fair during afternoon nutrition breaks. There will be an incredible selection of books to choose from!



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### ***Kindergarten Countdown***

**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.dsbny.org](http://www.dsbny.org) and click on “Kindergarten Registration” for all the details!

**KINDERGARTEN  
COUNTDOWN**

[www.dsbny.org](http://www.dsbny.org)

## ***Inclement Weather***

### **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.

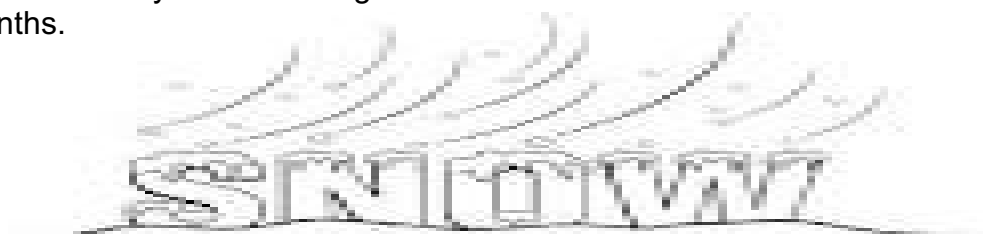
- Students should have a warm winter coat that repels the snow, sleet and rain, while blocking the wind.

- 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](http://dsbn.org), or contact the principal.



### ***"Throw No Snow"***

Snowballs can be dangerous and so we have a "throw no snow" policy. Please remind your children of the dangers of throwing snowballs or playing in ditches and on Snow banks as they walk to and from school.

We are continuing with our snow "target" drawn on a school wall on the school property. Snowballs can be thrown at the "target" wall when students stand behind the pylons. The snow target is off limits before and after school so parents and students arriving and leaving school do not get hit. During the first fitness break, students in kindergarten to grade 2 have access to the wall and second nutrition break students in grades 3-6.



### ***Parking Lot Reminders***

Pull into one of the parking spots  
Do not stop your vehicle in the middle of the lot to drop off or pick up students.  
Exercise caution in the parking lot.  
Never leave your car running.  
Thank you to all families and friends for following the parking lot safety rules.



***January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 is a P.A. Day  
NO School for all students!***

### ***Term 1 Report Cards***

Term 1 report Cards go home on Thursday, February 9. If you have any questions about your child's progress, please contact your child's teacher.

### ***Vaccines and 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.

**Niagara Region**  
PUBLIC HEALTH



## *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.dsbni.org](http://www.dsbni.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 10<sup>th</sup>. 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.

Alexandra	January 30, 2012 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Parliament Oak	January 31, 2012 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Dalewood	January 31, 2012 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Sheridan park	February 1, 2012 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Oakridge	February 6, 2012 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Briardale	February 7, 2012 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Queen Mary	February 7, 2012 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

## January Character Trait - Optimism

Optimism is being filled with exuberance. Optimism is being cheerful and happy. It is doing something wholeheartedly, with zeal and eagerness...giving 100% to what you do, holding nothing back. Being optimistic is being excited about something, looking forward to it. It comes from having a positive attitude. When you are optimistic you enjoy yourself. With optimism, even the dullest job can be fun.

*I am practicing optimism when I...*

Let myself enjoy looking forward to something

Think of imaginative ways to get things done

Do things wholeheartedly

Smile, laugh and enjoy what I do

Enjoy the wonders of life

*I am full of optimism. I look on the bright side. I give 100% to whatever I do. I use my imagination. I smile, laugh and enjoy all that I do.*



## December Stars

### ELP1

Myah Harper  
Jason Shirley  
Vitorio Forte

### ELP2

Sydney Wakil  
Lili Kirk-McDougall  
Rachael Liu

### Grade 1

Maya Ley  
Willem Sendzik

### Grade 1/2

Heather MacDonald  
Marissa Brown

### Grade 2

Kieran Stamper  
Ben Cary  
Logan Chiasson

### Grade 3

Sydney Fox  
Kurtis Western

### Grade 4/5

Warren Buck  
Maddy Dover  
Caleb McKinnon

### Grade 4

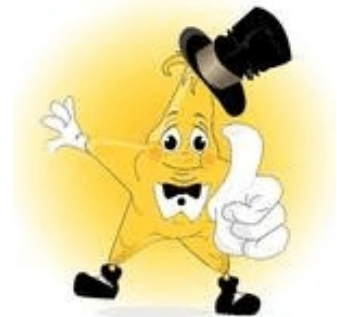
Stephanie Frazer  
Lexus Bell

### Grade 5/6

Micailah Jones  
Kianna Yantha

### Grade 6

Skye Western  
Aubrey Townson



### **Thank you Memorial!**

We would like to thank all of our families for their generous donations to Community Care. Your support is greatly appreciated! Well done Memorial!

### **Christmas Concert...Wow!**

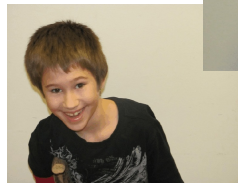
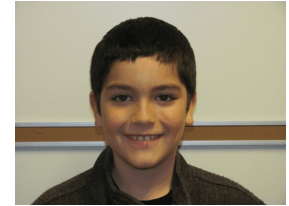
What a fantastic Christmas Concert! The cast did a marvelous job and were superb during both our afternoon and evening performances. We thank all of our students for their hard work and dedication during the past several weeks. Also, a great big thanks to the staff who put this wonderful show together. A super big thank you to Ms. Vanderbent who put in countless hours to make sure that our Christmas Concert was a huge success! And finally, thanks to all of our parents for supporting your kids during this wonderful time of year.

### **Volunteers...All Star Reading Program**

VOLUNTEERS are needed for the All Star Reading program. This would involve an hour and a half weekly for twelve weeks (Jan. 23 - Apr. 20), working one-on-one with Grade 2 and 3 students to improve reading skills. Please contact Mrs. Tytaneck.



### **What a wonderful Cast!**



**"A Christmas Carol"**

