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District School Board of Niagara  
achieving success together



# Gainsborough Central Public School

September 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."***



Welcome back! We hope that you had a great summer and are looking forward to another excellent year as part of the Gainsborough Wildcat team! Staff have been busy planning lessons, activities and events and are eager to work with your children again this year. We will continue our focus on literacy, numeracy and character education over the coming months and appreciate your support of our programs as we work together to ensure your child's academic success.

A HUGE thank you to Mrs. Lane for her very hard work this summer cleaning and polishing the school for our return.

We also need to thank the following families for tending to our gardens over the summer, not an easy task at the best of times, but certainly more difficult over the past hot, dry two months: the McLarens, Carters, Lees, Killins, Desruisseauxs, Vituccis, Boverhofs and Kerecs. The well tended gardens at the front of the school welcomed staff, students, families and visitors back to our school.

Please don't hesitate to contact us at any time during the school year at 905-386-6223 or via email at Gai@dsbn.edu.on.ca. Information about Gainsborough is also available on our school website which may be accessed through www.dsb.org under the heading schools.

## **School Organization:**

JK (full day/alternating days)	Mr. Cretney	Special Needs	Ms. Judge
JK/SK (full day/every day)	Mrs. Hall	Library/French	Mrs. Haber
Grade 1	Mrs. Kotsis	Music/Arts	Mr. Shatford
Grade 2	Miss Rybiak	Learning Resource	Mrs. Hellwig
Grade 2/3	Miss. Gullett	Youth Counselor	Mrs. White
Grade 3/4	Mrs. Sutherland	Administrative Assistant	Mrs. Hine
Grade 4/5	Miss. Salomons, Mr. Shatford	School Nurse	Mrs. Knott
Grade 5/6	Mrs. Gravelle	Principal	Mrs. Siamro
Grade 7/8	Miss. Haveman, Mr. Waldie	Superintendent	Mr. Dickson
Grade 8	Mr. Reid	Special Education Resource	Mrs. Hamdani
Educational Assistants	Mrs. Cheel, Mrs. Nicholls, Mrs. Wetselaar	Teacher	
Little House	Mr. Degraw, Mr. Steingart		
Lunch Supervisors	Mrs. Bonham, Mrs. Krick, Mrs. Murray		
Custodian	Mrs. Lane		
Cleaners	Mrs. McCollum		

## Student Organizers

*Being organized and managing time effectively are keys to success* and skills which need to be taught. To help promote these skills, each child in Grades 1 through 8 will be required to use a student organizer/agenda. Premier Agendas will be available to all other students at a cost of \$7.00. Our expectation is that an agenda (whether purchased through the school or elsewhere) be used as a DAILY communication tool between home and school. If your child has homework we ask that you refrain from signing the book until you have seen that the homework is completed.

## Welcome Back School Spirit Day

Our annual spirit day will be held this Friday, September 9th from 9 am to 1 pm. Students will rotate through a number of activities with children from other classes to help foster team and school spirit. Thanks to Miss Haveman and Mrs. Hellwig for organizing the events.

## Meet the Teacher Open House



Our annual Meet the Teacher Open House will be held on Wednesday, September 14 from 5:30-7:00. This is a great opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher, visit the classroom and tour the school. Staff will be barbequing hotdogs and drinks will be available. Please complete the order form at the end of the newsletter so that we know how much food to purchase and prepare. Please return order form and payment by Tuesday, September 13th.



## School Advisory Council (SAC)

You are invited to stay after the Open House on September 14 for our first School Advisory Council meeting of the year at 7:30 p.m. in the gym. The parents on our council provide a valuable role as advocates for our families and students so you are encouraged to consider attending this important meeting. We will be electing officers, determining our focus for the year, determining subsequent meeting dates and our fundraising calendar. (Our fall fundraisers include McMillan Cookie Dough and Floral Dimensions Chrysanthemum plants. More information on these campaigns to follow.) If you are interested in becoming a member of our School Advisory Council, please contact Mrs. Hine at the school office for a nomination form prior to the first meeting.

## School Photos



Lifetouch Photographers will be here on Tuesday, September 20th to take our school photos. More information will follow closer to that date.

## Early Release Day

The first early release day designated this year is Friday, September 23. Buses will arrive at the school at 12:30 to take our students home. Staff will be involved in meetings for the afternoon to examine our EQAO results and determine specific instructional foci as a result of this data.



## Student of the Month Assemblies

We will be following the Character in Action plan developed last year to help promote responsible citizenship within our school population. Each month we will emphasize a new character trait and will recognize those students who best exemplify that trait during our student of the month assemblies (usually the last week of the month). Our focus for the month of September again this year is respect.





## Transportation

All information regarding student pick-up/drop off locations and times is available through the NSTS website (www.nsts.ca). To access information electronically you will need your child's OEN number but there is also a section for you to type in your address and school name. Should you have any questions or require clarification you may also contact Ann Erb directly at (905) 346-0299. Please note that NSTS policy allows for ***only one pick-up and one drop-off location***. Should you need to change this information at any time during the year you will be required to complete a **written request at least a week prior to the expected change**. Forms for these changes are available at the school office.



## Gym Attire

It is important that students wear appropriate footwear at school. Flip flops are not safe in the gym or on the playground equipment. All junior/intermediate students are expected to change into t-shirts and shorts for gym class. If you are sending deodorant with your older children, please do not send AXE products as this is an irritant to staff and students with sensitivities and allergies.



## Student Safety

★If you know that your child will be absent from school, please call the school before 9 a.m. or write a note in the student agenda. When leaving a message, please state the child's name, grade and reason for absence. If we don't know why your child is away, Mrs. Hine will endeavour to contact parents (at home or their workplace) to make sure your child is safe.

★We value the work of our parent volunteers at Gainsborough, however, in order to ensure a safe environment for our students, **ALL visitors**, including parents, **must** report to the office when entering the school to sign our visitor's log and pick up a visitor/volunteer badge. To alleviate congestion in the hallways at the end of the day, we also ask that students who are not going home on the bus meet their parents in the front foyer of the building rather than at classroom doors.

★Students who arrive at school after the bell has rung must obtain a late slip from Mrs. Hine before proceeding to class. If your child has an appointment and will be leaving school before regular dismissal time, please inform the classroom teacher through a note in the student agenda. It is also a requirement that parents "sign out" their child at the school office before leaving the building.

★The bus loading zone is off limits to all vehicles from 8:40 to 9:05 a.m. and again from 3:15 to 3:40 p.m. If parents choose to park at the front of the school during these times, they must wait until the buses have left before moving their vehicles. Please do NOT drive your vehicle through the bus loading zone while the buses are still parked at the front of the school.



★We have a number of students with life threatening food allergies, including nuts and eggs. Although the students with the allergies are very aware of the measures they need to practice in order to remain safe, we would appreciate it if you would consider refraining from sending items which contain nuts or traces of nuts when packing lunches and remind your children to wash their hands before and after eating.



★The Smoke Free Ontario Act prohibits smoking, or even holding a lit cigarette, anywhere on school property (including the school building, parking lot, cars in the parking lot, field) at any time. There is a minimum fine of \$305 for this offence.



### **Bell Times**



8:55	Bells Ring—Entry, Announcements
9:00	Attendance, Period 1 begins
9:50	Period 2
10:40	Nutrition break begins
10:55	Fitness Break
11:25	Attendance, Period 3 begins
12:15	Period 4
1:05	Nutrition Break
1:20	Fitness Break
1:50	Attendance, Period 5 begins
2:40	Period 6
3:30	Dismissal

### **Student Forms**

Mrs. Hine has prepared individual envelopes which include a number of forms and notices for each child to bring home this week. Please read through this paperwork, complete the required forms and return them to school as soon as possible.

### **Medication for Students**



Any prescribed medication that is to be administered to students during school hours **must** have an authorization form completed by the parent/guardian AND the prescribing physician. These forms are available at the school office and must be updated on a yearly basis. The medication must be sent to school in the original container with the label attached. It is the responsibility of the student to see Mrs. Hine, Mrs. Wetselaar or Mrs. Siamro at the appropriate time for his/her medication.

### **Hot Lunches/Milk Program**

The Ministry of Education recently passed new guidelines regarding the nutritional value of food and beverages sold in schools. Compliance to this policy is required effective this September. We will continue to offer our milk program and thank Ms. Judge's class for taking on this job again this year. Milk will be available starting the week of September 19 at 75 cents each. September and October orders are due on September 16 (October's order form is on the reverse side of September's form). Payment can be made by cheque, payable to Gainsborough School (which is our preferred method of payment), or with cash. Please return the order form and payment in a zip lock bag or envelope clearly labelled MILK ORDER and include your child's name and grade. Ms. Judge would also appreciate a separate order form for each child in your family to assist her students with the delivery process.



We are pleased to announce that our pizza provider has complied with the new legislation and we will be able to offer pizza every Thursday for \$1.00 per slice (cheese or pepperoni or veggie pizza). Just send a note and money in an envelope or ziplock bag as there are no "formal" order forms. Orders will be accepted until Wednesday morning at 9 am. Our first pizza day this month will be September 22.

### **Head Lice**

It's that time of year! Head lice are pesky little bugs that can be a problem for kids of all ages and socio-economic levels no matter how often they do - or don't - clean their hair or bathe. Parents are asked to check their child's hair for lice on a regular basis to prevent passing it along to classmates and friends as this is a highly contagious problem. If you require a fact sheet regarding what to look for (eg. itchy scalp, nits) and how to treat head lice, please contact Mrs. Hine at the school office or go to the health unit website at [www.regional.niagara.on.ca](http://www.regional.niagara.on.ca). If your child has lice, please contact the school so that we can notify other families of the need to check their child's hair. Also, students returning to school after treatment must report to the office so that we can (discretely) check their hair before sending back to class.

### **Community Connections**

★**Mothers Who Care:** An invitation is extended to parents, grandparents and friends of the Gainsborough School community to join Mothers Who Care, a group of caring individuals who get together on Monday mornings for an hour to pray for the school. The first meeting will be Monday, September 12 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. For more information please contact Carolyn Taylor at 905-957-4769.



## Meet the Teacher BBQ order form



The \_\_\_\_\_ family will be attending the Meet the Teacher BBQ and Open House on Wednesday, September 14. (Food will be available from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.) Please complete the form below.

Hotodgs \$ 1.00 each

Total needed \_\_\_\_\_

Drinks \$1.00 each (juice or water)

Total needed \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your method of payment—cheque or cash.

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### School-Based Immunization Clinics

Did you know that every year in Canada, 1,400 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and more than 400 will die from it?

Almost all cervical cancers are caused by a Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection.

The HPV vaccine is an important medical advancement that makes cervical cancer a preventable disease.

Once again this year, the HPV vaccine called Gardasil® will be offered free to **all female Grade 8 students** through Niagara Region Public Health's school-based immunization clinics. In addition, the Hepatitis B vaccine and the Meningococcal vaccine called Menactra® will be offered free to **all Grade 7 students**.

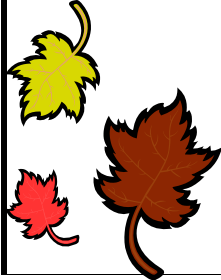





Parent/student information packages will be coming home with your child in September. Clinic dates and times will be announced through your child's school.

For more information, speak to your school nurse or call the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.

# SEPTEMBER 2011



Character Trait for the month: RESPECT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 First Day of School	7 1-2	8 1-3	9 School Spirit Day	10 1-4
11	12	13	14 Meet the Teacher BBQ 5:30-7:00 pm School Council Mtg 7:15 pm	15 1-8	16 Milk orders due	17 1-9
18	19 Milk deliver starts 	20 School Photos 	21 Water Festival Grade 3/4, 4/5, SESN	22 Pizza Day 	23 Terry Fox Run 11:30	24 2-4 Early Release Day
25 <i>Fall</i> 	26 2-5	27 2-6	28 2-7	29 Pizza Day 	30 Student on the month assembly	