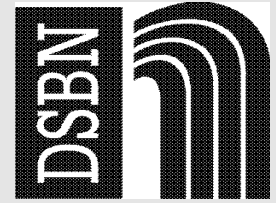


# GrapeVine



Grapeview School Newsletter # 5

January 2011

[www.dsbny.edu.on.ca/schools/grapeview](http://www.dsbny.edu.on.ca/schools/grapeview)

## Grapeview School Mission Statement

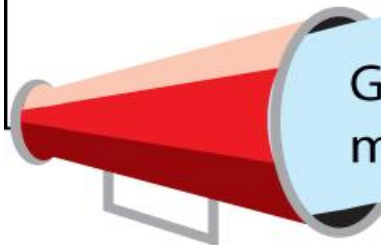
“It is the mission of Grapeview School  
to promote excellence in education through strong community partnerships  
and to provide a positive, nurturing and challenging environment”

# KiNDERGARTEN COUNTDOWN

Do you know a child who is turning 4 or 5 in 2011? Help them get ready for their big first day of school with the DSBN's Kindergarten Countdown Open House!

Parents and children are invited to our KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE on Thursday, January 27, 2011 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Families can tour our school, meet the kindergarten teacher, receive a gift bag filled with fun learning resources and information that will help children develop school readiness skills, and register for the coming school year.



Go to [www.dsbny.org/kindergarten](http://www.dsbny.org/kindergarten) for more information.

***Junior/Senior Kindergarten  
Information 2011***

If you, your friends, or your neighbours have a child born in the year 2006/2007 and are planning to send them to ***Junior/Senior Kindergarten***, please come to the school to fill out the proper forms for registration. Those students who are already registered in our ***Junior Kindergarten*** program for this year do not need to register for ***Senior Kindergarten***, they will automatically be registered for September 2011, but if you do have anyone in either JK/SK who will not be returning to our school in September 2011, please let the office know.

***Registration forms are made available through our office. To register please bring your child's Birth Certificate (proof of birth), Immunization Record, and Health Card***

***Community Care Food  
and Toy Drive***

***Well done Grapeview!***

Congratulations go out to all the Grapeview families for their generosity during our December food and toy drive. Grapeview filled many barrels of food and collected an amazing number of toys which were all donated to Community Care. Special thanks go out to our students and to Mr. Pisek for organizing this wonderful event.

***Attendance/Lates***

You are reminded to please call the school if your son/daughter will be late or absent from school. Our secretaries are available from 8:00 am to 4:00pm to receive your call. At other times, the answering machine is available. A phone call will be made to your home as part of our regular call back system for absences without a home contact. Also a reminder that school begins at 8:45 a.m..

***Family Literacy Day***

Family Literacy Day is a national initiative that promotes the importance of reading and learning together as a family. It was created by the ABC Canada Literacy Foundation. It is held each year on January 27<sup>th</sup>. To help celebrate, Grapeview's 7<sup>th</sup> annual Family Literacy Night will be held on **Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.** More information will follow after the holidays.



***January Character  
Trait - Optimism***

Optimism is being filled with exuberance. Optimism is being cheerful and happy. It is doing something wholeheartedly, with zeal and eagerness...giving 100% to what you do, holding nothing back. Being optimistic is being excited about something, looking forward to it. It comes from having a positive attitude. When you are optimistic you enjoy yourself. With optimism, even the dullest job can be fun.

***I am practicing  
optimism when I...***

Let myself enjoy looking forward to something


Think of imaginative ways to get things done

Do things wholeheartedly


Smile, laugh and enjoy what I do

Enjoy the wonders of life

***I am full of optimism. I look on the bright side. I give 100% to whatever I do. I use my imagination. I smile, laugh and enjoy all that I do.***



*An important message about  
Inclement Weather Procedures...*



There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures.

Information about transportation changes and school closures will be available on the websites, radio and television stations listed below as soon as it is available. Please do not phone the school for transportation or school closure information.

**Websites:**

[www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org)

[www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca)

**Television Stations:**

COGECO Cable 10

CHCH Television

City TV

**Radio Stations:**

CKTB 610 am

CHML 900 am

KLite - 102.9 fm

EZRock 105.7 fm

Y-108 - 107.9 fm



Wave 94.7 fm

Htz 97.7 fm

The River - 105.1 fm

If early dismissal becomes necessary, we will use the emergency numbers you provided on the confidential form which was sent home in September. If your contact numbers have changed, please call the office with your updated information.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The school may be open even though student transportation has been cancelled. The decision to send children to school is always at the parent's discretion.





DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA  
Achieving Success Together

## High School Open House Dates 2011

<b>School</b>	<b>Open House Date</b>
<b>A.N. Myer</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m.
<b>Beamsville</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
<b>Centennial</b>	Wednesday, January 19 – 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
<b>E.L. Crossley</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m.
<b>Eastdale</b>	Thursday, January 20 - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
<b>Eden</b>	Monday, January 17 – 7:00 p.m.
<b>Fort Erie</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m.
<b>Governor Simcoe</b>	Wednesday, January 19 - 6:30 p.m.
<b>Grimsby</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 7:00 p.m.
<b>Kernahan Park</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
<b>Laura Secord</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
<b>Port Colborne</b>	Thursday, January 20 - 6:30 p.m.
<b>Ridgeway Crystal Beach</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m.
<b>Sir Winston Churchill</b>	Monday, January 17 – 6:30 p.m.
<b>South Lincoln</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
<b>St. Catharines Collegiate</b>	Thursday, January 20 –6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m.
<b>Stamford Collegiate</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m.
<b>Thorold</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
<b>West Park</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 7:00 p.m.
<b>Westlane</b>	Tuesday, January 18 – 6:30 p.m.

*Grade 8 Graduation Photos on Thursday, January 13, 2011*

## *Fine Motor Skills*

### **Help Your Child Develop Their Fine Motor Skills**

Fine motor skills, the small muscles of the hand your body works when using small objects, provide the foundation that your child needs to print and write and will help your child become literate.

By the age of six years, children should be able to print their name and most letters, draw some simple pictures (person, tree, house), colour detailed pictures, and dress independently. The following strategies are fun and easy to do at home and allow you to spend some quality time with your child. They support these little learners in a big way! String small beads, fruit loops and cheerios, popcorn, etc.

1. Knead and build with plasticine and/or clay
2. Find hidden objects buried in dough and use tweezers to get the objects out
3. Draw on a mirror or on bathroom tiles with foam soap or shaving cream
4. Create a design on heavy paper using a hole punch
5. Practice with buttons and zippers
6. Use an egg timer when your child is dressing or undressing
7. Play pegboard games
8. Thread small marshmallows onto toothpicks
9. Play with interlocking blocks and puzzles that involve manipulation of small pieces

If you have concerns that your child's fine motor skills are not developing, look to see if your child has developed hand dominance, can cut along a straight line or circle, and can hold their pencil between their thumb and second and third fingertips. If they cannot, meet with your child's teacher to find ways to promote fine motor development within the classroom.

## *Up-dated Student Information*

Please notify the school ASAP if your personal information regarding phone numbers/ addresses/ emergency contact has changed in recent weeks. We are continually updating our information on file in the event of a medical emergency or an emergency school closure.

## *YMCA Daycare*

The YMCA is please to be able to provide quality licensed child care for your children within Grapeview School. We offer child care for children 3.8 to 12 years of age, Monday to Friday, from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.. We will be accepting registrations for September 2011 beginning on January 10, 2011. For registration information please contact Iris Rinkoff at 905-682-9455.

## *DSBN Cold Weather Alerts*

Winter is a time of wonder for many children; many enjoy the crisp air, the freshly fallen snow and participating in a whole host of exciting winter sports and activities.

Although we feel it is important for students to spend some time outside each day exercising and socializing with their peers, there are times when bitterly cold temperatures and other inclement weather conditions require that we keep children inside.

Because Niagara is such a large geographical area, and weather conditions may vary from one municipality to the next, the decision whether or not to hold recess outdoors is made by the individual school principal. When making this decision, principals will often consult with neighbouring schools, talk with parents as they arrive in the morning, and if the decision to send

## *DSBN–Cold Weather Alerts continued...*

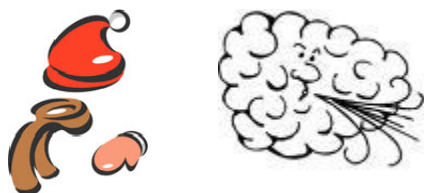
children outside is made, will equip yard duty staff with walkie-talkies so that they can communicate with the office to sound the bells to bring students in earlier.

The health and well-being of our students is a top priority at the District School Board of Niagara, and if it is determined that the weather conditions pose a risk to their safety, students will be kept indoors. Extreme cold weather alerts issued by the Niagara Region are often good indicators that students will stay inside.

Even when temperatures are not low enough to necessitate an indoor recess, it still may be quite cold outside. Here are a few tips to help ensure that your child stays warm during the cold winter months.

- Try to send children to school with plenty of layers, such as long underwear, sweatshirts, sweaters and pullovers. Layering their clothing will allow them to add or remove items depending on the weather.
- Students should have a warm winter coat that repels the snow, sleet and rain, while blocking the wind.
- Warm socks and boots will keep their feet warm and dry in the snow and slush.
- Hats are one of the most important parts of dressing warmly in the winter. A thick winter hat will keep students from losing too much of that essential body heat.
- Put on a good pair of gloves or mittens that are water-resistant as well. Gloves will keep kids' hands toasty warm and protect their skin from becoming damaged by the wind and chill.

If you have any questions about our inclement weather procedures, please visit our website [dsbn.org](http://dsbn.org), or contact the principal.



## *Celebrating Diversity at Grapeview!*

We have a variety of exciting diverse events scheduled throughout the next few months at Grapeview!

- On January 20<sup>th</sup>, the Niagara Falls Art Gallery will be joining us for an evening of Multicultural Art. Thanks to the *Education Foundation of Niagara* and *Niagara Community Foundation*, a group of ESL students together with their parents will create Clay Art reflecting their culture and family diversity.

- We are also pleased to welcome Muslim author Rukhsana Khan to Grapeview School on January 28<sup>th</sup> to speak to our Junior and Intermediate classes about her book entitled "The Roses in My Carpets". Rukhsana Khan is an award-winning author and storyteller of cross-cultural literature. She was born in Lahore, Pakistan and immigrated to Canada at the age of three. Her stories touch on world issues, cultural diversity, and carry powerful messages.

- Rukhsana will also return to Grapeview on the evening of February 23<sup>rd</sup> to share her own diverse experiences in connection to her book "Coming to Canada", with the ESL families in our local family of schools. We are very excited to have her speak at Grapeview, and look forward to her presentations in both January and February!



## The "Making Memories" Playground Campaign

Remember back to your elementary school days. Did it include playing with your friends on the jungle gym, pretending the playground was a giant pirate ship or castle? Did you ever try to make it all the way across the monkey bars? Did you and your classmates run when the bell rang to see who would be the first to the swings? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you must be hoping that someday Grapeview will have a playground.

Well that time is now! The playground committee is officially launching its "Making Memories" Campaign. The challenge is to raise \$100,000 to build a fully accessible playground. The playground will be comprised of a smaller unit for younger children, as well as a larger one for the older students.

If you would like to get involved, either by donating funds, or, if you have a corporate sponsor in mind, please contact either Mr. Ayotte, or Karen Chcoski ([karen.chcoski@dsbn.edu.on.ca](mailto:karen.chcoski@dsbn.edu.on.ca)). Donors will receive a receipt as well as recognition. Look for more information to follow in regards to sponsorship levels and timelines. Thank you for your support, and let's create a place for students of Grapeview and the community to make some lasting memories. There will be a playground committee meeting on Wednesday, January 12th at 6:30pm in the Grapeview library. All are welcome to attend.

The Playground Committee

