

CHEETAH CHATTER

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October 2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I would like to extend my thanks to all members of our school community, including students, parents and staff, for an amazing kick off to our 2020-2021 school year. I know things are a little different this year, but our staff appreciate your support in following our new protocols with everything, from our entry and exit, to daily self-assessment screenings

I cannot stress the importance of ensuring your child is symptom-free before arriving at school in the morning. Both staff and students need to complete a daily self-assessment before arriving. Any students (or staff) that develop any of the following symptoms while at school will need to be picked up right away. The symptoms include:

- Fever/chills (feeling hot to the touch, a temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher)
- Cough that's new or worsening (continuous, more than usual)
- Shortness of breath (out of breath even when sitting or walking)
- Sore throat (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- Runny, stuffy or congested nose (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- Unusual level of fatigue
- Headache that's unusual or long lasting
- Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, stomach pain (not related to other known causes or conditions)
- Feeling unwell for an unknown reason

If children display symptoms, they must remain home from school and seek medical attention by a health care provider to see if testing is recommended. For more information, call the Niagara Region Public Health Info-Line at 905-688-8248 or toll-free at 1-888-505-6074, press 7, then press 2 if you're a parent or guardian. This line is available Monday to Friday, 9:15 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 9:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. You may also chat online in 90 different languages with auto-translate through their website or email healthyschools@niagararegion.ca.

We appreciate your support and cooperation as we work to keep everyone safe.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Rowan's Law Day – Wear Purple Oct. 2
- World Teacher's Day..... Oct. 5
- School Council Oct. 7
- Thanksgiving Day Oct. 14
- Cheetah Spirit Day: Wear Red Oct. 16
- Dress Purple Day for Child Abuse Awareness Oct. 27

PA DAY

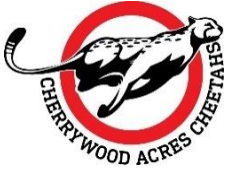
Please note that there is *not* a PA Day in October. Our next PA Day will be on Wednesday, November 18. We will be having a regular school day on the Friday before Thanksgiving.

SUPERVISION REMINDERS

Your child's safety is very important to us at Cherrywood. In order to help us keep your child safe, we ask that you keep in mind the supervision schedule for students. Supervision for students in Grades 1-8 begins at 8:45 in the back of the school. Students should not be arriving prior to 8:45, as supervision is not provided. We request that once students arrive at school, they immediately enter through their assigned gate and remain in their classroom designated space to ensure their safety, to keep the sidewalks clear for those still arriving, and to ensure physical distancing. After school, supervision is provided for our students that take the bus home or to the Boys and Girls Club.

CHEETAH SPIRIT DAY

Show your Cheetah Spirit on Friday, October 16th by wearing your Cherrywood Cheetah shirt or something red!!



BIKES

Bicycles are a healthy form of transportation to and from school (for students in Grade 4 and older) but must be walked onto the property and appropriately stored during the day. Bikes must be locked on the chain fence in the junior/intermediate end of the school. At this time, scooters and skateboards cannot be stored inside the school and should not be brought to school. Students must wear helmets when riding a bicycle to school and are prohibited from riding through the parking lot or playground because it is very dangerous to do so!

ROWAN'S LAW DAY – CONCUSSION AWARENESS

Rowan's Law was named for Rowan Stringer, a high school rugby player from Ottawa, who died in the spring of 2013 from a condition known as second impact syndrome (swelling of the brain caused by a subsequent injury that occurred before a previous injury healed). Rowan is believed to have experienced three concussions over six days while playing rugby. She had a concussion but didn't know her brain needed time to heal. Neither did her parents, teachers or coaches.

Rowan's Law and Rowan's Law Day were established to honour her memory and bring awareness to concussions and concussion safety. We wear purple on this day as this was Rowan's favourite colour.

WORLD TEACHER'S DAY

World Teacher's Day is recognized annually on October 5. I would like to thank our teaching staff for all you do each and everyday to ensure that our Cheetahs are safe, well, and challenged to do their best. Thank you to our amazing teaching staff for making our community an amazing one to be a part of!

DRESS PURPLE DAY – CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS

The DSBN has joined the commitment to Dress Purple to support Child Abuse Prevention Month. October is Child Abuse Prevention Month and Wednesday, October 27, 2020 is Dress Purple Day, a provincial day of action when students and staff are encouraged to wear purple and show your support for child abuse prevention. On Thursday, October 27, DSBN will be recognizing Wear Purple Day.

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD REMINDERS

Students are reminded to choose safety over convenience and cross with the crossing guards. Both Dorchester Road and Morrison Street are busy streets and our crossing guards are available to ensure the safe crossing of our students and to make sure everyone is following the rules of the roads. Our crossing guards are located at Dorchester Road/Dianne Street and Morrison Street/Pettit Ave. at the railroad tracks.



The crossing guards are available everyday at the following times:

8:15—9:00

3:15 -4:00

We thank you for reminding your children to cross with the crossing guards.

MORNING SNACK AND HOT LUNCHESES AND MILK PROGRAMS

We hope to have our morning snack program up and running in the near future. Please note that it will look a little different this year. We will provide further information when it is available.

As for our hot lunch (pizza, hot dog) and milk program, that is also on pause for the time being. If we are able to run either of these in the future, we will send out further information at that time.

WE ARE A NUT AWARE SCHOOL!

Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening reaction to certain food substances. We have students in our school that suffer from a severe allergy which can cause an anaphylactic reaction. An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that in some cases, it can be life threatening. These children have a severe allergy to nuts. Prevention is the best approach. Therefore, we ask your cooperation in not sending any snacks or lunches containing nut products with your child, including peanut butter and Nutella.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

With School Cash Online, you will be able to approve permission forms and make payments for items online. Understanding that we're quickly becoming a cashless society, we know it can sometimes be a challenge to find exact change for items and then send it to school through your child's backpack. Using School Cash Online, you'll be able to use your debit, credit card or echeque to make quick and easy payments online. It will also allow you to track payments made and receive an invoice for your purchases.

School Cash Online is a safe, reliable portal that will ensure the security of your information. The system is already active. You are able to gain access through the School Cash button which has been placed on our school website. We are asking that you click on the button and follow the simple instructions to register. Registration should take less than five minutes. If you registered last year, you do not need to register again!

If you require some assistance registering for School Cash Online, please visit the office and we will be happy to help you get started.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our first School Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 7 at 5:30 pm. In the past, the School Council have helped fund events for the students, provide experiences for the students and help with their input on many school issues. This year our council meetings will be held virtually. In order to attend the meeting, you will require an invitation code which will also have instructions. Please email sally.cocco@dsbn.org to RSVP so that we can send you the required information. We will be holding a vote for our School Council executive at this meeting.

KEEPING OUR SCHOOL SAFE AND HEALTHY

If you have a child with a Prevalent Medical Condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. The Plan of Care form is a new document that replaces the Emergency Action Plan. All parents of children with Prevalent Medical Conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. You can download the forms here dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions.

For more information, please contact the office.

DSBN SOCIAL WORKER SUPPORT AVAILABLE

Do you have questions about your child's mental health and well-being, such as anxiety, behaviour or self-harm?

Do you need support in accessing supports in the community?

Do you need advice for setting goals to help with regular school attendance?

Do you have any questions or looking for support regarding a certain aspect of parenting?

If these are some questions that you have, please speak with your child's teacher or Ms. Cocco. Sue Bennett is a DSBN Social Worker that works with families in Niagara Falls schools, including Cherrywood Acres, to provide an additional layer of support to help our students and families achieve success. She is an invaluable member of our Cherrywood team and is looking forward to connecting with families.

STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED

In our busy lives, events can sometimes be overlooked. Technology allows us multiple ways to connect with families. The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

SCHOOL WEBSITE: <http://cherrywood.dsbn.org/>

Please take some time to visit the Cherrywood Acres Public School website. Our website includes current newsletters, school calendars, code of conduct, school council information, a school year calendar, and bell times.

SCHOOL MESSENGER

Using the School Messenger program, important updates and information will be shared through a phone call and/or email as they become available. If you are not receiving these phone calls and emails, please check your contact information with the office to ensure we have the most current information and that you are subscribed to receive emails. In order for School Messenger to be it's most effective, it is imperative that we have up-to-date phone numbers and email addresses.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

All newsletters will be posted to the school website and sent via School Messenger through email on the first school day of the new month.