



# Quaker February 2015

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**Term 1 Report Cards Home Friday, Feb. 6, 2015**

On February 6, 2015 all students will bring home their “pay cheques” for first term! Students have been working hard, and the Term 1 Report Card will share with you what your child is doing well, and areas that they will need to focus on for continued growth and development.

**Learning Skills and Work Habits** are an important focus of this report card. These are critical life skills that students will work on from Grades 1 to Grade 12. Teachers evaluate how well students are achieving these skills for their grade level and include a comment about each student's strengths and some next steps for continued growth. The development of these skills is crucial to creating the conditions for future academic success for students and for developing those attributes that will help promote leadership, responsibility and positive relationships.

For each subject being taught this term, your child will receive either a letter grade (Grades 1-6) or a percentage grade (Grades 7 & 8). If a subject is only being taught in Term 2, then the teacher will check NA (not applicable) for that subject on the report card. For each subject, there will be a comment that describes your child's strengths and some next steps that will support learning in Term 2.

Communication between teachers and parents/guardians is an important support for student success. We encourage all parents/guardians to discuss the report card with your child. While interviews are not mandatory for all students, the teacher may request an interview to discuss some specific needs or next steps for your child. If you have any questions or comments for your child's teacher, but an interview was not requested, you are invited to contact the school or teacher to schedule an opportunity to discuss your child's achievement and next steps for learning.

**February Dates to Know**

**Feb. 4 : Intermediate Basketball at Pelham , 4:00 PM**

**Feb. 5 : Kindergarten Open House**

**Feb. 6 : 100 's Day (Primary) Sweater Day (whole school)**

**Feb. 9 : Intermediate Basketball Home game**

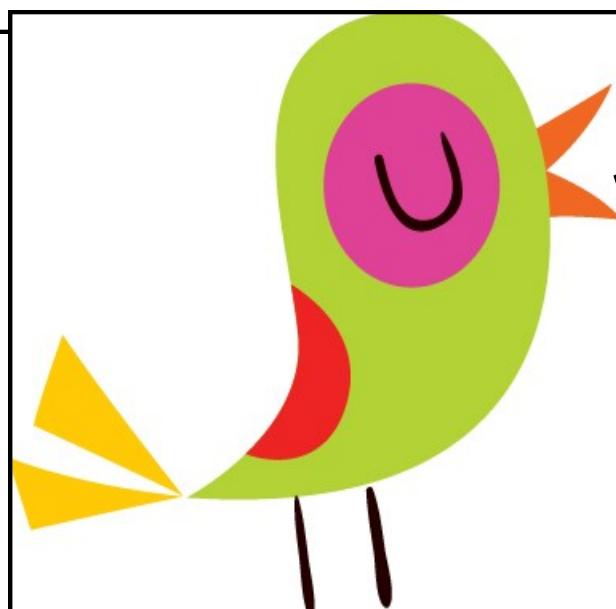
**Feb. 13 : Early Release Day, students dismissed at 12:30 PM**

**Feb. 16 : Family Day: No School**

**Feb. 18 : Family Fun Night 6:00 PM**

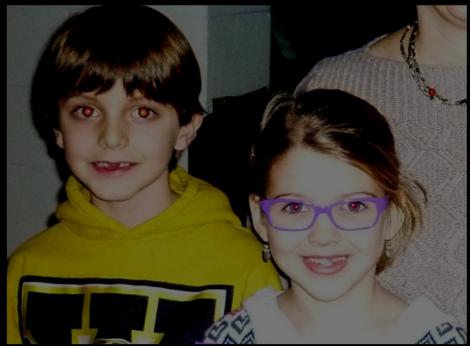
**Feb. 24 : SAC Meeting 6:00 PM**

**Feb. 25 : Pink Day; Wear Pink**



**Do you have a child about to enter kindergarten or know of someone who does? The Kinderbird has a very important message for you on page 4 of this newsletter!!!!**

**RESPECT Award Winners at Quaker in January. The students awarded this character certificate have shown a positive regard for and acceptance of others' thoughts, opinions and feelings.**



**Respect Award Winners at Quaker in January :**  
Aidan R., Sophia B., Sebastian R., (Kindergarten: Mrs. Ellis), Beckett F., Hannam F. (Kindergarten : Mrs. Boon), Colin M., Denton H., Sierra B.,(Gr. 1: Mrs. Bernard), (Gr. 1/2 : Mrs. Shannon), Nate P., Easton F., Autumn M.,(Mrs. Longo), Cole W., Jacob M., Kaylee N.,(Gr. 3 : Mrs. Toews-Peplinski), Miki X., (Gr. 4 : Mrs. Secord), Carter H., Claire N., ( Gr. 5/6 : Mr. Bateson), Kyla H., Mateo S., Ryan H.,(Gr. 6 : Ms. Fulford), Kai X., Drew H., Jenn V-S., (Gr.7/8 : Ms. Haining), Connor B.,(Gr. 7/8 : Mr. Bootsma), Josh R., Joanna C., (FSP : Mr. Hannahson).

# Building a School in Haiti

**The Gr.6 class has made a global goal to partner with Free the Children to raise \$10 000 to build a school in Haiti, but WE CAN'T DO THIS ALONE!! Quaker Road, we need your help to reach this big goal. We want to achieve this goal before we graduate from grade 8.**

**Building a school in Haiti will provide an education for the children affected by the devastating earthquake that struck the island's inhabitants in 2010.**

**KIDS WANT TO HELP KIDS BECAUSE . . .**

- All children have a right to an education but not all children have access to school**
- Our Social Studies and Language classes inspired and motivated us to be global citizens and change makers**
- Education changes the world**

## ***Be a Change Hero***

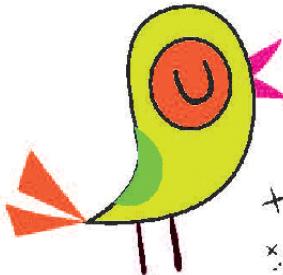
***Did you know that if 33 people donate \$3.33 a day for 3 months, all those 3's would add up to \$10 000***

***Giving Tuesdays are starting in 2015. Be part of a national celebration of generosity, a day to give a small gift that makes an impact and encourages kids to be change makers! Your participation and your contribution is greatly appreciated to help us reach our goal.***

Tuesdays in January	Tuesdays in February	Tuesdays in March
6th - Hat Day 50 cents	3rd - Hot Chocolate \$1.00	3rd - Soup Day \$1.00
13th - Gum Day \$1.00	10th - Beach Day 50 cents	10th - wearing the green 50 cents
20th - Backwards day 50 cents	17th - Jersey Day \$ 1.00	24th - PJ Day \$1.00
27th - Crazy Hair Day \$1.00	24th - Guess How Many ; Tickets 50 cents	31st - Twin Day 50 cents

*It's almost time to register for*

# Kindergarten at the DSBN



Do you know a child who will be turning 4 or 5 before December 31, 2015?

Visit a DSBN Kindergarten Open House from 10 am-6 pm on February 5th, 2015 to register and to help your kindergartener get ready for their first day of school at the DSBN.

See the classroom, meet the staff and get a gift bag full of fun learning resources and information to help children develop their school readiness

Looking for more information? Visit our website at [www.dsbn.org/kindergarten](http://www.dsbn.org/kindergarten)

## Composting Letter from Grade 3

Dear Mom;

*Have you ever thought about composting?*

*Here are some things that go in the compost; banana peels, apple cores, stale bread, vegetables, used paper towels, left over lunch and scrapes of food from dinner. All of these items can go in the compost.*

*Composting is good for the earth because it breaks down into the soil and it acts like fertilizer. In the spring we can add it to the garden to help the plants grow.*

*Do you think we can compost? I'd like to start now.  
Please let me know.*

*From Cole*

## From the January 12, 2015 Macleans (Cover Story : The Shrinking Teenage Brain)

*"Excessive gaming can shrink areas of the brain responsible for emotions and behavior." (p.50)*

*" . . . the teen years are a special period (best described) as 'use it or lose it' for the brain. Brain cells grown in childhood that continue to get used in adolescence form new connections, while those that go unused wither away. It's also another reason why parents should be anxious about what happens during the teen years—adolescence now appears to be a period that can make or break a child's intelligence." (p.51)*

*"Parents should 'be your teen's frontal lobes' and 'think for your teenagers' until their brains are ready." (p.53).*

February is heart health month, a great time to assess habits and make healthy life-style choices to decrease your risk of heart disease; eat healthy, be physically active and reduce your stress level. Contact your school nurse for more information. Parent councils...why not organize a CPR training event for parents and caregivers? Visit

[www.heartniagara.com](http://www.heartniagara.com)

***Did you know that high levels of refined sugar consumption is related to an elevated risk for Cardio-vascular disease?***



A major US study has demonstrated a link between high levels of sugar consumption and a higher relative risk of dying from cardiovascular disease (CVD).

In the study, people who got more than a quarter of their calories from added sugar were almost three times (2.75 to be exact) more likely to die of a CVD than those consuming less than a quarter of their total energy intake from added sugar. It's recommended that you should not derive more than 10% of your total daily calorie intake from sugar.



# Save the Dates!!!

**TRIVIA NIGHT** Fundraiser for our Quaker Intermediate students to support their efforts to raise money for their year end trip to camp. It will be held on **Thursday, March 5th** at the Club House on Rice Road. More information to follow.

Quaker School looking forward to our 2nd Annual, **FAMILY FUN NITE**. Be sure to join our Quaker family community on **Wednesday, February 18th** from 6 to 8 PM for ; Math Fun, Cup stacking demonstrations and challenges, Family Zumba, Technology and so much more. Watch for more details in early February.

## **The Use of Calculators in the Elementary Mathematics Classroom. What is best practice?**

"Insisting that children master the basic facts before allowing them to use a calculator denies them important learning opportunities. For example, if the learning objective for a lesson is for children to explore even and odd numbers, then they might be building different array representations of numbers, recording different parts of the representations while they look for patterns. A child who has not yet developed fluency could get too bogged down in computation without a calculator. With a calculator, the same child can participate and hopefully attain the learning goals of the lesson." (pg. 172, K-2 Van de Walle)

## **Calculators Can Be Used as a Tool to Build Flexible Thinkers...**

There are many different versions of the "Broken Calculator" activity that can help students develop flexible thinking. Take a few of the following examples:

- ❑ "Find at least two ways to figure out  $61 \div 14$  without pressing the division key." (Activity 8.5 from 3-5 Van de Walle, pg., 117)
- ❑ "If you cannot use any of the even keys (0, 2, 4, 6, 8), can you create an even number in the calculator display? If so how?" (Activity 12.11 from 6-8 Van de Walle, pg., 241)

## **From our Curriculum:**

### **Calculators, Computers, Communications Technology:**

Various types of technology are useful in learning and doing mathematics. Although students must develop basic operational skills, calculators and computers can help them extend their capacity to investigate and analyse mathematical concepts and reduce the time they might otherwise spend on purely mechanical activities.

Ontario Curriculum: Mathematics Grades 1 – 8 pp. 14-16: Selecting Tools and Computational Strategies

When students do not have to worry about computation mistakes, they can focus on reasoning and problem solving.



**Braden Kingston, gr. 3 Comet wins Junior Reporter's contest at the BMO CHL/NHL Top Prospects Game in St. Catharines.**

**Braden told the Standard that his fictional story about the game was mostly about Connor McDavid , “He won a gold medal with Canada because he is such a good player,” Braden noted. The experience obviously had quite an impact on Braden as he wants to be a sports reporter when he gets older, “It’s so interesting to report the game. That would be cool for a career.”**



## **Games Night at Quaker.**

**On Thursday, January 29th between 6 PM and 8 PM, 35 grade 7 & 8 students attended a Games Night at Quaker Road.** Mr. Bootsma, who always “has his game on”, provided the opportunity for students to explore 60 different games from his collection. He was assisted by 4 grade 9 helpers. Despite the challenging weather this event was very well received and Mr. Bootsma has been approached with many requests for another opportunity for our Quaker Comet Gamers.

### **New Comet catches Quaker spirit.**

Don't worry this illness is the Quaker Comet spirit of giving and Elizabeth B. in Ms. Fulford's grade 6 class has a bad case of it. She recently had a birthday party at the YMCA and she requested that all friends who attend provide a donation to her classes effort to raise money for a school in Haiti (see page 3). As a consequence of her selfless act \$400.00 was raised towards the class goal.

### **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. Students who are absent and we have not received notification of their absence must be located through phone calls to your home or place of work. In a school our size, this is a large task, so we ask that you report your child's absence/lateness.

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.