

January 2018

Kate S. Durdan Public School

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<http://katedurdan.dsbm.org>

A MESSAGE FROM THE KATE S DURDAN STAFF...

We sincerely hope that everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday over the Winter Break. We know that we enjoyed the opportunity to be with family and friends and have come back well rested and eager to work with our students.

We are happy to welcome Mrs. Vandermeer back! She has finished her maternity leave and looks forward to rejoining the Kindergarten team. We thank Mrs. Davis for doing a wonderful job. We also welcome Miss DalBello, she will be teaching Primary Arts as well as our Communication Classes. Miss Li is excited about teaching Kindergarten in Fort Erie. Mrs. Chen is now full time at Kate S. Durdan and will be teaching library to our students. We congratulate Mrs. Scheer in her new role as Acting Vice Principal at James Mordan, we will miss her and the support she has provided during her many years at KSD. Our Vice Principal Ms. Boon will now be working with our teachers as our Instructional Coach.

Your input continues to be very important to the success your child achieves throughout his/her educational experience. The Kate S. Durdan staff encourages you to take an active role in your child's education. If you have an issue, idea or concern that you would like to discuss with a staff member, please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will book an appointment with you.

BOOK FAIR SUCCESS

In December, Kate S. Durdan wrapped up its best Book Fair to date! Thank you to the staff, students and families who came out to support this library fundraiser! Thanks to Ms. Stewart and Mrs. Milicivic for their help running this. We are especially grateful to our parent volunteers; CarrieAnn Soucey, Paul Smith, Erin Leonard, Sara Heather, Lori Beaupitt, Reshma Brouillette and Kim Harrold. Thank you for giving your time and support—we could not have done this without you! Our new books have started to arrive and we are excited to get them on the shelves for our students!



SAVE THE DATE...

- Welcome Back..... Jan. 8
- Primary Dairy Presentations
..... Jan. 11
- French Immersion Open House
at John Marshall Jan. 11
from 6:00—7:00 PM
- PA Day..... Jan. 19
- Jersey Day Jan. 22
- School Council Jan. 23
- SK and Gr. 8 Grade Photos
..... Jan. 24
- Kindergarten Open House.....
Feb. 1

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

AT:



@KateSDurdan



Achieving Success Together

IS THE DSBN ACADEMY A GOOD FIT FOR YOUR CHILD?

The DSBN Academy is a Grade 6 to Grade 12 public school designed to support and empower students to be the first in their family to graduate from college or university. The faculty and student body are committed to excellence and the belief that, with hard work, they can achieve their dreams. Come learn how our unique program prepares students to succeed at college and university and how your child can benefit from the opportunities offered at DSBN Academy. All families are invited to attend a parent information session in your community. Please see below for dates, times and locations.

Parent Information Sessions

January 15, 2018 Harriet Tubman, St. Catharines 6:30 - 7:30pm

January 16, 2018 Diamond Trail, Welland 6:30 - 7:30pm

January 18, 2018 Valley Way, Niagara Falls 6:30 - 7:30pm

January 23, 2018 Dewitt Carter, Port Colborne 6:30 - 7:30pm

January 25, 2018 Senator Gibson, Beamsville 6:30 - 7:30pm

January 30, 2018 Peace Bridge, Fort Erie 6:30 - 7:30pm

February 6, 2018 Open House at DSBN Academy 6:30 - 8:00pm

Admission Requirements

DSBN Academy recruits and enrolls students from all 12 municipalities within the Niagara Region. Eligible applicants must meet the following requirements, both at the time of application as well as at enrollment:

- Student must be entering Grades 6, 7 or 8 in September.
- Student would be the first in their family to graduate from a college or university program. If a sibling of the student has attended a post-secondary institution but the parent(s)/guardian(s) have not, the student is still considered a First Generation Student.
- Student must be achieving current grade level expectations or just below. □ Student has demonstrated the potential for achieving "good" or "excellent" learning skills, particularly initiative, independent work and responsibility.
- Student must be willing to attend a school location that may be out of his/her community.
- Student understands that there is a mandatory after-school program which includes enrichment opportunities and academic supports.
- Families must understand that it is a single track pathway beginning in grade 9 (Academic Level Only).
- Families understand that there is a parent engagement requirement of 15 hours each year.

FRENCH IMMERSION AT JOHN MARSHALL

The French Immersion program at John Marshall is open to all students in Senior Kindergarten. If you want your child to develop a high proficiency and fluency in Canada's two official languages, French Immersion has a great deal to offer.



FEATURES OF THE FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM:

Development of French language skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing from Grades one to twelve;

- Designed to be a second-language program for children whose first language is NOT French;
- Current enrolment of over 2,000 elementary students;
- Certificate of French Immersion Studies awarded upon successful completion of the elementary and secondary immersion programs;
- Promoting understanding of different cultures;
- Providing additional opportunities for employment using French as the working language;
- An increased ability to communicate and interact with confidence in French.

Registration will open January 8th, 2018

For more information about French Immersion in the District School Board of Niagara visit www.dsbni.org or speak to your school principal.

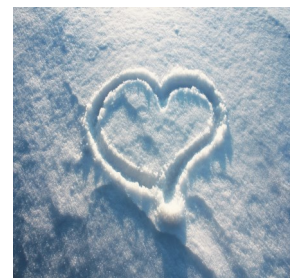
A Parent Information evening will be held on January 8 at John Marshall Public School from 6:00-7:00 pm.

WINTER IS HERE!

With the cold and wet weather upon us, we have a few reminders for comfortable and safe outdoor play during the winter months:

1. Bring appropriate outdoor clothing to school daily (hat, mitts, jacket, snow pants, boots).
2. Have dry indoor shoes stored in lockers and keep an extra outfit at school too (in case shirt and pants get wet outside).
3. Weather conditions will dictate the use of the play structure. The play structure will not be used during heavy snow, or when the ground is frozen.
4. Students are not permitted to throw snow or slide on ice patches. Students who disobey these rules will be sent indoors to the office.

Our 2 outdoor fitness breaks will occur regularly throughout the winter except in extreme weather conditions (-25C). For this reason, it is essential that students come prepared for the weather! We appreciate your efforts!



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. At times when student transportation has been cancelled and schools remain open, the decision of whether or not to have children in school on that day rests with the parent or guardian.

Should you decide not to send your child to school in the event that transportation is cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call your child's school to inform them of your child's absence.

A key resource in any emergency is the DSBN Emergency Information form that you filled out at the beginning of the school year. Please let the school know of any changes in contact information or procedures you wish to be followed throughout the school year.

Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will be available as soon as it is available through the following channels:

Websites: Subscription Features:

www.dsbns.org DSBN Facebook or Twitter

www.nsts.ca NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts

Phone:

Niagara Student Transportation Services 905-346-0290 Voice Auto Attendant

Radio Stations:

CKTB (610 AM) St. Catharines

CHRE (105.7 FM) St. Catharines

WAVE (94.7 FM) Hamilton

CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines

CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton

CKEY (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/Fort Erie

CHML (900 AM) Hamilton

K-LITE-FM (102.9 FM) Hamilton

CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton

GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland

Y-108(107.9) Hamilton



A colorful poster for a Kindergarten Open House. At the top, it says "SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE" in large, bold letters. Below that, it says "DURING YOUR VISIT YOU WILL:" followed by four colorful speech bubbles: "See a Kindergarten classroom" (yellow), "Meet the Kindergarten Team" (pink), "Register for school" (teal), and "Get a fun goodie bag with learning resources" (green). At the bottom, there is an illustration of three children playing with blocks. To the right of the illustration is the "KINDERGARTEN KICKSTART" logo, with "KICKSTART" in large, colorful letters. Below the logo, it says "Thursday, February 1, 2018" and "10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m." in blue text.