



Quaker October 2019

Principal's Message



September was a beautiful month for students to get right into learning, cooperating and becoming a Quaker Comet!

Our many sports teams are up and running again; We have both an Intermediate and Junior Co-Ed Soccer team. Cross-country is well underway and intermediate volleyball teams are already practicing and ready to get their season started this month. Participation in our wealth of extra-curricular activities is excellent this year and many thanks to the Quaker staff who rush around early in the morning and stay late after classes to prepare for tournaments and conduct practices. Many thanks to our parents as well for dropping students off early, picking up students late, and helping with transportation to and from games/tournaments and events!

Our school population has exploded with the need for two new classrooms being added this year. A portable is on order and will be installed within the next few months.

Thank you to Mrs. Degasperis, Mrs. Bernard and the other teachers who helped to organize the "Meet the Staff Pizza Night." All funds raised will be used in the Breakfast Club. We are always accepting donations throughout the year as well.

Our first School Council Meeting was Tuesday, September 18th. We had a

great turnout and have made some plans to support our classrooms through some funds towards bringing Scientists in the Classroom and have made a donation to each classroom for teacher purchases. THANK YOU! A sub committee has formed to discuss and consolidate plans for a natural playground which will hopefully begin to take shape through this year and over the next few years both in the kdgn and rear areas.

Regular attendance is a key factor to success for students. Please arrange appointments for the end of the day, so students can attend for most of the day when possible. Being on time is also a key factor to helping students feel stress free and ready for their day. Please allow and extra 5 minutes in the morning so arrival time is prompt. We will be reaching out to families who struggle with either daily attendance and/or on time arrivals to problem solve and support students.

As you know—CUPE is in phase one of a Job Action, so Breakfast Club is on hold for now. Most other events are status quo and we hope that the two groups come to an agreement soon.

October Dates

- October 1 -Milk Program Begins
- Pizza Days: 2,9,16,23,30
- October 10-Picture Day
- October 11 & 14 No School
- October 24-Dress Purple for Child Abuse
- October 31-Halloween



Fall is Here!

October is Child Abuse Prevention Month
Students at our school and across the DSBN will be wearing purple on October 24th for "Go Purple Day".



DRESS PURPLE

on October 24th

It takes a village to
keep kids safe

#IBREAKthesilence

CASH ONLINE

NEW FAMILIES AND FAMILIES NOT REGISTERED FOR ONLINE CASH PAYMENTS.

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO BE ABLE TO PAY FOR YOUR CHILD'S EVENTS, PIZZA, MILK ON LINE.

WWW.DSBN.ORG/CASHONLINE

**We hope that EVERYONE will pay for things in this manner.
If you need assistance please call the office.**

Anaphylaxis Alert!!!

We have students at the school who have serious allergic reactions to bee stings, peanut and nut products and in one classroom, milk. While declaring ourselves a "peanut free" school is not possible, we can certainly be a "peanut aware" school. It is therefore very important that:

- 1) Instruct your child not to accept food from other children especially if you know that your child has food allergies.
- 2) That you avoid sending in food products that contain peanuts/peanut products and that you refrain from using peanut products if baking for a school function.
- 3) Discuss with your child the potential seriousness of these conditions and help us to provide the safest possible environment for all of our students.
- 4) In our classroom where there is a milk allergy, students are asked to consume milk alternatives for beverages.

Your cooperation needed and is greatly appreciated!

Stop the spread of Infection

- Stay home if you are sick and return when you are well
- Wash your hands with soap and water or use a hand sanitizer
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or in your sleeve
- Keep your distance
- Get a flu shot
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When to keep your child at home?

Please keep your child at home and away from others if he or she has any of these symptoms:

- Fever
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Rash
- Frequent coughing or sneezing
- Yellow or green discharge from the nose, ears, or eyes
- Sore throat

Contact your family doctor for advice about care and treatment. For more information, talk to your school nurse or go to www.niagararegion.ca/health

Ensuring a Safe and Secure School

As you can appreciate, the arrival of children at school each day is a very busy time! The children are excited to see their friends. Teachers are busy getting the children settled and ready to learn. The end of school is also a little hectic, as students gather their homework and belongings before leaving. The Safety of all children attending our school is of the utmost importance. We would ask that all visitors/volunteers first report to the office when coming in to the school to check in. We can communicate with the classroom to have your child come to the office, or provide you with a 'volunteer' pass so that staff are aware you have been cleared by the office staff.

Our school encourages independence and responsibility for all students.

Students need the opportunity to develop a level of independence and responsibility appropriate to their age level. Independence and responsibility are two critical components of learning. They need to have opportunities to:

- walk independently into the classroom
- play with peers while waiting for the bell to ring
- take off and hang up their coats, boots, hats, etc
- be responsible for dressing themselves
- take material out of their school bags
- be responsible for carrying items to and from school (snacks, lunch, books, newsletters, money for pizza, trips, etc)

Talking with your child's teacher is important

Teachers are always happy to talk with you. When you wish to talk with your child's teacher, please call or make an appointment. The best times to contact teachers are before school, after school and during our Nutrition/Fitness Breaks.

When the bell rings, teachers have a responsibility to focus their attention on the children. This is not a time for parents. Even a "brief" talk with a parent interferes with this responsibility. If there is something that cannot wait, please send a note with your child or visit the office. We will ensure that the teacher receives your message or request.

We therefore ask parents not to enter the school when dropping off their children unless you are arriving late to school and need to go to the office to sign in your child. Please say your "Good-byes" outside the building and encourage your children to develop independent school entry. If arriving prior to the end of the school day, please wait for the bell to sound, and your child to exit through their assigned exit. **If you need to pick up you child early for an appointment, kindly write a note in their agenda in the morning.** The office will be more than happy to call your child to the office so that they can be signed out. We are unable to ensure that telephones will be answered in the afternoon to send a message regarding early pickup.

PARKING WITH CARE— Please enter our driveway with extreme caution and SLOW speed. We have 80—3, 4 and 5 year olds waiting for pick up at the end of the day and want to ensure they are safe. If able, please arrange for your older children to walk to and from school or to meet them down the street at the corner. This will reduce the parking stress in the lot. **THANK YOU.**



Thursday October 10th

is

Picture Day at Quaker Road.

We will start with our younger students and work our way up through the older grades throughout the day.





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| At the Stop | Be 5 to 10 minutes early, and stand on the inside of the sidewalk/ shoulder away from the roadway. |
| When the Bus Arrives | Line up in a straight line, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the doors to open, and never touch the outside of the bus. |
| Getting on the Bus | Get on the bus one at a time, hold the handrail as you climb the stairs, and go directly to your seat and get settled. |
| Riding on the Bus | Sit with your back to back of the seat and your bottom to the bottom of your seat with your school bag on your lap, and use your quiet speaking voice so that the bus driver can concentrate on driving. |
| Getting off the Bus | Stay in your seat until the bus comes to a complete stop, only get off the bus at your school or at your bus stop, look for your parent/ guardian before you get off the bus if that is your routine, and always tell the bus driver if you do not see your parent/ guardian at the bus stop waiting for you if that is your routine or if you missed the stop. |
| Crossing in Front of the Bus | Watch and wait for the bus driver to signal to you to cross the road once it is safe to do so. |

Headphones Needed...

Once again we are asking that each child bring in a personal set of earphones for use on our computers. For hygienic reasons, it is important that each child have their own set. Earphones will be labeled and stored in each classroom and taken to computer lab for lessons.



Headsets can be purchased at Walmart, Staples, even the Dollar Store. Please send in with your child in a plastic baggie. We appreciate your cooperation.

The Junior Soccer team was undefeated with 4 wins in the Pool 2 Bracket. The team lost in a double shootout in the championship game. Congratulations to the following players: Zainab, Lindsay, Shonie, Trey, Zoey, Jimin, Hannam, Beckett, Colton, Garrett, Russell, Lincoln and Leah. Way to go Comets!



Teaghan, Easton, Vanessa, Emily, Yu Yeon, Erika, Matt, Zach, Nate, Owen, Elliot Avery, Tayler, Cole, Dae Young, Braden,& Brad.

On Sept. 23, the team played in the area tournament against 3 other schools. With much success they won 2 and tied 1, after playing each of the schools. In the semi-finals the team continued to work together, skillfully passing the ball and playing a strong defense to keep the ball in the other end of the field. After losing in a shootout in the semi finals, the Comets finished the day as Consolation Champions, winning the final game. Quaker is super proud of their teamwork, sportsmanship and determination to work on!