



The Comet

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Special points of interest:

- There is no supervision at the school prior to 8:40am
- Please call the school to report your child's absence or if they will be late
- Thank you to "For the Needy- Not the Greedy!"
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A Message from Mr. Leduc...

Seems like in a blink of the eye, January has come and gone! As we enter February we have much going on here at Quaker Road. It has been great to watch how well our Intermediate students have been doing at Basketball this season. They are a skilled and enthusiastic group and we look forward to hearing more about their great seasons as they venture into their play-offs. Our eco-team has been creating posters to promote creating and maintaining a healthy environment and pointing out how each of us can make a difference. Some of our Primary classes have enjoyed their learning experience with the Niagara Hand-weavers, who provided some excellent hands-on learning for our students. And of course there was our Skating Day at Pelham Arena. It was fantastic to see our students having such a great time, and to see so many of our parents and grandparents out to

help out with skates...and on the ice. We also have many opportunities and programs designed to help support our students here at school. The BASIC program continues to run every Wednesday after school for some of our students in Grades 3 and 6, and Mrs. Kosh, Mrs. Hoover, and Mrs DeGasparis are beginning to work with some of our primary students on an Early Literacy Intervention program to support Literacy learning in the early years. Speaking of Literacy...it was great seeing so many students and their families join us last Thursday evening for our Literacy Night. Many teachers were involved in planning for this great opportunity to learn about some of the valuable resources available at the school, and in the home, and it was also a nice time to just sit down and take the time to read with our kids in a community setting.

Our book fair was a great success once again, and we appreciate very much the help of those parents who were in to volunteer. It is great to see how well our breakfast program is supported and attended and a big thank you to the students, parents, volunteers and staff who make it such a success. Just a reminder, supervision here at the school begins at 8:40 am. Students who arrive early are not supervised and it is difficult to ensure their safety as there is not monitoring of activity on the playground. Please keep this in mind if dropping children off at school as, while it is important to be here on time, we want to ensure they arrive to a supervised and safe playground. It has been a great first month! I am enjoying getting to know and learn about Quaker Road students and the community.

Regular Reminders...

DROP OFF TIMES

A number of students are being dropped off prior to 8:40am. This means that there is no supervision outdoors and therefore no one to ensure your child's safety. **Please DO NOT drop your child off at school prior to 8:40am.** If your child walks, please ensure that they are

not leaving your home at a time that will result in them arriving prior to 8:40am. The only exceptions to this rule should be for students attending breakfast club and then they should arrive no earlier than 8:25am.

ATTENDANCE CALLS

We are finding that Mrs.

Comfort is still having to make a number of phone calls to homes in the morning because their child has not been reported absent. **PLEASE CALL the school if your child will be absent or late.** The phone number is 905-732-5412 and the answering machine is on 24 hours a day. Thank you.



Thank You “For the Needy– Not the Greedy”!

On February 2nd the Special Needs classes went to Brock University for a movement program called SNAP which is dedicated to students with Special Needs. The program is a morning full of engaging physical activities that our students participate in partnership with a Brock student.

One of the students attending was very limited in the activities that they were able to participate in

because of her lack of mobility. Thankfully, we had learned about a charitable association called “**For the Needy– Not the Greedy**” that provides people in need with wheel chairs. We approached them and let them know about the problem that we were facing and while we were talking, we also mentioned that we were limited in some other activities because of the mobil-

ity restrictions another student faces.

For the Needy–Not the Greedy generously provided the class with two wheel chairs for our Special Needs programs. We are very thankful for their generosity as they have given two students the opportunity to access an incredible program and in doing so, have enriched their school experiences. Thank you!

Breakfast Club
is a social time
for students to
interact with
each other,
'dine' free of
charge, from
8:25-8:55am.

Breakfast Club

With winter just beginning to actually make an appearance, we wanted to remind the Quaker Community about Breakfast Club.

The Breakfast Club at Quaker Road is *not a program that is founded on the premise of feeding low-income students*. It is based on the premise of a “club” and we are encour-

aging the students to use this time to be social– talk with their friends, meet up with classmate and get all their chatter out!

Breakfast Club is run by a dedicated group of volunteers on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. If you would like to volunteer, we are always open to new bodies!

The Club is funded by Niagara Nutrition Partners and with that, we are able to provide a healthy breakfast to our students at no charge.

Breakfast Club starts at 8:25am so please do not send your child to school prior to 8:25am as there is no one on duty to provide supervision.



We are collecting electronics and ink cartridges for our recycling initiative!

Think Recycle Campaign...

Once again this year, Quaker will be fundraising through the Think Recycle Campaign. Think Recycle is a cost-free fundraising program that rewards Quaker with money and environmental incentives for the collection of unwanted electronics including laptops, tablets, cell phones, digital cameras, inkjet cartridges and toner cartridges! The eco-team at Quaker has two goals

in mind. The first is to install at least one bench and a garden at the front entrance to the school. This project would help beautify our school grounds, provide a relaxing sitting area for students and visitors as well as support our goal of achieving Eco-School gold status. A second goal of the eco-team is to plant 1-2 mature trees in the area of our new out-

door classroom located in West end of our school playground. Help us achieve these goals and donate your unwanted electronics.

Collecting: laptops, tablets, cell phones, digital cameras, inkjet cartridges and toner cartridges! All collections can be placed in the box outside room

Thanks for your support.
Quaker Eco-Team

Upcoming Events...

SWEATER DAY

February 9, 2012 marks "Sweater Day" at Quaker Road. Sweater Day is the day which we all bundle ourselves up in our coziest sweaters and turn down the heat in an effort to save energy.

Please be sure to dress your son or daughter in their sweaters as we will be participating in this great event this year!

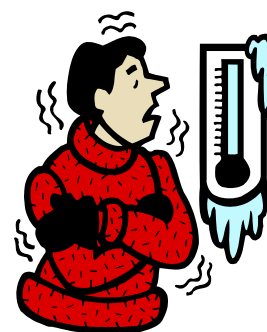
CUPCAKE DAY

Friday, February 10th will mark the first Cupcake Day of the school year! With our thanks to many gracious volunteers, homemade cupcakes will be available for \$0.50 each. Students will be limited to one cupcake each in an effort to ensure everyone gets them. Special thanks to Mrs. N. Boon, a Quaker mom, for her efforts in coordinating

these monthly events.

EARLY RELEASE DAY

A reminder to all parents that Friday, February 17 is an Early Release Day. Students will be dismissed from school at 12:30pm. Busses will run as usual with the exception of our afternoon Kindergarten students, who do not have any classes this day.



SWEATER DAY– Feb. 9



CUPCAKE DAY– Feb. 10

MS Readathon...

Quaker Road is currently running the MS Readathon in support of both MS research and Quaker Road school.

Multiple Sclerosis is an auto-immune disease that affects over 2.5 million people world wide and over 50,000 in Canada alone. There is currently no cure although there are a number of treatments that have been

proven to slow it's progression.

Quaker Road is proud to be hosting a Readathon in support of MS because 90% of what we raise goes towards researching a cure. The remaining 10% comes back to the school to put towards our fundraising efforts. But even more so, we are proud of all the amazing reading our students are

doing!

Last week your child should have come home with the Pledge Forms. Please encourage your child to collect pledges throughout the month of February and to be reading daily. **All pledges are due back to the office on Tuesday, February 21st.** Thank you for supporting Multiple Sclerosis and Quaker Road!

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

Celebration Assemblies

Each month, Quaker Road holds a "Celebration Assembly" at which our students are recognized for their outstanding displays of the DSBN's Character in Action attributes. A different class each month hosts the assemblies and their responsibility as host includes summing up what the attribute for the month has been, as well as dem-

onstrating what the attribute will be for the next month.

We encourage our students to recognize that while we are highlighting one attribute each month, it is important that they are all in action, all the time! The DSBN Character in Action attributes are: Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Caring, Optimism, Perseverance,

Courage, and Cooperation.

For the month of January, students were working hard to highlight Optimism for the New Year. In February, students will be working hard to "Persevere".

Please join us to celebrate on February 6th at 9am in the gym!



Caption describing picture or graphic.



The Snow is Coming... Eventually!?

While we may not have seen an abundance snow yet, it sure to make an appearance in a big way at some point this winter. We would like to ask your assistance in making sure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the weather. In the course of a school day, the students spend over an hour outside and it is important that they have proper clothing on. This means everything

from the tops of their heads covered in hats to the tips of their toes covered in winter boots! If finding the necessary winter items is difficult for you or your family, please contact us and we will support you, confidentially. Please be sure to remind your child that it is just as important for them to wear them to and from school as it is during outdoor recess breaks. Additionally, with the

snow comes the temptation to throw snow balls, climb snow hills, make snow forts and snowmen, etc. To ensure that all students are safe, Quaker Road has a "Snow Stays on the Ground" policy. This means that students may build snowmen, forts etc., but they must be no taller than the student and that they are not to be kicking or throwing snow. Thanks for your support with the winter weather!

Electronic devices are NOT to be used during school hours for texting, making phone calls or any other communication.

School Code of Conduct– Electronic Devices

Maybe it was the Christmas vacation or maybe it's just that time of year, but nonetheless, students seem to have forgotten about some of the basic Code of Conduct Expectations at Quaker Road. With that in mind, we would like to review a key expectation that is frequently being disregarded.

Electronic devices such as cell phones, iPods and other MP3 players are not to be used for anything other than playing games or listening to music while OUTSIDE at nutrition break. This means that students should not be texting or making phone calls during school hours, whether inside or out. If students do come to school with these devices,

the expectation is that they are housed in the students' lockers until breaks.

Staff has been instructed to retain these devices if students are using them inappropriately. **All devices will be held at the office for pick up at a time the is deemed to be reflective of the incident.**



Thank you! We sold over \$2000 at our Winter Book Fair!

Scholastic Book Fair Update

A special thank you to everyone who supported the Scholastic Book Fair last week. As is Quaker tradition, the Book Fair was a wonderful success and we raised over \$2100.

As you know, the proceeds from each Book Fair goes directly towards Scholastic products that

we use in the library, in classrooms and for other instructional purposes. With this book fair, we were able to pull over \$1000 worth of books from the Book Fair shelves before we sent it back. They are currently being catalogued so that they are ready for students to borrow from the library later this spring.

Our Book Fair would not have been the success that it was, nor would we have been able to have it open when we did without the help of three wonderful people: Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Nicholls and Mrs. Loree. These women dedicated their time to 'work' as cashiers for a day! Thank you, ladies!

Report Cards and Parent Interviews

As educators, we work very hard to ensure that the education your child is receiving meets their needs in many ways—academically, socially and emotionally. This time of year allows us the opportunity to provide you, as parents and guardians, with a summary of your child's progress thus far in the school year. As the research tells us, one of the most important aspects of a child's education is the connection between home and school. Student report cards are designed to provide you with the following information:

1. What your child is learning
2. How well your child is learning
3. What strengths your child is demonstrating
4. What next steps are needed for continued success

At this point in the school year, interviews will be granted on an as needed basis. Should you wish to discuss your child's progress with their teacher, please do not hesitate to contact the teacher directly. This Report Card, going home on February 9th, is the first of two Report Cards. The second will go home at the end of June.

Primary Skating at Pelham Arena



**DISTRICT DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD OF
NIAGARA**

Principal: Mr. Mark Leduc
Vice-Principal: Mrs. Kristen Kosh
Superintendent: Mr. Wes Hahn
Trustee: Mrs. Sue Barnett

Family Literacy Night

Spending Quality Time with the Family!



Spending Quality Time with the Family!



A visit from Geronimo Stilton!

Reading with Mr. Leduc



Support Quaker Road Literacy at the Book Fair!



Thank you to all the families who came out to support Quaker Road and spend some time together!