

GORDON GAZETTE

GORDON PUBLIC SCHOOL, 468 Thorold Road West, Welland, ON L3C 3W6

October 2016

Wes Hahn
Superintendent
905-641-1550

Tony D'Alessandro
Principal
905-734-3730

Greg Watson
Vice-Principal
905-734-3730

Sue Barnett
Trustee
905-734-7116

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that one month of school has already gone by. The team at Gordon would like to thank the parents, the community and the students for being part of a very successful reorganization during our start up to the school year. We look forward to the learning and growing we are all going to be part of throughout the school year. Every newsletter we are going to be committed to providing parents with information, strategies and/or suggestions to help contribute to the collective improvement of our students' achievement and thinking.

On the Oct. 7th PA Day, the Gordon staff will be reviewing assessment data to identify program strengths and needs along with planning for classroom instruction based on the information and data gathered. The Gordon team will continue to promote our motto of "I MATTER" throughout the school year along with a positive growth mindset.

Congratulations to our New School Council for 2016-2017

Gordon School Council Executives

Chair—Lisa Mooney
Vice Chair—Sherri Sinclair
Treasurer—Ted Waskawich
Secretary—Amanda Lilley



Next Meeting is November 21st
@6:30pm



Dreambox

Our emphasis this year will be to for students to complete 5 lessons per week on Dreambox at home.

**We can do this!
Lets Get to Work.**



PA Day

Friday, October 7th is a Professional Activity Day and there will be **no school** for students.

Thanksgiving Monday, October 10th there will be **no school** for students.



October Calendar

Did you know a detailed Gordon School calendar is also posted on our website? Please re-visit the calendar throughout the month as it is updated regularly.

Highschool Open Houses

Save The Date! High School Open Houses will be held on **November 28th—Dec 1st**.

Welland Centennials Open House is Dec 1st@ 6:30pm

More details to follow in November's newsletter.

Progress Reports

On Thursday November 10th, Progress Report will be sent home.



Terry Fox Fundraiser

This year our Grizzlies raised \$1215.25 for our Terry Fox Walk. That surpassed our goal of \$2 for every student. Gordon School has been participating in Terry Fox Walk for over 15 years. Official tax receipts will be sent out for anyone who donated \$20 or more.

Intermediate Girls Soccer

Congratulations to the intermediate girl's soccer team for winning the Consolation Game in last month's tournament. They played some outstanding soccer! Mme Gardiner and Mrs. Gaspich would like to thank all the players for their hard work and perseverance. You made Gordon proud for showing great sportsmanship and being positive representatives for our school!

Team Members:

Audrey B	Isabelle B	Lily C
Brooke E	Faith G	Jessica G
Evvi L	Jordyn P	Emilie P
Grace R	Logan S	Karlie S

Soccer Teams

Intermediate Boys Soccer:

Mr. Charles would like to thank all the Intermediate Boys Soccer players for their hardwork and dedication to teamwork and sportsmanship. Even though we fell short in the Consolation championship, the boys left the tournament feeling proud of the accomplishments and improvements they made throughout the day! A huge appreciation is directed towards parents for helping with the transportation to and from the tournament.



Team Members:

Joshua D	Noah C	Cooper A
Dominic M	Gage C	Cody J
Owen W	Mason T	AJ . K
Sam H	Quinn B	Ben M

Coed Junior Soccer

The Junior Co-Ed Soccer team travelled to Sportsplex on Friday to compete in the tournament. The team did a fantastic job of representing Gordon both on and off the field. Throughout the six games we played the team never allowed a goal! Unfortunately the finals against Richmond came down to sudden victory penalty kicks and Richmond came out on top after the 9th shooter. M. Verwey & Mme. Chatel could not be more proud of how hard all of the team worked. It was a lot of fun to be your coach this year. Congrats goes out to:



Dylan L	Lila A.V	Nathan S
Isaac W	Abby T	Marlee A.G
Achillies P	Mitchell M	Lauren C
Cameron L	Hunter R	Ivy C
Riley G.S	Elliot D	

**WAY TO GO
GRIZZLIES!**



Halloween at Gordon



Teachers will be sending home specific directions regarding plans for their divisions but you should be aware that Halloween activities for all students will not commence until after the second break (1:40 p.m.), at which time they are welcomed to dress in appropriate costumes – those with a non-violent theme and which still meet the school dress code. Kindergarten to Grade 3 students may come to school dressed in their costumes. We will be having a parade on the school property for our classes beginning @ 2:00pm.

Students not taking part in these activities will have an opportunity to participate in an alternative program. Activities will include computers, the Arts and/or Physical Education.

Kindergarten—Kindergarten students enter school as usual (8:50am) for attendance and to hang back packs up. **Our parade will begin at approximately 9am.** We will walk out the Kindergarten doors and along the sidewalk in front of the Kindergarten classrooms to the front doors of the school. At the front doors to the school, the Kindertgartens will wave goodbye to any parents who are watching the parade and continue down the halls to visit the office and the classrooms. **Parents wishing to view the Kindertgartens on parade are invited to stand along the sidewalk in front of the Kindergarten classrooms (please remember to leave room on the sidewalk for the children to walk.)**

Halloween Safety:

- Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.
- Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic. Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. It is important they walk on the sidewalk, or walk facing the traffic if there is no sidewalk.
- Bright colored costumes make your child easier to see. You can use reflective tape on a costume to make your child more visible. Face paint instead of a mask helps them to see well. Have your child carry a flashlight.
- When they get home, check all of their treats carefully. Throw out any treats that aren't wrapped, if the wrapping is torn or loose, or if the wrapper has a hole. Remember that small treats can cause your child to choke.
- You might want to offer an alternative to sugar based treats. Stickers or multicolored pencils can be a nice surprise in place of, or in addition to, traditional treats.

Helmets

It is an expectation that all students attending Gordon wear a bike helmet when riding your bike, skateboarding or scooting to and from school. It is also expected that all students walk their bikes, skateboards or scooters on school property.

Pizza Days

October is here and Pizza Day is back at Gordon School. We will be ordering from Mossimos Pizza, a local favourite.

Our first pizza day is this coming Thursday October 6th. Order forms should have been returned by Wednesday, September 21st.

**Please note that future order forms will only be available on-line, for your convenience at <http://gordon.dsb.org>.

Should you require a paper copy, they will be available outside the office.



Milk Orders



Milk orders for October have already been submitted. Future milk order forms will be available only on-line, for your convenience. Simply go to our schools webpage <http://gordon.dsb.org>.

Our next milk order will be due October 20th. Should you require a paper copy, they will be available outside the office.

Crossing Guards

Please note that a crossing guard will be present 30 minutes before entry bell and 30 minutes after dismissal. Our crossing guard at Clare and Thorold wishes to remind students and parents to be patient, and wait for his instructions before crossing this very busy intersection. In addition to looking to the right, then the left and again to the right, he advises that you always check your 6 o'clock – which means to check *behind* you before crossing.

Parents please take the time to talk to your children who may periodically go out at lunch. We want to make sure that all children are being responsible when crossing the street. These students are asked to utilize the crossing guard at this time as well, for their own safety.



EQAO REMINDER!

We would to remind our parents that All Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will be writing the Primary and/or Junior EQAO assessment May 23 to June 5th, 2017.

**My Three Wishes”
by: Elizabeth
Grade 3**

Once upon a time, there lived a girl named Cam. One day she was walking across a beach, when she saw something shiny. It was a bottle and out popped a genie!

“Hello!” boomed the genie. “I shall grant you, not one, not two, but three wishes!”

“OK,” said Cam. “I wish each country had a dragon to protect it!”

“Your wish is my command,” said the genie. The genie even gave a baby dragon to Cam.

“I wish cancer was gone forever.” Wished Cam.
“Your second wish is my command!” thundered the genie.

The genie’s magic swirled around the hospitals of the world. Everyone was cured.

“I wish for everyone in the world to have three wishes a day.” Cam finally said with a grin.

“OK, Cam, but I might not see you again. Your third wish is granted.” said the genie.

“Bye.” said Cam.
“Good bye.” said the genie.

And so the genie floated away into the sun.

Spiritwear

Spirit wear is now available online through our school website, and will be available throughout the entire school year.



School Apparel - Gradhoodies

PLEASE REMEMBER TO GET SIGNED UP FOR SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

We know you have many different priorities competing for your attention each day. To respect those demands, we’d like to help you save both time and effort. It takes just five minutes to register for this service. You will be able access the service by visiting our school website and clicking on “**School Cash Online.**” There, you’ll find more information about the system, links to registration and support. You can use School Cash Online with confidence; it is a safe and secure portal.

www.gordon.dsbm.org



School Cash Online

ALLERGIES!!!



Please be advised there are a number of students attending our school this year with severe allergies which can cause an anaphylactic reaction. An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that in some cases, it can be life threatening. At this time, we are insisting that no products containing nuts be sent to the school and if these products are consumed at home that students wash their hands and brush their teeth thoroughly prior to arriving at school. It is crucial that we work together to ensure the safety of all students.

Student Medication



MEDS

If students require medication while at school, a medical form **MUST** be completed by your Doctor. If a student has a severe allergy (anaphylactic) and you did not receive a form on the first day please contact the office. Thank you for your cooperation.

ASTHMA

Students are permitted to carry their puffers with them as directed by their physician. Please contact the office for any paperwork or more information if your child is asthmatic!

BELL TIMES

Please review the following bell times. It is very important to you child's education that they arrive on time to start their day. Please do your best to ensure your child (ren) are here to start their day when the bell rings. Late students entering the classroom affects all of the students in the class and interrupt teaching. As well, It is important that students being signed out of class early be kept to a minimum. Instructional time is precious and therefore we would expect all students to be present for the entire instructional block both at the beginning and end of the day. Interruptions interfere with the learning environment.

Thank you!

TIME	ACTIVITY	INSTRUCTION/BREAK TIME
8:50 – 10:30	Instructional Block 1	8:50 ENTRY BELL 8:50-9:40 Period 1 9:40 –10:30 Period 2
10:30 – 11:10	Fitness/ Nutrition Break	10:30-10:50 Gr. 1-3, Gr. 7-8 - Outside FDK, Gr. 4-6 - Inside 10:50-11:10 Gr. 1-3, Gr. 7-8 - Inside FDK, Gr. 4-6 - Outside
11:10 - 12:50	Instructional Block 2	11:10-12:00 Period 3 12:00-12:50 Period 4
12:50 – 1:30	Fitness/Nutrition Break	12:50-1:10 Gr. 1-3, Gr. 7-8 - Outside FDK, Gr. 4-6 - Inside 1:10 -1:30 Gr. 1-3, Gr. 7-8 - Inside FDK, Gr. 4-6 - Outside
1:30- 3:10	Instructional Block 3	1:30-2:20 Period 5 2:20-3:10 Period 6 3:10 DISMISSAL



PINK SHIRT every DAY T-Shirt

In efforts to promote Bullying Prevention and Awareness at Gordon, we have monthly PINK SHIRT Days on the last Wednesday of every month.

Shirts can be ordered on School Cash Online, accessed through our Gordon Website at "dsbn.gordon.org"

Order Forms are also available at the office.

All shirts are \$9.00 each. Shirts are available in English or French. Sizes available from Youth Small to Adult 2XL

ORDERS DUE NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14th, 2016



Message from Public Health

Ontario's HPV Immunization Program – Expanded to now include Boys

For the past nine years, the HPV vaccine has been offered free of charge in Ontario schools to girls in grade 8 to help protect them from Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection and related cancers.

Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, the program will expand to offer this cancer fighting vaccine to all **boys and girls** in grade 7. If you have a son or daughter entering grade 7 this year, they will be offered the HPV vaccine through a school-based clinic. For the majority of students, this vaccine will be given in a series of two injections, one in the fall and one in the spring.

This will be the last school year that girls in grade 8 will be offered the HPV vaccine because in future years the vaccine will only be offered in grade 7.

The HPV vaccine is considered very safe, and is highly effective.

To learn more about HPV, the HPV vaccine, and catch-up programs for older children please call: Niagara Region Public Health at 905-688-8248 ext. 7425 or visit:

www.niagararegion.ca/health

www.ontario.ca/hpv

FLU SEASON IS HERE

Washing your hands prevents the spread of germs and reduces your risk of getting sick.

Wash your hands after:

- coughing or sneezing
- blowing your nose
- using the washroom
- playing with pets
- playing outdoors
- and before preparing meals and eating



Use warm water and soap, lather and scrub for at least 15 seconds. Have children sing the ABC song, so they scrub for long enough. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are safe for children and can be used when you don't see any dirt. For more information, talk to your school nurse.



I Matter.

At the DSBN, we strive to show all students how they matter: as individuals, as learners and as community members. Our students learn about the ideals of good citizenship and how they can become active participants in building a stronger community, locally and globally. We invite you to discover more about I Matter from the website below.



**I Matter
At DSBN**

DSBN Strategic Plan 2015-2020

dsbn.org/imatter #IMatterAtDSBN

October is International Walk to School Month

Lace up your shoes or snap on those bike helmets for an active trip to school.
If you live far from school, park a few blocks away and walk part of the trip.
If you ride a bus take part by walking to your bus stop.

Here's a quick trivia question to have fun with at the dinner table tonight. Walking and wheeling to school can improve:

- A) Health
- B) Happiness
- C) Stress Level
- D) Grades
- E) Safety
- F) All of the above

If you said F, you're correct! Walking and wheeling to school has many benefits and those are just a few.
Source: activesaferoutes.ca)

Tips to remember when walk or biking:

Look left, right and left again when crossing the street
Never run or dart out into the street or cross between parked cars
Make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them and watch out for cars that are turning or backing up
It's always best to walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible
Cross streets at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks
Watch out for cars coming out of driveways and alleys
If what you are doing has wheels, protect your brain – always wear a helmet
When riding your bike, ride in the same direction as the cars are driving

Tips from www.parachutecanada.org





A Family Support Group for Parents/Caregivers of Children with ADHD

Share what's working well in your family and get suggestions for managing the challenges.

2016 Fall Meeting Schedule

DATES	TOPICS
Sept 21	ADHD Basics and Updates
Oct 12	Strategies for School Success ADHD Awareness Month - Advocacy Tips
Nov 9	Social Skills Making and Keeping Good Relationships
Nov 23	Parenting Teens with ADHD <i>Guest Speaker: Tony Antidormi, Families' and Children's Counselor at Pathstone Mental Health</i>
Dec 7	Celebrating your ADHD Family Tips for Happier Holidays

Free – No Registration Needed



Call 905-641-1021 for Child Care Availability

Meetings at: St. Catharines Regional Child Care Centre

179 Carlton St., St. Catharines (Next to St. Denis School)

Wednesday evenings, 7 – 8:30 pm

For other support, resources and information:



905-641-1021
www.LDANiagara.org
programsLDAN@cogeco.net

www.niagararegion.ca Search ADHD
Parent Talk Line: ext. 7555 at 905-688-8248 or
1-888-505-6075



Gordon Public School

Principal: T. D'Alessandro

Vice-Principal: G. Watson

488 Thorold Road West, Welland, Ontario L3C 3W6

Telephone: (905) 734-3730

www.dsbno.org/Schools/Gordon



PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR PARKING LOT SAFE!!!



Due to the limited parking in our front lot, we ask parents who pick up their children after school to consider the following in the interest of student safety:

- please consider parking off property (e.g., side street) and walking over to Gordon
- if you live close to the school, please consider walking your child home
- if your child has bus privileges, allow them to take the bus home
- if the weather is inclement, provide your child with appropriate clothing (boots, umbrella, etc.)

Our students are continually reminded to use safe walking areas (sidewalk and marked areas) and be aware of parking lot traffic at dismissal.

Reminder: At dismissal time, our back parking lot off Clare Ave. is used for bus loading only.

PLEASE NOTE: By-Law Enforcement has expressed concern regarding "Fire Route" and "Handicapped" parking violations in our parking lot and has informed the school that they may take steps to enforce these by-laws in the near future.

Thank you.

Mr. D'Alessandro

Principal

Gordon School



THE RECESS PROJECT

It is my pleasure to introduce you to a program that will be continued at Gordon this year. The Recess Project is a collaborative effort among Brock University, Canadian Tire Jumpstart Foundation, and the District School Board of Niagara. Our goal is to help schools support recess time for your children. We started five years ago by simply asking the children, teachers, and administrators about their experiences with recess.

What did we learn? Recess is more than just a break from the school day. It is a time for the children to connect with their peers, to socialize, to play, and burn off pent up energy. It is a time that really matters to their well being, to their motivation for school, and to their overall long-term health. They told us about the things that got in the way of playing and socializing, and created wish lists and suggestions for us.

In turn, we created a partnership with Brock, Canadian Tire Jumpstart, and the DSBN to provide equipment, extra supervision, guidance, role models, peer leaders, and activities. This was especially appreciated over the long winter when inclement weather kept the children inside for days on end. We set up games and activities in the gym - dodgeball, Skittles, floor hockey and Zumba, for example - and had them breaking a sweat and laughing with peers as much as we could. The result has been very positive. Kids are more active, playful, inclusive, compassionate, and cooperative. They are happier. And happier kids are healthy - and healthy kids do better in school and in life.

At Gordon, we will be asking your children in grades 5 - 8 to volunteer to be Junior Recess Leaders on the playground this year. Five Brock University volunteers will commit their time all year to encouraging and guiding your children in play during recess. Two paid project coordinators will work tirelessly to arrange for equipment, activities, and support during recess, both outside and inside. The Toronto Star and the New York Times has even profiled our project.

For more information, please check out our website at www.recessprojectcanada , like us on Facebook (The Recess Project), or email me at lmcnamara@brocku.ca .

We hope you enjoyed a wonderful summer.
Thank you to you and your children for your support.

Lauren McNamara
Director, The Recess Project

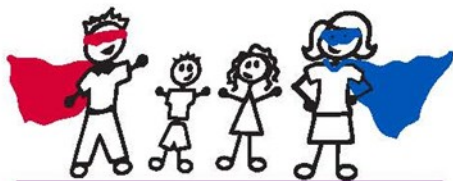


Hey Super Parents!

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER!

Join us for an evening of learning with FREE workshops for DSBN parents

REGISTRATION, FOOD & CHILD CARE are FREE!



PARENT POWER!
DSBN PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE 2016

Mark It On Your Calendar:

WED. NOV. 2, 2016

4:00 pm - 8:15 pm at Eden High School
535 Lake St., St. Catharines

Register online at www.dsbn.org/pic

OR speak to someone in your school office for assistance



Register Before October 3, 2016
and you could WIN \$500 of support
for your School and School Council!



**I Matter
At DSBN**

The DSBN Parent Involvement Committee invites you to join us for an evening of learning, sharing and networking with a focus on ideas for all DSBN parents and School Councils.

Session Topics Include:

Mental Health, Special Education, Mathematics, Kindergarten, Transitions to Secondary & Post Secondary... and so much MORE!

4:00 - 5:15 Light Dinner and Vendor Fair
Cafeteria and Gym AB

5:15 - 5:25 Opening Remarks
Cafeteria

5:45 - 6:45 1st Session

6:45 - 7:15 Vendor Fair and Refreshments
Gym AB and Cafeteria

7:15 - 8:15 2nd Session

Information about Child Care:

PRESCHOOL CHILDREN: Certified Early Childhood Educators will be available at Sven H. Dohnberg Centre. Enter the Eden High School parking lot (facing Lake St.), the child care centre is on the right.

SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN: Children will be supervised by qualified teachers in the Eden Gymnasium.

★ **CHILD CARE IS AVAILABLE BY PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY.** ★

★ Child care will be provided from 4:00pm to 8:15pm. ★

★ A light dinner will be provided for the children. ★



PARENT POWER!
DSBN PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE 2016

Register online at
www.dsbn.org/pic