



Gainsborough Central Public School

November 2011

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."

Progress Reports

Progress Reports for students in Grades 1 - 8, similar to those used last year, will be sent home on November 15. Staff will focus their comments on progress in learning skills (Responsibility, Organization, Independence, Collaboration, Initiative, Self-Regulation) and work habits. Comments and checklists will indicate if students are progressing very well (above standard, highly independent in achieving curriculum expectations), progressing well (working at standard with independence, making steady progress) or progressing with difficulty (needs assistance, not achieving the standard and struggling with independent work). There will also be general comments in the areas of Language, Math and French on the 2nd page of the report. More specific comments on all subject areas will be included in first term reports which will be sent home in February.



There will be a number of interview options for this progress report which include a conference with the teacher on the evening of November 24, an interview at another time or a telephone interview. Our preference, of course, would be to meet with each family face-to-face. Please return the slip at the end of the newsletter indicating your preference.

Education Foundation of Niagara Grant



The Education Foundation of Niagara is an arms-length charity supporting DSBN schools and was established to provide funding for projects designed to enhance the curriculum. This year we applied to the EFN for a grant and were pleased to receive \$500. This money will be used to purchase music stands for our junior/intermediate music program. Special thanks to the Education Foundation of Niagara for their ongoing support of our programs!

Harvest Hoot/Hallowe'en for Hunger



Students are invited to dress in costumes for our annual Harvest Hoot on Monday, October 31st. We ask that the costumes comply with our dress code and that no weapons be sent to school. Younger children may wish to have a change of clothes in case their costumes are cumbersome or too warm. Kindergarten students will parade through the school just after 9 a.m. Harvest Hoot activities for Grades 1 - 7 will take place during our second block (11:30 - 1:00).

Thanks to our Grade 8 students for organizing these activities. In lieu of cash donations for UNICEF, we are asking that students bring canned or boxed food for Community Care.



Halloween for Hunger

This year the Me to We group decided that hunger was an important issue to address in our community. Did you know that:

- For one in six Canadian families, their wages are not enough to pay for food and other basic necessities.
- In March 2010, 867,948 Canadians sought help from a food bank—the highest level of food bank use on record.
- 28% of people helped by food banks are children and youth, and 51% of food bank-assisted households are families with children

We are encouraging students to trick or treat for **food to eat** as well as candy this year. Students are encouraged to bring a wagon and ask for non-perishable food items from every 3rd, 4th or 5th house they go to. Contributions can be sent back to school and we will combine the donations with our Halloween Hoot donations to forward to the West Lincoln Community Care Centre. Let's see what our Gainsborough community can do to fight hunger!!!



EA Appreciation Day

Wednesday, October 26 was designated Educational Assistants Appreciation Day. We join the trustees of the DSNB in acknowledging the hard work and commitment of Mrs. Wetelselaar, Mrs. Cheel and Mrs. Nicholls and the difference they make in the lives of our students, families and the Gainsborough community.

Picture Retake Day/Class Photo Day

The photographers return on Tuesday, November 1 to take class photos for all grades and retakes for those who have requested them. If your child needs to have his/her individual photos retaken, please make sure Mrs. Hine is aware of this so we have an up-to-date list to give to the photographer.



Inclement Weather



On occasion in the coming months it may be necessary to cancel bus services due to severe weather. Every attempt will be made to provide this information by 7 a.m. on local radio and television stations as well as the DSNB website. Some cancellations may be for specific bus routes only, so you need to listen carefully to hear if they apply to your child(ren). Unless otherwise advised, schools will remain open when buses are cancelled. If it is necessary to close the schools early, please be sure your child is aware of any alternate arrangements in case you are not at home to receive your child. Also, if weather conditions prevent buses from leaving the school, students will be kept here until they can be picked up by a parent or designate. Please do not call the school for school closure information as staff hear this information on the news just as you do and it is important for our phone lines be available for emergency calls. Also remember that as parents you have the final decision in regard to sending your child to school when the weather conditions are severe. Additional information regarding school closures and/or bus cancellations can be found on our school website.





Lost and Found

How can our lost and found bins be overflowing already? Please take the time to come and check if any of your child's missing clothes have made their way into our lost and found.

School Spirit Wear



Did your child outgrow his/her Wildcat spirit wear? Are you new to the school and would like to purchase a Wildcat T-shirt? If there is sufficient interest we will place an order this month for school spirit wear for pre-Christmas delivery. Short sleeve T-shirts and toques are \$10 each, shorts are \$16, pull-over hoodies are \$25 and zippered hoodies are \$30. New this year are long sleeved T-shirts in royal (adult sizes only) or black at a cost of \$17 each. **Please contact Mrs. Hine at the office if you are interested and she will send home an order form. All orders are due by November 14.**

Remembrance Day



We will be pausing to remember the sacrifices made by our armed forces personnel during an assembly on Friday, November 11 at 10:45 a.m. Poppies will be distributed to all students prior to the assembly and donations would be appreciated by the local Legion.



Student Safety

- ❑ Although we would prefer they leave it at home, if your children bring their Hallowe'en candy to school it must not contain nuts or nut products. This will ensure the safety of our students with severe allergies.
- ❑ Just a reminder that there are no staff members on supervision duty in the morning until 8:45 a.m. so younger siblings who arrive early when their brothers or sisters have sports practices will have to remain in the foyer and will not be supervised.
- ❑ Each year we are required to hold six fire drills: three in the fall and three in the spring. We have conducted our fall drills and are pleased to let you know that we are able to safely exit the building in just over one minute.
- ❑ This year we will also be holding periodic "lockdown" drills to ensure that our students will be safe in the event of threats by an intruder or environmental concerns (eg. Gas spill). The drills involve making sure all exterior doors are locked and that students congregate in a safe area of their classrooms. As part of this procedure it is imperative that any parent in the building must have checked in at the office, be wearing a volunteer/visitor identification tag and follow the procedures in place for the drill.
- ❑ Tobacco use is the number one preventable cause of disease and death and when youth observe tobacco being used, it influences their future choices. For this reason, the Smoke Free Ontario Act prohibits smoking on school property (including parking lots, sports fields, and vehicles), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Thanks for your continued observance of this legislation.

Eco Schools Update for Newsletter:



I am pleased to announce that we are off to a very green start with the dedicated students of our Eco Team this year! Mrs. Morrison enthusiastically led our school to a bronze level certification from the Provincial Eco Schools program in 2010/2011. This year our students and staff are challenged to at least maintain this level of environmental stewardship at Gainsborough School, or to challenge ourselves to surpass it! Together we can work toward making our world a healthier place to be.

We have a team of approximately twelve dedicated students, ranging from grades 4-7 that make up our Eco Team. These students meet once a week for a planning time to work on setting, working toward and achieving eco - initiatives at our school. They also meet to implement our recycling program on a weekly collection basis. This is a messy job and they do it with smiles. In addition to recycling, these students have recently added a red maple to our school yard and planted a selection of native plants in our gardens to help sustain valuable insects and birds in our area. A special thanks to Sassafras Farms for donating these plants.

Our School Board has planned an Eco Student Summit for October 28, 2011 in Niagara On The Lake. I am happy to be able to take 6 students to take part in this wonderful day filled with guest speakers, hands on vermaposting, time to compare notes with student leaders from other schools and hear what they are accomplishing, planting opportunities and much more. The students will be treated to lunch and they will prepare a presentation for our Celebration Assembly back at Gainsborough to share with the entire school what they saw that inspired them. I am sure they will represent their school well.

We are working toward implementing a curbside compost pick up at Gainsborough School and will hopefully have this up and running by the end of November. This promises to significantly reduce the amount of classroom waste being generated at our school. We will keep you posted on upcoming events. Thank you for your continued efforts to pack waste free lunches and for turning off idling cars in our parking lot. A special thank you to parent volunteers in our school community who have continued to work hard on gardens and landscaping.



Regional Health Unit

Each Grade 1 student was given a copy of a new parenting resource guide that includes some valuable information for parents, eg. Development guidelines etc.

A copy is also available at our lending library on the shelves outside the school office.

Halloween Safety

Some pointers to keep the trick or treaters safe

Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.

Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic. Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. It is important they walk on the sidewalk, or walk facing the traffic if there is no sidewalk.

Bright coloured costumes make your child easier to see. You can use reflective tape on a costume to make your child more visible. Face paint instead of a mask helps them to see well. Have your child carry a flashlight.

When they get home, check all of their treats carefully. Throw out any treats that aren't wrapped, if the wrapping is torn or loose, or if the wrapper has a hole. Remember that small treats can cause your child to choke.

You might want to offer an alternative to sugar based treats. Stickers or multicoloured pencils can be a nice surprise in place of, or in addition to, traditional treats.

School Advisory Council

☞ At our most recent school council meeting, Cathy Vitucci, our school council chair, shared some of the great things that have been happening at Gainsborough with parents from other local school councils. Mark Bridges, principal of Caistor School, then led us through an activity examining current practices in the areas of communication, program, assessment/evaluation and school climate/extra-curricular activities. We worked with parents from other schools to compile a list of things that were currently happening and working well as well as things we would like to see changed or introduced. It was a great opportunity to share more good ideas with one another.

☞ After the joint meeting we met as a Gainsborough council. Fundraising profits to date are: Fundscrip-\$494.25; Floral Dimension mum campaign - \$292.04; MacMillan's - \$1951.50. By supporting these campaigns, especially purchasing your gas and groceries through the Fundscrip program, parent council was able to approve the allocation of funds to cover the cost of bringing the Scientists in the Schools program back to Gainsborough this year (approximately \$1000).

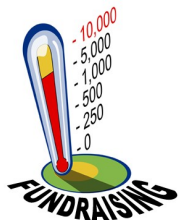
☞ We also finalized plans for our float in the Smithville Santa Parade. Please circle November 26 on your calendar and plan to join us as we escort Santa through the town. We are looking for your support, either by volunteering your time and expertise in decorating our float, or having your child(ren) ride on the float. Our target is to have a minimum of 25 students and 5 adults. For more information, or to volunteer your time, please contact Cathy Vitucci at 905-386-7500 or thevituccifarm6@gmail.com.

☞ We would also like to implement the Secret Angel program again this year. Rather than purchasing gifts for staff members at Christmas, you may make a donation to our Secret Angel fund in their name. Donations will then be used to help a needy family from our school community at Christmas. More information on this will follow in the next newsletter.

☞ If you would like an email to let you know when the school website has been updated (eg. new pictures and/or classroom newsletters added), please let Mrs. Hine know your email address so that she can add you to our database.

Another Fundraising Opportunity

Thanks for your support of our School Council fundraising activities! In addition to the monthly Fundscrip and recent MacMillan's orders, we have the opportunity to participate again in the M & M Meat Shop Annual School Shop Day on Thursday, November 24 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at either the Grimsby or Welland locations. Ten percent of any purchases made that day by school supporters will be donated back to the school. For a minimum \$40 purchase, patrons will also receive a free bag of meatballs.



Guide Dog

Once again, we are pleased to have a guide dog in training at Gainsborough thanks to Ms. Judge. Ivita is a standard poodle puppy from the Lions Foundation of Canada who will be with us this year in our special needs class. This is the third guide dog in training that we have had at Gainsborough and it not only provides the puppies with a unique socialization experience, it also provides our students an opportunity to be part of a charity that helps people achieve independence.



**DSBN STUDENT FAMILIES IN
ST. CATHARINES AND SMITHVILLE
ARE INVITED TO PROVIDE A ONE-MONTH HOMESTAY
FOR AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT**

International students are participating in
The District School Board of Niagara's
KOREAN WORLD CLASSROOM PROGRAM

International students in participating schools
in St. Catharines are in Grades 7 & 8
International students in participating schools
in Smithville are in Grades 4-6

The homestay timeframe is Jan 11–Feb 7, 2012

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION BEING HELD

Wednesday, November 9 @ 6:30 – 7:30 .pm.

at the DSBN Education Centre
191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines

- open to families in St. Catharines who ideally have a Grade 7 or 8 child themselves (other ages may be considered)
- open to families in Smithville who ideally have a Grade 4-6 child themselves (other ages may be considered)
your child will build intercultural awareness and leadership skills as a host buddy

Registration for the information session is not required

**Please direct inquiries to:

Ligia Tobon
Canadian English Scholar Program
ligia_tobon@hotmail.com

905-354-6916

www.cespica.com

Christmas Concert

Mark your calendars! Our annual Christmas concert will be held at Gainsborough School on the afternoon and evening of December 14. We are looking for a parent who might be interested in video taping the performances, so please call Mrs. Hine if you are interested in helping out. More information will follow.



West Lincoln Community Christmas Hymn Sing

The annual West Lincoln Christmas Hymn Sing will be held at Smithville Christian Reformed Church on Tuesday, December 13 at 7 p.m. Individuals, small groups, readers or instrumentalists who wish to perform, read or assist with the presentations that evening are invited to contact Brenda Wagter at 905-957-1301 or brenda.wagter@hotmail.com.

Student Parliament

Gainsborough Student Parliament elections were held during the week of October 17th. We have a committed group of students who look forward to raising awareness about global, local and school issues as well as creating an atmosphere filled with Wildcat Spirit!

Chair: Jessica R., Co-Chair: Kaitlyn G., Secretary: Kim M., Treasurer: Leah H., Grade 7 Class Representative: Elijah M., Grade 5/6 Class Representative: Faith D.: Grade 3 / 4 Class Representative: Grace N., Kindergarten- grade 2/3 Representatives: Bailey M. and Erika C.

International Students Looking for Host Families

The Korean World Class Program is looking for host families for students in Grades 4 - 6 from January 11 to February 7, 2012. If you are interested in opening your home to one of these students, please check our website for additional information about a public information session and contact numbers.

Request for Interview Form

Student Name(s): _____ Grade(s): _____

- I am available on Thursday evening , November 24 during the following blocks of time:
 - 4-6 p.m. 6-8 p.m. (We have allocated 10 minutes/interview.)
- I would prefer a telephone interview.
- Please contact me to arrange an interview at another time.
- I do not need an interview at this time.

Date:

Signature of parent/guardian

Woodend

Issue #1 - Fall 2011

The Living Campus



Update

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

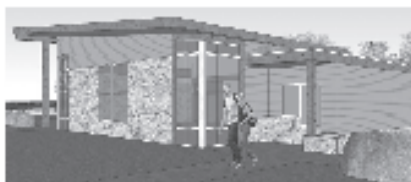
Bringing Learning to Life!

What's Happening at Woodend?

The DSBN is working to transform our Outdoor Environmental Education Centre at Woodend into a Living Campus. The current facilities will be transformed and expanded to create an environment that will empower generations of students, through exploration and discovery, to develop a connection to the earth and understand their responsibility for and impact on it. We will be replacing our old garage (which currently serves as a classroom) with two new innovative, interactive classrooms, that will provide space for more students to experience learning from nature. The new Living Campus will also include indoor washroom facilities and an outdoor classroom. It is an exciting project that will bring numerous benefits to all students of the DSBN for generations to come.

MZE: Bringing the Campus to Life

We are happy to announce that the architectural firm of Macdonald, Zuberec, Ensslen Inc. (MZE) have been appointed as the architects for Woodend – The Living Campus (conceptual drawings below).



A WEEK FOR WOODEND
April 30 - May 6, 2012

Ride Hike Run

WOODEND
Sunday May 6th, 2012

- 50 km Big Hike •
- 5 km Small Hike, Hike or Run •
- 1.5 km Family Race •

Schools, Parents and Students
Be a part of this exciting revitalization!

Kids Club & Founders Club

For details visit us at:
woodendthelivingcampus.blogspot.com

Join Us! Woodend – The Living Campus Kids Club and Founders Club

Special thanks to Westmount School (that raised \$300) and Port Weller School (that raised \$1058) and became the first schools in our Kids and BRONZE Level Founders Clubs. If you or your school would like to become members of the Founders or Kids Club please go to our blog for further details. Together we can make the dream a reality!



A huge THANK-YOU to our newest Kids Club member – Cytec Canada Employees – for your recent donation to The Living Campus!

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

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 second annual DSBN Ride-Hike-Run for Woodend on May 6th. More information will be coming out soon about this exciting event. We hope to see everyone there!



A very special THANK-YOU

to TV Cogeco who have once again shown their tremendous support for DSBN and our community by generously sponsoring a classroom at The Living Campus.

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 online on Facebook, our blog and website:









DSBN Woodend - The Living Campus

woodendthelivingcampus.blogspot.com

dsbn.org/woodend

November 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p>Hallowe'en for Hunger food drive</p> 	<p>4-9</p> <p>Photo Retake Day</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Grade 8 day at South Lincoln High School</p> <p>Parent Involvement Committee Conference</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Dental Screening JK, SK, 2, 4, 6, 8</p> <p>Pizza Day</p> 	<p>4</p>	<p>5-2</p>
<p>6</p> <p>It's time to "Fall Back!" Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday at 2am</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>5-3</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5-4</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5-5</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Pizza Day</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>Remembrance Day Assembly 10:45</p> 	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>School Council Meeting 7 pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5-9</p> <p>Progress Reports go home</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5-10</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Pizza Day</p> 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6-3</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6-4</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6-5</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Parent Teacher Interviews 4-8 pm</p> <p>Pizza Day</p> 	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Smithville Santa Claus Parade 2 pm</p> 
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6-8</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6-9</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6-10</p>	<p>Character Trait: Courage</p>		



Spiritwear ORDER FORM



Winter Beanie Top
Black acrylic with white
and gold embroidery
straight pull down style



Quality products brought to you by **SPK**
SPORTSWEAR

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Grade and Teacher: _____

Orders in to teacher no later than _____

Cash or cheques made payable to Gainsborough School

<u>Product</u>	<u>Size</u> <small>(circle selection)</small>	<u>Colour</u> <small>(circle selection)</small>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
Toque	One Size	Black	_____	\$10.00	_____
100% Cotton T-Shirt	Youth XS(2-4) S(6-8) M(10-12) L(14-16) Adult S M L XL XXL	Royal Black	_____	\$10.00	_____
Long Sleeve	Youth S M L Adult S M L XL XXL	Adult only Royal Black	_____	\$17.00	_____
50/50 Hoodie	Youth S M L Adult S M L XL XXL	Royal Black	_____	\$25.00	_____
50/50 Zipper Hoodie	Youth S M L Adult S M L XL XXL	Royal Black	_____	\$30.00	_____
100% Polyester Lined Wicking Short	Youth S M L Adult S M L XL XXL	Black	_____	\$16.00	_____

Prices include all taxes Grand Total \$ _____