



# Quaker March 2014

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## Principal's Message

What a busy month February was, and March is shaping up to be! Our students have been involved in a myriad of activities, as have our teachers! We have had great success with our Lego Robotics and sports teams, great fun and participation with our QHL Intramural Hockey League for students of all ages, not to mention showcasing our artistic talents as we prepare for our Quaker Road Talent Show on March 6th, and our book club for the Forest of Reading Program. There is something for everyone at Quaker Road and we

have a busy second term underway!

We are looking forward to our Family Fun Night that we will be hosting later in March where we will be spending time with students and parents learning about Wellness, playing with Math, sharing Reading and Writing strategies, and participating in some great family leisure activities. Hopefully this evening will share some of the effective instructional strategies that we are using here at Quaker Road with your children in our classrooms (and sometimes the hallways and outdoors!)

As March Break approaches (hard to believe), we are looking forward to many more exciting learning opportunities and engaging activities here at Quaker Road School. Have a great March Break, Comets!

**Looking for some activities for your child during March Break?**

Go to [www.dsbni.org](http://www.dsbni.org)  
Click "Community"  
Click "eFlyer Service"

### March Dates to Know

- March 4—Pancake Tuesday
- March 5—Winter Olympics Day
- March 6— Quaker Talent Show 2-3:15 PM & Pitas
- March 7—PA Day, No school for students
- March 10—14 March Break
- March 17—Return from March Break & Milk orders go home
- March 18—Family Fun Night 6 8 PM (K to 6)
- March 24—Milk Order Returned
- March 27—March 27 Grade 8 Grad Photos

## February 20th!! A Day of Victories & Joy at Quaker!!!

On the afternoon of Thursday, February 20th, Quaker Road School was the place to be. The joy in the air was almost palpable and the excitement was electric. Mrs. Secord's class was a sea of waving Canadian Flags and

the roar that echoed down the halls of Quaker when the Canadian woman tied the score could be heard in Grimsby. Hopefully many of the students will hold the memory of the women's amazing comeback and victory as a very positive event

In their elementary school experiences. The atmosphere only became more frenzied when Mr. Bootsma returned with the intermediate Robotics team that claimed first place in DSBN's Robotic competition. Quaker School is the perfect cure for the Winter blahs.

# Character in Action at Quaker : Optimism Award Winners

**Kindergarten : Katie L., Dylan S., (Mrs Boon) Ryder C., Sebastian R.,(Team Haining) S. Brown., (Mrs Ellis), Grade 1 : Nate P., Taylor V., Grade 2 : Matthew M., Zane N., Grade 2 / 3 : Erika M., Olivia R., Grade 3 : Miki X, Grade 3/4 : Jaden S., Katie M., Grade 5 : Kyla H., Deanna S., Grade 6 : Sara N., Lucas H-C., Claire A., Ryan S., Grade 7/8 (Bootsma) Jenn V-S., Grade 7/8 (Nevar) Brianna L., Jordan L., (Mr Hannahson) Tanya N.**



*“Creativity is as important in education as is literacy.”*  
 - Sir Ken Robinson

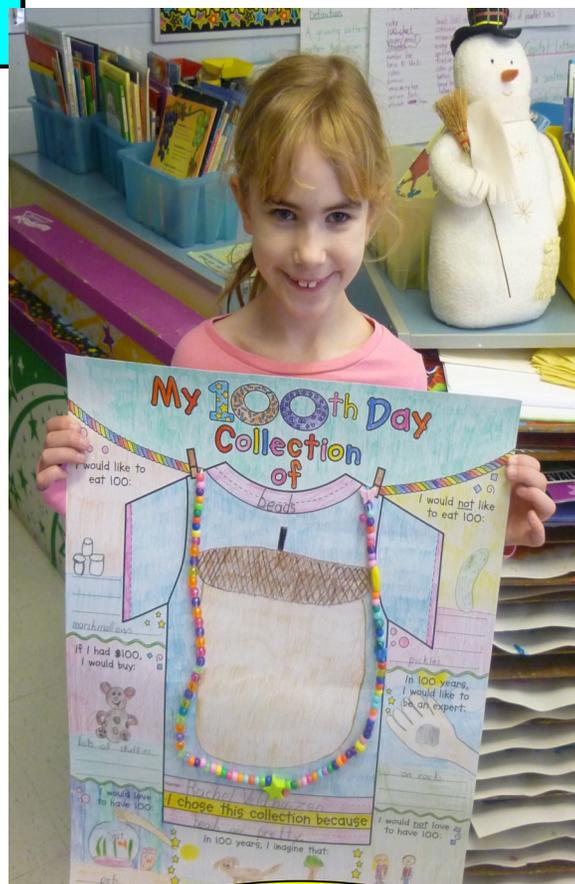
# Math Resources for Families

The following websites are good general resources;

- **Figure This! Math Challenges for Families** ([www.figurethis.org/index.html](http://www.figurethis.org/index.html)) This website has a teacher corner and a family corner.
- **National Council of Teachers of Mathematics** ([www.nctm.org/resources/families.aspx](http://www.nctm.org/resources/families.aspx)) This frequently updated site connects families to help on homework, current trends in mathematics and resources).
- **Math Forum** (<http://mathforum.org/parents.citizensd.html>) One feature of this site, "Ask Dr. Math" is a great homework help.

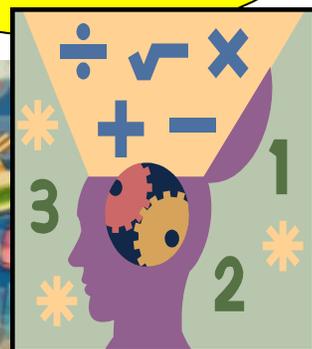
Please also have your children access the Dreambox program at home. What we recommend at school is to sit down with your child as they work on Dreambox and question them about the math they are doing. A great learning conversation can be started this way.

Some important messages to keep in mind when supporting your child in doing mathematics. There is no innate fixed math ability that some students have and others do not. Mathematics learning develops for any child when their educational experiences provide the right amount of challenge while avoiding boredom on the one hand and anxiety on the other. Mistakes are not to be shunned or avoided but embraced. In fact, at our Primary Math Professional Development Session on February 12th it was noted that, "Making mistakes is the most useful thing to be doing in math". In fact an expert in brain plasticity observed that, "Every time a student makes a mistake in math, they grow a new synapse". (a synapse is a connection point between nerve cells in the brain).



*"Wisdom begins with Wonder"*

*- Socrates*





**Parents Welcome at Quaker Anytime.** If you have skills, knowledge or experiences that you think might enrich the educational experiences of our students don't hesitate to bring them to the attention of our teachers or speak to Mr Winger or Mr Leduc in the office. Mr Stickney conducted a lively and much enjoyed drumming session for our grade fives in January. Thank you Mr. Stickney

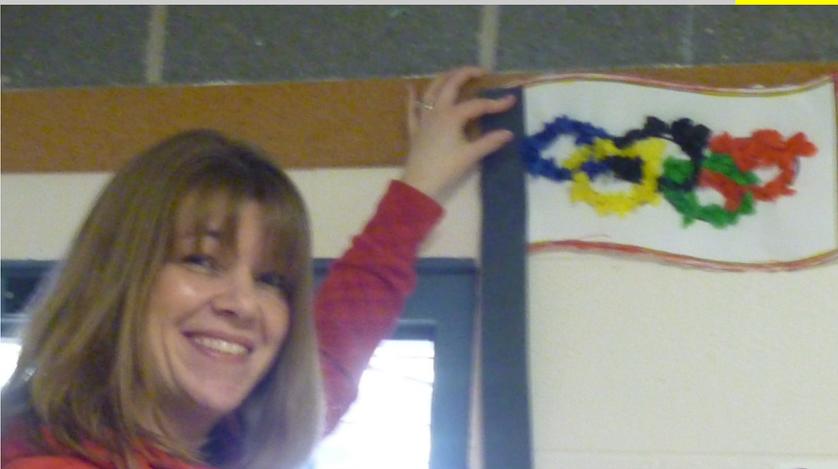
**Lets Put Carter T. In Charge of the World???**

If I were in charge of the world  
 I'd cancel natural disasters, car crashes, illegal drugs and guns  
 If I were in charge of the world  
 There'd be eco friendly houses, more trees in habitats an more animals like polar bears which are endangered  
 If I were in charge of the world  
 You wouldn't have war that kills people,  
 You wouldn't have racism that hurts,  
 You wouldn't have bullies, or pollution that kills our environment  
 You wouldn't even have criminals who break the law.  
 If I were in charge of the world a sour key would be a vegetable  
 All men would be forgiven  
 And a person who sometimes fails and sometimes makes mistakes  
 would still be allowed to be in charge of the world.

**Speaking of Parents and Parenting . . .**

Amy Chua and Jed Rubenfeld have co-authored an interesting book entitled, "The Triple Package : How Three Unlikely Traits Explain the Rise and Fall of Cultural Groups in America". Chua notes that while the book is not intended as a parenting book, she notes that she is a critic of the "trophies-for-everyone" self-esteem thing. She suggests that the impulse to want our kids to feel good right now is in deep tension with instilling drive in them. Rather than saying, "You are amazing just as you are", she suggests that the message she sees from parents of successful immigrant groups is, "You have it in you, you can be great, BUT you're not there yet".





## Quaker Road School catches Olympic Fever

Students at Quaker have been very excited about the Olympics and the success of our country's athletes. Many teachers have been using the Olympics as a springboard to meaningful and engaging learning experiences for their students. Mrs. Longo had students act as "Grade 3 Olympic Reporters", Mrs. Secord's students kept Olympic journals and really endeavored to understand the true spirit of the Olympics. Her students made flags, chanted and cheered as if they were really at the games. Mrs. Smalley's students also did Olympic journals and as shown in the picture below organized an Olympic opening ceremony for our school. Mrs. Fulford used events at the Olympics to highlight important character education priorities (see left). All in all, the Olympics were a very uplifting and inspiring event for us at Quaker and left us very proud to be Canadians.

February 13

Dear Mr Wodsworth;

I like your caring attitude and sportsmanship. The reason I think you have good sportsmanship is because you and your team could have laughed at the Russian skier who lost a ski and let him lay there. But instead you ran out to see if he was okay. While you knew he might win you still helped him through his struggles. I think you are a true Canadian. That's what sportsmanship looks like and sounds like. By Wilson G. (gr.6)



**Students in Mrs. Smalley's class carry Olympic Flags in Quaker's very own Olympic Opening Ceremonies. The stories of our athletes have inspired both staff and students.**



## ROBOTICS TEAM WINS BIG!!

A huge congratulations to Mr Bootsma and the Quaker Road Robotics team for their outstanding effort at the DSBN Robotics Challenge on Thursday, February 20th. Our team of Richard St. Laurent, Sarah Cann, Jen Van Schyndel and Drew Elliot jumped to an early lead after the first round of competition. As the day went on, teams problem-solved and worked cooperatively to persevere through many challenges. At the end of the day our 1st team of Alex Barnes, Jordan Byng, Anthony Perna and Tyler Loree closed the gap and took home Quaker's First Gold Medal in Robotics winning the competition. Congratulations boys! Congrats as well to Gerard Paris, Easton Pummel and Curtis Holmes for narrowly missing the podium. You have made us proud!

## Social Justice Projects from Grade 7/8

<http://autumnelliott.edu.glogster.com/social-justice/>

This project was created by Drew E. She used the program Glogster to create a presentation on Child Labour.

<http://prezi.com/rsa9ztlitpf/animal-rights/>

Assignment completed by Ashley P. She used the program Prezi to present her thoughts on Animal Rights.

<http://evie515.edu.glogster.com/anti-bullying>

Assignment completed by Eve S. She used Glogster to create a media presentation on Anti- Bullying.



## **Coldest Night of the Year Charity Walk for Welland's Hope Centre gets Comet Support**

On Saturday, February 22nd a group of six staff from Quaker Road School did the Coldest Night of the Year charity walk to raise money and support for our community's homeless. Thanks to Mrs Toews-Peplinski, Mrs H. Haining, Mr Hannahson, Mrs Boon, Mrs Smalley and Mr Winger for giving your time to support this important community event.

## **Eden March Break Volleyball**

**Date:** March 10 to March 14

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** Eden High School

**Cost:** \$100 for the week or \$30 per day

**Age Groups:** Girls and Boys Grade 5 to 10

**Club Players Division (If enough sign up)**

**Skills Taught:** Volley, Passing, Spiking, Serving and Games

**Offered By:** OFSAA Gold Medalists Coach Albino Pereira & players

**To Register:** Call Albino Pereira at 905-646-9884 Ext. 61571

### *Looking to better understand the role social media plays in the lives of teens?*

You may be interested in a book by Danah Boyd called, "It's Complicated : The Social Lives of Networked Teens". Through hundreds of interviews with teens, parents, teachers, librarians and others who work with the young, her extensive research illuminates the oft-misunderstood world of teens today, where social media is an extension of life, not a place to hide from parents or other authority figures. Thorough information interwoven with common-sense advice from teens and the author enable readers, particularly parents, to relax a bit regarding this new media age.

## Boys Basketball Season Marked by Steady Improvement

### The Day My Snowman Came to Life

One day I made a snowman that was tall and fat. After one day I came to my snowman and his nose and hands fell off. That night, I didn't sleep. I saw my snowman walking and so many snowmen came to my house that we decided to have a party! I went outside and I played with my snowmen. We had a snowball fight. That was so fun. We played hide and seek. We played soccer with a snowball. Then I had a fight with my snowman, he broke up and I won. That was the most fun I ever had!!

By Azhan K. (gr.3)

The intermediate boys basketball team had a phenomenal ending to their season. Miss Fulford worked hard with the boys before Christmas to develop their skills and teamwork. The team was very fortunate to have Mr. Nevar step in to coach the boys during the first half of the season. The boys lost most games by only a basket or two. Towards the end of the season with the return of their coach, the boys won their first game with only 5 players who persevered, showing that anything is possible when you are determined. The Quaker boys moved onto the consolation championship in the DSN tournament against Princess Elizabeth. Having lost to this team by one basket at the beginning of the season, the Comets soared to greatness as they lead the whole game and finished winning by 45-18. Quaker Road School is extremely proud of these young men and the great improvement they demonstrated. Congratulations to Anthony, Ryan, Richard, Kevon, Jerry, Easton, Tyler, Alex, and Jordan for an outstanding finish!



### How to Make a Snowman

1. Make 3 Big Snowballs
2. Apples for the Eyes
3. A Carrot for the nose
4. A banana for the mouth
5. Three rocks for the buttons
6. Get 2 big branches for the arms

Finally, Get a Hat

By Jacob M. (gr.2)

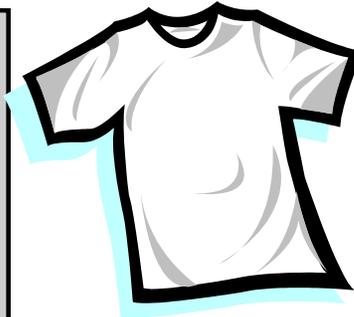
### Girls Basketball Team Digs In and Works Hard

The Intermediate Girls basketball team competed at a high level all season long. Their stalwart competitiveness and positive attitude throughout the season led to many successful outings on the court. Through hard work and dedication each and every one of the girls exhibited significant improvement as the season progressed. Although victories were hard to come by, the girls improved on both their scoring output and defensive posture as each game was played. The girls should be proud of their effort on the court and congratulated for representing Quaker Road with excellence. Their coach, Mr. Nevar, would like to thank them for working hard in practice and maintaining positive throughout the season. Considering that many of the girls on the squad were in Grade 7, it would seem only natural that next year's team will continue to make progress. Stay "H-ANGRY" girls! Good luck next year!

### The Day My Snowman Came to Life!!

One morning I got out of bed and got dressed, brushed my teeth and ate breakfast. Next, I got my coat, hat, gloves, snowpants and went outside. I made a pretty snowman. After that I went back inside and ate lunch. After that I ate supper and got ready for bed. The next morning I went outside to play with my snowperson and she wasn't there. I was thinking to myself where did she go? Then I made another snowperson because my first one was gone. All of the sudden my first snowperson crept up behind me and that's when I saw she had a sad face so I asked her to play with me. Before I knew it my second snowperson joined us and we started a big snowball fight. I threw a snowball and it knocked off the first snowperson's nose. Imagine my surprise when she bent over and picked up her nose and chucked a snowball right at me! By this time we were all exhausted and we nestled into our snow fort and took a nap. When I woke up they were gone. What a peculiar winter dream I thought.

By Lily C. (gr.3)



### Pink Shirt Day

Pink day is February 26th. Pink day is a very important day because it is a day where you don't bully. But everyday should be a no bullying day. When you bully it hurts the person that you are being a bully to. When you bully you lose your friends because they don't like your behavior. If everyone was a little nicer to people we would have a better world.

- by Bailey B.