

# QUEEN MARY SCHOOL



## Home of the **ROYALS** JANUARY 2012 Newsletter



Principal: R. Lockyer · · Superintendent: S. Mark

### Queen Mary Comes Through, Again!

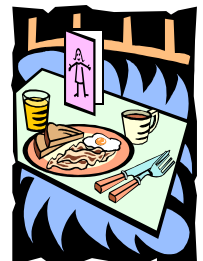
Congratulations to the staff, students, parents and Queen Mary community, for your generosity in assisting the needy during this Holiday Season. Our 'Aid to Africa' Drive was a huge success with Queen Mary collecting piles and piles of clothing, books, school supplies, toys, games, hygiene items and so much more! As well, Mme. Lagrotteria's 7F1 class collected donations of Canadian Tire money and cash and also held a beanie baby drive to raise money which they used to purchase toys for the less fortunate in our community, through Community Care of St. Catharines. Over \$900 was raised in total. Special mention to Irelyne L. who brought in over \$200.00. Thank you!



The New Year brings new goals, new adventures and new experiences for all of our students at Queen Mary. We are preparing to begin our basketball season and we are looking forward to our end of year trips to Quebec City (May 22-25) and Toronto (May 24-25). As well, grade 8 students will have the opportunity to visit their future high school during High School Open House week, January 16—19. We hope that all our students and families enjoyed the winter break and we look forward to an exciting new term.

## QUEEN MARY BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Queen's Cafe (Queen Mary breakfast program) continues to welcome all students to enjoy a nutritious and tasty breakfast daily between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. We are very grateful to the work of our student volunteers who are cooking, cleaning, organizing and even promoting Queen Mary's breakfast program. We also appreciate the donations we receive from our Queen Mary families. If you are interested in volunteering your time and energy, please contact Mrs. Willis or Ms. Bonisteel at the school. We wish to invite all our students to enjoy a delicious meal in our Learning Commons every morning to get their days off to a great start!



### P.A. Day

Friday, January 20, is a Professional Development Day and there will be no classes on that date for students.



**QUEEN MARY SCHOOL'S  
"HONOURED" STUDENTS**



**Character Trait Award—PERSEVERANCE**

Grade 7-1	Mrs. Rose	Teyawna G.. & Jeff G.
Grade 7-2	Mr. Groat	Cassandra N. & Heidi H. & Najim J.
Grade 8-1	Ms. Crichton	Bayan P. & Makayla L.
Grade 8-2	Ms. Broczkowski	Katherine C. & Soumitra B.
Grade 8-3	Ms. Tennier	Kaleigh C. & Nick T.
Grade 7F-1	Mme. Lagrotteria	Gavin J. & Victoria B.
Grade 7F-2	Mme. Valcourt	Caelan S. & Chris S.
Grade 8F-1	Mme Bonisteel	Kestra H. & Enya M.
Grade 8F-2	Mme. Willis	Hayley A. & Ross H.



***Certificates were handed out at the Awards Assembly on December 22nd***

**GRADE 8 HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**



**Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School  
Invites YOU to our**

**GRADE 8 OPEN HOUSE**

**Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**6:30p.m.** start (In the Auditorium)

Visit our website: [www.sirwinston.ca](http://www.sirwinston.ca)

**We look forward to seeing you at SWC!**

101 Glen Morris Drive, St. Catharines (905) 684-6349



## 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.

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!**

## PIZZA DAYS



Good News! You don't have to worry about packing a lunch on **Thursdays** for your child! Every "Pizza Day" Thursday, pizza will be sold, for \$1.25/slice (large triangle slice), at the beginning of the lunch break. Both Pepperoni and Cheese only are sold. All proceeds go to Student Council for planning fun events for the students.

## REPORT CARDS

Report Cards will be sent home on Thursday, February 9th, 2012. The Progress Report in November provided information about how your child was learning in the classroom and gave an indication of progress towards achieving the curriculum expectations for all subjects.

Learning Skills and Work Habits are an important focus of the report card. Communications between teachers and parents/guardians is an important support for student success. We encourage all parents/guardians to discuss the report card with their child. All parents/guardians are invited to contact the school if you would like to schedule an opportunity to discuss your child's achievement and next steps for learning with his/her teacher.



## BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL

The basketball season is just around the corner and Mme. Bonisteel and Mr. Groat are excited to be coaching such an enthusiastic and talented group of girls and boys. The team members have been working hard to prepare for the upcoming season. The boys team will participate in the A.N. Myer tournament in January. As well, both teams will face teams from other DSBN schools during the regular season hoping to reach the playoffs on the way to the championship. Best of luck to all the players!



## ATTENDANCE REMINDER



Please remember to call the school office to report any student absence or lateness at **(905) 682-6637**. If we don't hear from you our secretary will attempt to contact you to confirm your child's absence. The school answering machine takes messages 24 hours a day. Please call and leave a message stating your child's first and last name, the grade or teacher, and the reason for the absence. After 8:55 a.m. or 1:05 p.m. students will be marked late if they are not in their homeroom class at that time.

## HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES 2012

School	Day	Date	Time
A.N. Myer	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Beamsville	Tuesday	January 17	7:00pm – 9:00pm
E.L. Crossley	Wednesday	January 18	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Eastdale	Thursday	January 19	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Eden	Monday	January 16	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Fort Erie	Thursday	January 19	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Governor Simcoe	Wednesday	January 18	6:30pm – 8:00pm
Grimsby	Tuesday	January 17	7:00pm
Kernahan Park	Monday	January 16	6:30pm – 8:00pm
Laura Secord	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm – 9:00pm
Port Colborne	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm
Ridgeway Crystal Beach	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Sir Winston Churchill	Monday	January 16	6:30pm
South Lincoln	Wednesday	January 18	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Stamford Collegiate	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
St. Catharines Collegiate	Wednesday	January 18	1:00pm – 3:00pm 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Thorold	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Welland Centennial	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
West Park	Tuesday	January 17	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Westlane Secondary	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm

### QUEBEC CITY 2012

The Queen Mary French Immersion department will visit Quebec City May 22-25, 2012. The tour has been prepared by Brightspark, a full service, TICO registered tour operator. Details have been finalized with accommodations at the Delta Quebec, travel by modern motor coaches with 2 bilingual local guides and private dedicated night supervision. This trip will be a valuable experience for all our students and will provide an avenue for them to practice and further develop their French skills. Some of the activities planned include a driving tour of the Beupre Coast; Canada Odyssey—National Battlefield; Tour of the Citadelle/royal 22e Regiment Museum; guided walking tour of Old Quebec; Dance Cruise, Canyon Sainte-Anne; Soldier of the Martello Tower, Chez Marie and Sainte-Anne-de-Beupre Basilica. Deposits were due Dec. 7 and interim payments are due Feb. 3 and March 9, 2012. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher .



## 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.

## NIAGARA REGION PUBLIC HEALTH

The HOPE (Helping Others Parent Effectively) group's next meeting is January 18, 2012 at the St. Catharines Regional Child Care Centre located at 179 Carlton Street, St. Catharines. The topic will be: Healthy Eating Tips for the Whole Family - which will be led by Sandy Maxwell, Registered Dietitian. There will also be suggestions for weight, sleep and physical activity concerns. This is open to all members of the public. If you have any questions or concerns please call Public Health at Phone: 905-688-8248 ext. 7298 or 1-888-505-6074.

**“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**

**Be aware** of what your children are viewing and learn which movies have smoking in them.

Updates available every Thursday at [facebook.com/ hookedbyhollywood](http://facebook.com/ hookedbyhollywood).

**Talk to your children** about tobacco and movies and teach them to be media aware.

**Show your support** to get tobacco out of youth-rated films in Ontario at [smokefreemovies.ca](http://smokefreemovies.ca).

**Spread the word** to other parents and join the discussion on facebook and twitter.

[www.smokefreemovies.ca](http://www.smokefreemovies.ca)

[facebook.com/hookedbyhollywood](http://facebook.com/hookedbyhollywood)



**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.

# Breakfast Program Donation

I would like to support Queen Mary School

Breakfast Club

Please find my enclosed contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  cheque (preferred)  cash

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**\$15.00 or more are eligible for a charitable donation receipt for income tax purposes.  
CHEQUES MUST BE MADE TO NIAGARA NUTRITION PARTNERS IN ORDER TO  
RECEIVE AN INCOME TAX RECEIPT.**

Would you like a receipt for your donation? \_\_ yes \_\_ no

Would you like to be contacted about volunteering with the Breakfast Club? \_\_ yes \_\_ no

*Thank you!*

