



Quaker April 2015

Inside this issue:

Caring & Empathy Award Winners	2
Good times and learning in our Intermediate grades	3
The eighties are back (for a day)	4
Mallet carpentry school	5
The Quaker Variety Show	6

April Dates

April 3 & 6- Good Friday No School

April 8—Jr. Basketball / Girls first

April 9—Pita Day

April 10—Hot Dog Forms due today

April 13—Dreambox Challenge begins & Jr. Basketball / Boys first

April 14—Hotdog day run by FSP class

April 15—Jr Basketball / Girls first

April 16—Intermediate Curling starts at 9:30

April 20—Jr Basketball TBA

April 21—Kick off Assembly Jump Rope for Heart & SAC Council 6 PM

April 22—Earth Day—Loretta Penny Assembly in the AM & Jr. Basketball TBA also look for BBQ forms sent home

April 28— BBQ forms due today

April 30—Cup Stacking Tournament

May 1—Track & Field Meet & fSP BBQ

Principal's Message

April is finally here...and hopefully it brings along some warmer weather! Our students have been troopers considering the number of 'indoor' recess days this frigid winter has brought us. Guess that is part of what makes Canada great! March has been a fabulous month at Quaker Road School. Students in classrooms have been actively engaged in learning activities, and I know that Mr. Winger and myself enjoy and appreciate the opportunities to visit classes regularly and to participate with students in discussions about their learning. It is amazing to hear students talk to us about how they have worked to solve complex math problems, to hear them share their opinions about text that they are working with, or to simply observe them in action as they work on tasks independently, or collaboratively as part of a group.

March at Quaker Road provided student with a wealth of additional opportunities and experiences over above the great things happening in the classroom and I sincerely thank the staff at Quaker Road School for their commitment to making these events possible. The beginning of March had our Comets involved in some great team building activities as the Quaker Road Winter Olympics! Our Grade 6, 7, & 8 students did an amazing job as student leaders of their colour teams. They had our students engaged and actively participating in all activities and all students demonstrated great teamwork and spirit. We were also all treated to great, talented performances in our Annual Talent Show by students from all Grade levels. We appreciate their commitment and dedication, and we are appreciative of the time and effort that Mr. Secord spent coordinating the event. Our Junior Basketball teams have kicked off their seasons, competing well and having a lot of fun and our QHL league has just begin this week for all interested students in Grades 1-8. Our Intermediate grades sent 2 teams to the Lego Robotics Challenge along with Mr. Bootsma and Miss Foster is prepping our Quaker Road team to participate in the first annual DSBN "CupStacking" championship.

So as you work through this month's newsletter; take some time to read about the amazing things our staff and students are doing here at Quaker Road. It is truly a culture which focuses on collaboration, on learning and on working together to ensure students have many meaningful opportunities to grow, develop, and be engaged.



The grade 4's welcomed Wilson as guest speaker for part of their Science unit. He shared how pulleys and gears make it possible for him to get around independently. He also demonstrated how he can stand and move without his chair and they gave him a sustained round of applause. Just another day of caring and empathy at Quaker School.

Caring and Empathy Award Winners from Quaker School. Perseverance was our character trait for the month of March. Teachers consistently encourage our students to demonstrate the effort and determination to complete a task to the best of their ability and to stick to the task even when it is difficult.



**Quaker Winter Olympics
Thanks Mrs. Bernard!**



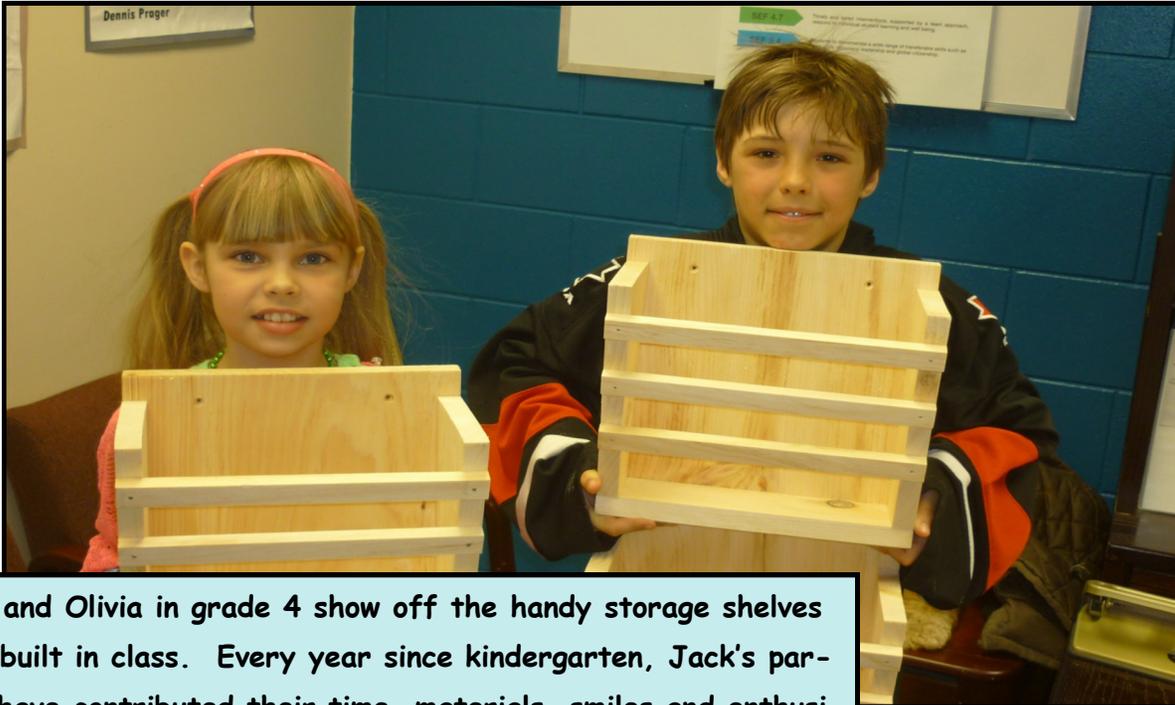


(Above) Good Times in grade 7 & 8. The intermediate girls who participated in volleyball and basketball this year enjoyed a ice cream party to celebrate their season. Many thanks to Ms. Haining, Ms. Sims and Mrs. Boon who did a fabulous job coaching our young Comets.

(On the left) When you note the intent concentration on the face of these students the Comet editors couldn't help but think of what the 2011 book, "Making Thinking Visible" calls the "very thoughtful mathematics or science classroom", one "in which problem solving plays a central role." The book's authors go on to note that, "In learning mathematics and science actively, it is important that one gets used to looking closely, noticing patterns, and generalizing from those patterns to create procedures" (p.14). If you get a chance to speak to one of our intermediate students I am sure they will agree with us that Mr. Bootsma provides a very thoughtful classroom!!!!



Mallet Carpentry School Open for Business!!



Jack and Olivia in grade 4 show off the handy storage shelves they built in class. Every year since kindergarten, Jack's parents have contributed their time, materials, smiles and enthusiasm to work on a building project with their son's class. Over the years the students in Jack's class have built birdhouses, tool boxes, stools and now shelving organizers. Jack mentioned that he feels his class really appreciates this opportunity because, "it gives all the students a chance to work with tools every year." Olivia added that, "it was really fun because you get a chance to work with tools." Just one more example of our wider Quaker community pitching in to enrich our students' educational experience. Thanks.

The DSBN Girl's Technology Camp will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2015 - 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM at the Scotiabank Convention Centre in Niagara Falls.

This is a fun, dynamic educational program that allows girls to focus their abilities in area of science, technology, engineering, and math. Camp encourages future engagement with these subjects and helps kids discover the range of possibilities that exist through amazing experiments, activities, and mentors.

April 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day

Autism and autism spectrum disorder (ASD) are both general terms for a group of complex disorders of brain development. These disorders are characterized, in varying degrees, by difficulties in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication and repetitive behaviors. They include autistic disorder (sometimes referred to as "classic autism"), Rett syndrome, childhood disintegrative disorder, pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS) and Asperger Syndrome. ASD can be associated with intellectual disability, difficulties in motor coordination and attention and physical health issues such as sleep and gastrointestinal disturbances. Some people with ASD excel in visual skills, music, math and art.



Our Intermediate Comets were consolation finalists this season. In the picture are Grace, Paige, Claire, Mariam, Jen, Laine, Madison, Maddy and Brianna. Missing from the picture are Sarah, Drew, Teja and Mrs. Boon. Thanks to our coaches and congratulations to the girls on a great season.



Quaker Variety Show on March 13th. What a great showcase of talent from our students. Thanks Mr. Second, the students truly enjoyed this event.





Trivia Night was a lot of fun. Thanks to our numerous sponsors who provided a great prize table and all the staff and parents who came out to support our intermediate students fundraising efforts. Close to \$1 600.00 was raised to support the trip to Camp Wahanowin in June.



Vanna White contacted Quaker School in early March and she sounded quite apprehensive. Her voice noticeably calmed when she spoke to Ms. Haining who reassured her that she really loves her current job. Thanks Ms. Haining for the great job you did organizing the Trivia Night.

Quaker needs You !!! Can you help???

We need a **Breakfast Club Volunteer** to help at the school. Breakfast club runs Tuesday to Thursday and our need is for someone on Thursday, from 8 AM to 9 AM.

ALSO . . .

We have an opening for a **Casual Lunch Room Supervisor**. This means you would be available on an on call basis. This is a paid position.

Please contact the office if you are interested.

Attendance

As part of our Safe School Protocol, we ask that you report your child's absence promptly so that we can ensure their safety and identify where they are. The answering machine is available 24/7, so that you can leave a message in the evening if your child is ill or will be absent. If we have not received notification about a student's absence, we must every effort to account for the student's absence through a phone call home or to a parent's workplace. With a school our size, this is a large task. We ask that you please report your child's absence/lateness prior to 9:00 am. Students who arrive at school late will receive a late slip upon signing in at the office. They will then proceed directly to their classroom.

Please Remember to Save the Dates below.

May 1 : Track & Field at Quaker gr.3-8

May 25—June 5 EQAO

June 11 from 5—8 PM Annual Quaker School Fun Fair.

June 23 : Grade 8 Graduation

Did You Know??? **HOPE (Helping Others Parent Effectively) Family Support Group.** This support group has been helping parents of children with ADHD in Niagara for over 15 years. Group Meetings are held Wed. evenings, 7—8:30 PM. Meetings are held at the St. Catharines Regional Child Care Centre, 179 Carlton St., St. Catharines.

Apr. 15 What is a Psycho-educational Assessment?

May 6 ADHD Affects the Whole Family

May 27 Internet Safety & ADHD Concerns