



## December 2011 at Gainsborough Central Public School

### **Mission Statement:**

*"Gainsborough Central Public School strives for each child to live, learn, and laugh in a safe, unique, and challenging environment. Each child is encouraged to achieve personal standards of excellence in the school community."*

Christmas has come early at Gainsborough. Thanks to an extremely generous donation, we are in a position to purchase LCD projectors and SMART boards or white boards for EVERY classroom, as well as iPads for our Special Needs class! Our very sincere thank you to Mr. Dan Dobrucki who is making this donation in memory of his brother Gary, who passed away 25 years ago. Why Gainsborough? This school is where the majority of his great-nieces and nephews will receive their education in the coming years, however, it is Mr. Dobrucki's hope that this money will benefit all students who attend Gainsborough School, and will help keep them engaged and excited about learning.

### **THANK YOU!**

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank You!

### **Christmas Concert Date Change: December 15**



The date of our Christmas concert has been changed to accommodate our junior kindergarten class for both our dress rehearsal (December 13) and regular concert (December 15). Our theme this year is **Country Christmas**. The primary and junior classes will be performing while some of our intermediate students will be contributing their talents backstage. Since the concert will be held at Gainsborough this year, we have scheduled an afternoon performance at 1:30 p.m. and an evening performance at 6:30 p.m. on the 15<sup>th</sup>. We will not be issuing tickets and ask your consideration of families who may only be able to attend the evening show by limiting the number of guests you bring that evening or by attending the afternoon show if you are available to do so. Fire code regulations limit our audience size to 210 people.



### **Book Fair News**



The 2011 Fall Book Fair was a great success thanks to the many students and parents who purchased books and other materials. Total sales were \$2 200. This means that the teachers and Teacher-Librarian were able to select \$1200 worth of books for the benefit of your children! Congratulations to Dimitra who won the Family Event Draw. Many, many thanks to Mrs. Kerec and Mrs. Simpson who helped during the day. Thank you for your patronage as it really helps to keep our library books up-to-date.

### **Student Parliament**

Our very active student parliament has planned a number of spirit day activities for the last week of school before the holidays begin which we have listed on the attached calendar. In addition, they have arranged for a Kraft Dinner Domino extravaganza on Friday, Dec. 23. Students are asked to donate a box of Kraft Dinner that week so that Student Parliament can set them up along each hallway for the giant falling dominoes chain reaction. Once the event is over the boxes will be donated to the West Lincoln Food Bank.



## STUDENTS TAKING ACTION TODAY

On Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Mrs. Hellwig accompanied 6 Junior students to the first annual Junior STAT Conference (Students Taking Action Today) at Centennial Secondary School Auditorium in Welland. The conference is part of the DSBN Character Education Plan and is designed to be a Character Building Forum.

The guest speaker was Spencer West. He spoke candidly about the struggles he overcame after losing his legs at the age of five. His focus is on overcoming stereotyping and bullying, and about finding meaning and happiness in a material world and how he never lost the hope or courage needed to face his personal obstacles. His motto is "Redefine the Possible". He is currently working for the ME to WE charitable organization and is planning to climb Mount Kilimanjaro to raise money for drought relief in Africa.

The students were also privileged to meet a young student, Wesley, from Niagara Falls who found his passion for the remote Aboriginal community of Atawapiskat, Ontario. When visiting the community with his father he was overwhelmed with the absence of a proper school and a playground for children to enjoy. He decided he needed to do something and so he camped out in the cold during his March Break to raise money to build a playground. He raised almost \$10 000. Combined with other fund-raising events he was eventually able to build a beautiful playground for the children in hopes that amidst their poverty they could find hope. He now runs a charity called Northern Starfish, whose mission is to provide playgrounds for remote aboriginal communities across Ontario.

The students were clearly inspired! Here are some of their reactions: " I felt inspired to help communities in Ontario that don't have the same privileges that we have.", " I was inspired by how Wesley found a way to get the Aboriginal people a playground through the Pepsi Refresh program and how he stuck with it and didn't lose his hope." " I was inspired by how Spencer kept his hope up! If it was me I don't think I would be able to keep my hope up."

In the end, the students took away the message that they can "Do Something" to change the world!! They are all committed to joining our WE to ME club! Look for some exciting developments in the New Year!

## ☆☆☆Superkids☆☆☆

The following courageous kids were recognized at our student of the month assembly on December 1<sup>st</sup>: Nathan B., Sarah G. (JK), Joshua P., Johnny K, Kaeli K., Zaelynn S. (JK/SK), Evinn S., Lucas C. (1/2), Avery T., William H. (2), Shon M., Tyler S.D. (2/3), Coral M. (3/4), Samatha S. (5/6), Olivia L., Victoria P. (6/7), Jess B., Vanessa S. (8)



## Gainsborough Remembers

Many of our students participated in the recent Remembrance Day poster and poetry contest at the Smithville Legion. We are pleased to report that the following students were awarded prizes for their work.

Posters (Colour): Primary - Chloe L. (1<sup>st</sup>), Caleigh M. (2<sup>nd</sup>), Ethan K.(3<sup>rd</sup>); Junior - Faith D. & Josh K. (Tied for 3<sup>rd</sup>); Intermediate - Hailey H. (1<sup>st</sup>), Maislinn M. (2<sup>nd</sup>), Kate L. (3<sup>rd</sup>).

Posters (Black & White): Primary - Megan G. (1<sup>st</sup>), Leah M. (2<sup>nd</sup>), Hannah H. (3<sup>rd</sup>); Junior - Leah H. (1<sup>st</sup>), Sarah N. (2<sup>nd</sup>); Intermediate - Ceara K. (2<sup>nd</sup>), Noah D. (3<sup>rd</sup>).

Poetry: Cassandra D. (1<sup>st</sup>), Jessica R. (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Prose: Bailey M. (1<sup>st</sup>).

As always, the veterans were moved by the number of students who participated and the quality of the submissions.



## School Council News

☞ **Santa Parade:** A huge thank you to Cathy Vitucci, Paul and Cindy Desruisseaux, Katherine Carter, Cam and Erica McLaren, Tracy and Tyler Berkeley for their hard work in preparing our float for the Smithville Santa Parade on November 26 and to all of the students and parents who joined us in the parade. It was a great day for all those involved!



☞ **Secret Angel:** In lieu of purchasing gifts for staff members you may wish to donate money for our secret angel project. Please send a note and donation in the agenda and we will send home the colouring sheet. Completed angels will be shared with staff and then hung in the foyer. All monies raised will be used to support Gainsborough families who may need assistance at this time of year.



☞ **Basket Draw:** Each classroom has chosen a theme for a Christmas basket. Students are asked to contribute either a toonie or an item for their class basket by Thursday, December 8. The completed baskets will be put on display in the school foyer and raffle tickets will be available at breaks from Tuesday, December 13 until the evening of our Christmas concert on Thursday, December 15 at a cost of \$2/10 tickets. The list of basket themes is as follows: JK -Christmas Joy, JK/SK - Christmas baking; Gr. 1 /2 - Pampering package; Gr. 2 - Christmas ornaments; Gr. 2/3 - Game night; Gr. 3/4 - Winter warm up; Gr. 5/6 - Sweet tooth; Gr. 6/7 - Movie night; Gr. 8 - Super Heroes.



☞ **Fundscrip:** Last chance to order your gift cards before Christmas! Orders are due December 12 with an expected delivery date of December 21. Order forms were sent home yesterday and are also available on the school website.

☞ **Looking Ahead to a Spring fundraiser:** In response to your input earlier this year, council has been looking at additional fundraising options and will be offering an opportunity for you to purchase items from Top Fundraiser this spring. This company offers items similar to those sold by MacMillans. More information will follow at a later date.

## School Supplies

Students often need to replenish school supplies such as pencils, erasers, glue sticks, post-it notes and pencil crayons in the new year. These items would make great stocking stuffers!

## Staffing Update

On Wednesday, November 30 we held a small retirement celebration for our part time custodian, Marilyn Shirton. Marilyn has worked for the board for 25 years, the last 12 here at Gainsborough School. We are sorry to see her leave and will miss her cheerful presence at the end of each day. Special thanks to our school council for planting a tree at the front of the school in her honour. We welcome Mrs. Betty Wilson to our Wildcat team as our new afternoon custodian.



## SPORTS CORNER

Congratulations to both the boys and girls junior volleyball teams for their outstanding effort and dedication during the regular season. Both teams are moving on to the playoffs for the first time in years and we are all very excited. Gainsborough boys are hosting Caistor on Monday night and the girls are travelling to Nelles. Best of luck to both teams and let's keep the Wildcat spirit alive!

A Wildcat roar to our Junior Girls' Volleyball Team who had a successful regular season finishing 4<sup>th</sup> overall in their division. We are now in the finals to be played during the first full week of December.

Congratulations go to these hard-working team players, in every sense of the word, regularly attending practice before school and committing to doing their very best at each game: Deanna H., Dimitra S., Grace N., Harmony C., Kayla K., Leah H., Lindsey T., Lindsay H., Madie D., Mikaela M., Kira M., Sarah N., Stephanie H. Keep up the fine effort and teamwork into the finals!

## Report Cards & Interviews

Thanks to all of the parents who met with staff, or participated in telephone conferences, after the progress reports were issued. Please note that you are encouraged to contact us at any time if you have questions or concerns about your child's progress.

## LOOKING AHEAD

■ **High School Open House** at South Lincoln High School on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

■ **Kindergarten Registration /Open House** on Thursday, February 2, 2012 4:00pm to 6:00 pm. We invite all students eligible to attend Junior Kindergarten next year to join us between 4 and 6 p.m. to learn about our kindergarten program and to complete the registration process. Eligible students must be four years of age by December 31, 2012 and we require the following documentation: birth certificate, proof of immunization and health card. Student who are age appropriate for Senior Kindergarten and are not currently enrolled in school are also welcome to join us that night.

■ **Mobile Dental Clinic.** Gainsborough will be hosting the Niagara Regional Mobile Dental Clinic on January 24, 25 and 26. Referral letters will be sent home by the Dental Screening team to all families who may wish to take advantage of this free service.



Did you know that Canadian children/youth ages six to 19 spend an average of 8.6 hours per day, or 62 per cent of their waking hours, being sedentary?

Here are some ways to help your children meet the recommended 60 minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity each day:

- Limit recreational screen time to no more than two hours per day
- Encourage children and youth to play outdoors
- Play outside with your children: Go for walks, hikes, build snowmen, go tobogganing
- Introduce your child to skates or skis so they can learn to slide
- Play catching games using a wide range of soft objects

For more information go to [www.activehealthykids.ca](http://www.activehealthykids.ca) or [www.participaction.com](http://www.participaction.com)



# December 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 4	5 Junior Volleyball 	6 7-4	7 Junior Volleyball 	8 Pizza Day 	9 7-7 Pizza Day	10 
11	12 7-8	13 Concert Dress Rehearsal @ 1:30 7-9	14 7-10	15 Pizza Day Christmas Concert 1:30 and 6:30 	16 8-2	17
18 Spirit Week	19 Art Gallery JK and JK/SK Spirit Wear Day 8-3	20 Art Gallery Gr. 1-3 Favourite Character/ Celebrity Day 8-4	21 Crazy Hair/Hat Day 8-5	22 Pizza Day Rainbow Day 	23 Carol Singing Pyjama Day Kraft Dinner Domino Day 8-7	24 
25 Christmas Day 	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31 HAPPY NEW YEAR 
<b>Happy Holidays - School Resumes on Monday, January 9th</b>						

# Woodend

Issue #2 - Winter 2011

The Living Campus

# Update

Outdoor Education; healthy children, engaged learners, critical thinkers, tomorrow's leaders

Bringing Learning to Life!

## The New Woodend Website!

The Living Campus has a new website. To find out what's happening at Woodend The Living Campus and to Donate visit us at: [www.DSBN.org/Woodend](http://www.DSBN.org/Woodend)



## DSBN-ETFO Trivia Night!

ETFO Niagara is hosting a Trivia Night on February 10th with all proceeds going to The Living Campus. So, grab a team of 10, start honing your Trivia skills and join us for a night of fun and fundraising for The Living Campus! For more information visit [DSBN.org/Woodend](http://DSBN.org/Woodend) and click on the "Events" button.

DSBN/ETFO Present the 8th Annual

# Pop Culture Trivia Night

Friday, February 10, 2012

6pm

\$200 per table (open to pre-booking)  
Prize Competition Begins at 7pm

## A Week for Woodend... Come On Out and RIDE, HIKE or RUN!

### A WEEK FOR WOODEND

April 30 - May 6, 2012

Ride

Hike

Run

# WOODEND

Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012

- 30 km Big Ride •
- 5 km Small Ride, Hike or Run •
- 1.5 hr Family Hike •

Help us celebrate The Living Campus by participating in the *Week for Woodend* from April 30 - May 6, 2012. During this exciting week schools will be involved in fundraising activities to help raise awareness and funds for The Living Campus. The week will end with the 2nd Annual DSBN Ride-Hike-Run for Woodend on May 6th. Online Registration Opens on January 12 at [DSBN.org/Woodend](http://DSBN.org/Woodend). More details to come. We hope to see everyone there!



## Thank You TV Cogeco For Generously Supporting The Living Campus!

TV Cogeco was at the Living Campus last week to present DSBN Director Warren Hoshizaki, Chair of the Board Kevin Maves and Vice-Chair Dale Robinson with a cheque to help support the creation of The Living Campus. Thanks to support from our community partners The Living Campus will *Bring Learning to Life* for our students and community.

## Welcome John McCall MacBain

A Huge Thank-you and welcome to the McCall MacBain Foundation, the newest members of The Living Campus' Founder's Club! Through their generous support we are one step closer to providing a new and innovative Outdoor, Environmental Education Centre for our students and community – a real Living Campus!



## Support Us with Your Purchases!

Metafore and Acer have partnered with the DSBN to help us reach our fundraising goals! A portion of each Laptop or Tablet you purchase will go directly to The Living Campus, helping create a place for generations of students to come. Click the "Donate" button on [DSBN.org/Woodend](http://DSBN.org/Woodend) for more information and access to [metafore](http://metafore.com) Metafore's website.



By supporting Woodend – The Living Campus you are providing children with a place that *Brings Learning to Life* by engaging them in hands-on learning and discovery through play. To find out how you can support the children of Niagara visit us on our website, on Facebook and our blog:

[dsbn.org/woodend](http://dsbn.org/woodend)

[DSBN Woodend - The Living Campus](https://www.facebook.com/DSBN-Woodend-The-Living-Campus)

[woodendthelivingcampus.blogspot.com](http://woodendthelivingcampus.blogspot.com)