



Gainsborough Central Public School

September 2009

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."

Bell Times

8:55	Bells Ring—Entry
9:00	Instruction Block #1 begins
10:40	Announcements
10:45	Fitness/Nutrition Break
11:25	Instruction Block #2 begins
1:05	Fitness/Nutrition Break
1:50	Instruction Block #3 begins
3:30	Dismissal (Kindergarten to Grade 8)



Welcome to another great year at Gainsborough! The staff have been busy preparing their classrooms and planning a variety of educational and extra-curricular activities to challenge and engage our students. It is our hope that your child(ren) will take full advantage of these opportunities both in and out of the classroom over the course of the year.

Special thanks to Mrs. Lane for her hard work this summer getting the building "spic and span" for our return. We would also like to thank Mrs. Goobie and Mrs. Taylor for their hard work maintaining our flower beds. Coupled with the new front entryway our school looks very inviting!

We are pleased to announce several new staff members to our Wildcat team this year: Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Bogucki, Mr. White and Miss Goodfellow are all eager to share their talents with us and we know that you will join us in welcoming them to our school. We all look forward to working closely with you over the coming months and value your input and support. 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. Don't forget to check out our website for additional information about upcoming events and activities.

Kathy Siamro
Principal

School Organization

<i>JK (full day/alternate day)</i>	<i>Mrs. Whitfield</i>	<i>Little House</i>	<i>Mrs. Glennie, Mr. Degraw,</i>
<i>SK (full day/every day)</i>	<i>Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Bogucki</i>		<i>Mrs. Frans</i>
<i>Grade 1</i>	<i>Miss Gullett</i>	<i>Lunch Supervisors</i>	<i>Mrs. Bonham, Mrs. Wilcox,</i>
<i>Grade 2</i>	<i>Mr. White (am)/Mr. Shatford (pm)</i>		<i>Mrs. Krick</i>
<i>Grade 2/3</i>	<i>Mrs. Sutherland</i>	<i>Youth Counsellor</i>	<i>Mrs. Maturi</i>
<i>Grade 3/4</i>	<i>Miss Salomons</i>	<i>Custodian</i>	<i>Mrs. Lane</i>
<i>Grade 4/5</i>	<i>Mrs. McLaughlin</i>	<i>Cleaners</i>	<i>Mrs. McCollum</i>
<i>Grade 6</i>	<i>Mrs. Gravelle</i>		<i>Mrs. Shirton</i>
<i>Grade 6/7</i>	<i>Miss Haveman</i>	<i>Principal</i>	<i>Mrs. Siamro</i>
<i>Grade 7/8</i>	<i>Mr. Reid</i>	<i>Special Education</i>	
<i>Special Needs</i>	<i>Mr. Smelko</i>	<i>Resource Teacher</i>	<i>Mrs. Campbell High</i>
<i>Special Education</i>	<i>Mrs. Hellwig, Mrs. Judge</i>	<i>Superintendent</i>	<i>Mrs. Hyatt</i>
<i>French/Library</i>	<i>Mrs. Haber</i>		
<i>Primary Science</i>	<i>Miss. Goodfellow</i>	<i>School Nurse</i>	<i>Mrs. Knott</i>
<i>Educational Assistants:</i>	<i>Mrs. Wetselaar</i>		
	<i>Mrs. Cheel</i>		
	<i>Mrs. Nicholls</i>		
	<i>Miss Pryor</i>		
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Mrs. Hine</i>		

Student Organizers

Being organized and managing time effectively are keys to success. In order to help promote these valuable skills each child in Grades 1 through 8 will be required to use a student organizer. Primary students (Grades 1 - 3 and Miss Salomon's Grade 4 students) will be able to purchase a "communications package" for \$10 which includes a cloth communication pouch, Premier student agenda and subject specific duotangs. Premier Agendas will be available to all other students at a cost of \$8.00. Our expectation is that agendas be used as a DAILY communication tool between home and school. If your child has homework, please do not sign the book until you have seen that the homework is completed.

Welcome Back School Spirit Day

Staff have planned a school spirit event on the morning of Friday, September 11 to welcome back our students. Students will rotate through a number of activities with children from other grades to help foster team and school spirit.



Meet the Teacher Open House

Circle Wednesday, September 16 on your calendar for our Meet the Teacher Open House & BBQ. The barbeque will take place from 5:30-6:30 p.m. followed by an opportunity for classroom visits from 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Please complete the food order form at the end of the newsletter if you are planning to attend. We hope you will be able to join us!

School Advisory Council Meeting



Parents are invited to remain after the Open House/BBQ on September 16 for our first School Advisory Council meeting of the year at 7:00 p.m. in the library. This group performs a valuable role as an advocate for the parents and students at Gainsborough and you are encouraged to consider attending this important meeting. We will be electing officers, determining our focus for the year as well as subsequent meeting dates and fundraising events as well as recognizing the hard work and dedication of Tracey Tuttle, who has been our chair for the past several years. Babysitting will be provided. (Please complete the attached form and return it to the school prior to the meeting if you are interested in becoming a member of this important advisory group. Nominations for the position of council chair will be taken from the floor that evening.)



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 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. Wetselaar at the appropriate time for his/her medication.

Gym Attire



It is important that all students wear appropriate footwear at school. Flip flops are not safe in the gym or on the playground. All junior/intermediate students are expected to change into t-shirts and shorts for gym class.



School Photo

Picture day is scheduled for Thursday, September 24 for all grades. We will be using Edge Imaging as our school photographers again this year.

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 the paperwork, complete the required forms and return them to the school as soon as possible.

The **Confidential Student Verification Form** is kept on file at the school office. It is very important that we have up-to-date medical and personal information each year as well as an emergency contact number in case we cannot reach you at home or at work. This contact person should be someone who is usually available and lives in relatively close proximity to the school. *Please let us know if this information changes during the year.*

An abbreviated copy of our **Code of Conduct** and **School Dress Code**. Please review the expectations with your child, sign and return the form to the classroom teacher. If you require a copy of the code in its entirety, please contact the school office.

Internet Acceptable Use Agreement: No student will be allowed internet access until this form has been completed and returned to the classroom teacher.

Reliable Life Student Accident Insurance. Is your child insured for medical or dental costs in case of an accidental injury? The DSBN does not provide medical payment coverage for students. If you have no other insurance it is important that parents/guardians purchase this coverage to ensure that medical or dental costs are covered in case of an accident. Reliable Life Student Accident Insurance forms have been provided to each student to assist you in obtaining this coverage. It costs as little as \$3.50 per student for basic school day/school activity insurance. If you choose to purchase this optional insurance, please send the completed forms directly to the insurance company, NOT to the school.

Pizza Lunches/Tuck Shop/Milk Orders



Our Student Parliament has volunteered to coordinate pizza days this year, which will take place on Thursdays beginning in October. Look for an order form which will be sent home during the 3rd week of September. Mr. Smelko's class will be continuing with milk sales and hot dog days. Please note that milk delivery begins on September 21 and this first order form includes the month of October. Each carton costs 75 cents. 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 ziplock bag or envelope clearly labelled MILK ORDER and include your child's name and grade.

Early Release Day

Following our Terry Fox Run activities, students will be sent home on the afternoon of Friday, September 25 which has been designated as an early release day for all elementary schools in the DSBN. Buses will arrive at the school 12:30 to take our students home. Staff will be involved in meetings for the afternoon.



Volunteers Needed

Staff have volunteered to coach a number of sports, clubs and extra curricular activities for the 2009-10 school year but there were some gaps on our list and we are hoping that you can help. We are looking for volunteers to help in each of our classrooms, the library and to coach some of our sports teams (if student interest is sufficient). We are also looking for volunteers to be trained in the All Star Reading program which we hope to run later this year. If you have time and/or talent that you would like to share with us, please contact your child's teacher. Once we confirm the number of volunteers available and individual classroom needs, a staff member will contact you to set up a schedule. Please note that volunteers are appreciated in all classes, so you may not be working in your child's room.



Terry Fox Run

On Friday, September 25 our school will participate in the annual Terry Fox Run. Intermediate students who collect a minimum pledge of \$10 will be bused to town to join their peers from College Street, Caistor and South Lincoln to participate in the event, while our primary and junior students will be walking here at Gainsborough. Each child is asked to make a donation to this worthwhile charity. More information will follow.

Character In Action

The DSBN Character Education committee has developed a *Character in Action* plan for all schools within our board to promote responsible citizenship. Our focus for the month of September is respect. We show positive regard for, and acceptance of, others' thoughts, opinions and feelings, and are inclusive and fair in our treatment of others when we are respectful. Join us at our assembly on October 2 when we recognize our "respectful" superkids!

Transportation



You should have received information about our new transportation routes from the NSTS regarding your child's pick up/drop off locations and times. Should you have questions or require clarification please contact Ann Erb directly at (905) 346-0299 or visit their website at www.nsts.ca. You will need your child's OEN number to access information electronically. If at any time during the school year you need to change the pick-up/drop off location you will be required to complete a written request. Forms for these changes are available at the school office.



Fundraising

In the past both the school staff and the school advisory council have sponsored several fundraising activities over the course of the year. However, in response to concerns expressed by families affected by the current economic climate, school staff have determined that they will NOT be holding any major fundraising drives this year. We will continue to have weekly pizza or hot dog days as well as the occasional bake or snack sale. We will also campaign on behalf of local organizations (like the Terry Fox Run and Community Care) as part of our community outreach. Please note that as a result of this decision we will be unable to subsidize the cost of school trips and presentations. The School Council will determine their fundraising calendar at the first council meeting on September 16.

*For those families who ordered magazines through QSP last year and wish to renew their subscriptions, this may be done by accessing their website at www.qsp.ca and use our campaign identification number 57323.



Newsletters

Each month the office sends home a newsletter to keep families informed of events that are happening around the school. It has been our practice in the past to send these letters home with the youngest or only student from each family. Last year we also sent it electronically via email and it was also available on our school website. If you wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter please complete the form at the end of the newsletter, otherwise we will assume that you will access this information electronically through the Board's website (<http://www.dsbm.edu.on.ca/Schools>). Due to technical difficulties experienced last year when we tried to email the newsletter, this will no longer be an option. Individual classroom newsletters and information will also be posted on our website.

Newsletter Delivery

Family name: _____

Please send a paper copy of the newsletter

home with _____ in Grade _____



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. If you wish to leave a message on our answering machine, please state the child's name, grade and reason for absence. If we do not know the reason for a child's absence, Mrs. Hine will endeavour to contact parents (at home or their workplace) to ensure that they are 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 the secretary 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 when children are being dropped off in the morning or picked up at the end of the day. 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.

We have a number of students with life threatening allergies to specific food items, 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 child(ren) 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.

Community Connections

☐ **Mothers Who Care:** An invitation is extended to parents, grandparents or 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 14th from 9:30-10:30 a.m. For more information please contact Carolyn Taylor at 905-957-4769.

☐ **Smithville & District Lions Club Food Drive:** As Thanksgiving approaches, the Smithville & District Lions Club would like you to consider donating non-perishable food items for our local Community Care Association. Bins will be placed at the school beginning the week of September 21 and donations will be picked up on October 1 for distribution to needy families on October 2.

☐ **Girl Guides of Canada:** Registration for Sparks (ages 5/6), Brownies (ages 7/8), Guides (ages 9 - 11), Pathfinders (ages 12-15) and Rangers (16+) will take place on Tuesday, September 15 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. at Caistor Free Methodist Church, 8488 Silver Street in Caistor Centre. For \$125 your daughter will participate in 32 weeks of fun, games, challenges, crafts, camping and outings. Uniforms and books may be ordered at registration. Please contact De at 905-957-3661 or Lisa at 905-957-3525 for more information. New leaders are always welcome!



Meet the Teacher Open House—Wednesday, September 16th

Dinner 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Classroom Visitations 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Please return this form and money by Friday, September 11:

The _____ family will eat

_____ hot dogs @ \$1.00 each \$ _____

_____ bottled water @ \$1.00 each \$ _____

_____ fruit drink @ \$1.00 each \$ _____

_____ ice cream treat @ \$.75 each \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

*We will be staying for the School Advisory Council meeting and will need babysitting for _____ (#) children, ages _____.

