



# VINELAND PUBLIC SCHOOL

## JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Friday, January 13, 2012

### WINTER FAIR - TUESDAY JANUARY 27TH

#### **CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE ~ OUR WINTER FAIR THEME**

##### VINELAND PUBLIC SCHOOL ~ WINTER FAIR CATEGORIES

The following categories will be judged separately in 3 divisions: Primary (K-3), Junior (4-6) and Intermediate (7-8). A student may enter as many categories as they wish, but only one item per category. Students must enter a minimum of two categories and all entries must have an exhibit tag firmly affixed (distributed to students the week before the fair).

Students are encouraged to work WITH their families, friends, and teachers on items. All students will receive acknowledgement of each of their entries. The emphasis in this exercise is fun and positive participation. Please bring entries (with the exception of videos) in to school on Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup> after 8:00 a.m. Entries will be sent home on Wednesday January 25<sup>th</sup>, if entries are too large to send home, we ask that you please make arrangements to pick up in the morning.

**Arts & Crafts** (students may choose any subject which is an interpretation of the theme)

1. Winter Picture with crayon or marker
2. Winter Picture with paint, pastel or charcoal
3. Canadian Themed Picture with crayon or marker
4. Canadian Themed Picture with paint, pastel or charcoal
5. Sculpture using clay, plasticene,
6. Mural (1x3 metre max) - any media with Canadian theme
7. Winter Centerpiece - choice of materials
8. Culturally Inspired Artwork- Original
9. Master Artist -reproduction/interpretation of Culturally Inspired Artwork
10. Architectural Model of a Culturally recognized building (Eg. Eiffel Tower, Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Coliseum)

##### **Photography**

11. Photo representing Canada
12. Photo representing what it means to be a citizen
13. Collage of images representing Canada
14. Photo of a snow person or snow sculpture
15. Photo of a winter landscape
16. Collage of winter photos

##### **Scavenger Hunt**

17. Largest Maple Leaf
18. Oldest (date-able) object with a Canadian Theme
19. Oldest (date-able) object with cultural theme
20. Oldest Canadian Currency
21. Oldest Canadian Newspaper article
22. Oldest Canada stamp

##### **Literature and Writing**

23. Prayer, Quotation or Meditation
24. Best Idea for Community Leadership (explained in a paragraph of at least 5 sentences)
25. Literary Work - "What it Means to be Canadian"
26. Literary Work - Story
27. Literary Work - Poem

##### **Technology "built-in"**

28. Video recorded original song - Canadian or citizenship theme
  29. Video recorded choral reading (group) with Canadian or citizenship theme
  30. Video recorded original poem recitation (individual) with Canadian or citizenship theme
  31. "The Most Canadian Robot"
  32. 2D animation - Canadian or citizenship theme
- \*videos should be ready to hand in on Monday January 23<sup>rd</sup> so we can figure out display needs.

CON'T...





## District School Board of Niagara Expanding French Immersion for 2012

The District School Board of Niagara is pleased to now offer French Immersion beginning at the Grade 4 level across the system. In addition, as of September 2012, we will be implementing a Grade One French Immersion Pilot at 5 locations. As well as the new grade 4 entry, Grade 5 entry will continue across the Board for the 2012-2013 school year (Grade 7 entry will continue in St. Catharines and Niagara-on-the-Lake).

Information re: entry levels and the application process is on the DSBN website [www.dsbni.org](http://www.dsbni.org). Click on the Parent Tab, under Programs, click on French and International Languages, click on French Immersion Registration. Applications for Grades 1, 4, 5 and 7 (at select schools) will be online. Application packages will also be available at your child's school starting January 9, 2012. Further program information will be sent home with your child in January.

"The ability to communicate in French is a valuable skill, because French is **one** of Canada's two official languages and because it is a language used widely around the world. Research confirms that knowledge of a second language strengthens first-language skills and that the ability to speak two or more languages generally enhances reasoning and problem solving skills, as well as creative-thinking skills. Learning a second language not only strengthens students' ability to communicate, but also develops their capacity to understand and respect other cultures. In this way, second-language learning prepares students to participate more effectively in the workplace and in the global economy, and provides them with a distinct advantage in a number of careers, both in Canada and internationally." (pg 3 of the E.F./F.I. Curriculum Document (C.D.) 2001)

Parent Information Evenings will take place during the weeks of January 30 – February 10<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to find out more details about the French Immersion program, please attend one of the Information Evenings listed below or call your school.

Central	January 30, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Alexandra	January 30, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Parliament Oak	January 31, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Dalewood	January 31, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
McKay	January 31, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Prince Philip (Niagara Falls)	February 1, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Sheridan Park	February 1, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Gordon	February 6, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Princess Elizabeth	February 6, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Oakridge	February 6, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Briardale	February 7, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Queen Mary	February 7, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
John Marshall	February 8, 2012	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

# Bienvenue!

# Incident Weather Procedures

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather could cause transportation cancellations or school closures. Information about transportation changes or school closures will be available on the websites, radio, and television stations listed below as soon as it is available. The school voice mail will also be updated and parents who have given Mr. Gretsinger their email addresses for newsletters will also receive an email as soon as the information is available.

**Web Sites:**

www.dsbn.org  
www.nsts.ca

**Radio Stations:**

CKTB 610 AM  
CHML 900 AM  
KLite 102.9 FM  
EZRock 105.7 FM  
Y108–107.9 FM  
Wave 94.7 FM

**Television Stations:**

COGECO Cable 10  
CHCH Television  
City TV



If early dismissal becomes necessary, we will use the emergency numbers you provided on the confidential form which was sent home in September. Please ensure that your contact information is up-to-date.

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

## IMPORTANT DATES!

### SECONDARY OPEN HOUSE DATES

School	Day	Date	Time
A.N. Myer Secondary School	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Beamsville Secondary School	Tuesday	January 17	7:00pm – 9:00pm
E.L. Crossley Secondary School	Wednesday	January 18	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Eastdale Secondary School	Thursday	January 19	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Eden High School	Monday	January 16	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Fort Erie Secondary School	Thursday	January 19	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Governor Simcoe Secondary School	Wednesday	January 18	6:30pm – 8:00pm
Grimsby Secondary School	Tuesday	January 17	7:00pm
Kernahan Park Secondary School	Monday	January 16	6:30pm – 8:00pm
Laura Secord Secondary School	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm – 9:00pm
Port Colborne High School	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm
Ridgeway Crystal Beach High School	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School	Monday	January 16	6:30pm
South Lincoln High School	Wednesday	January 18	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Stamford Collegiate Secondary School	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
St. Catharines Collegiate Secondary School	Wednesday	January 18	1:00pm – 3:00pm 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Thorold Secondary School	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Welland Centennial Secondary School	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm
West Park Secondary School	Tuesday	January 17	7:00pm – 9:00pm
Westlane Secondary	Tuesday	January 17	6:30pm - 8:30pm

- Mon.Jan.9 – Welcome Back!
- Mon.Jan.9 - School Council Meeting @ 6:30p.m. VPS library
- Wed.Jan.11 - Mad Science presentation @ 1:30
- Thurs.Jan 12 - Ice Dogs Vineland Skate @5:00p.m.
- Fri.Jan.20 - Professional Development Day - No School
- Mon.Jan.23 - VPS School Council Committees meeting @ 6:30p.m.
- Tues.Jan.24-27– VPS Winter Fair
- Wed.Jan.25– Here to Hear–Carousel Players for Primary grades @1:30
- Fri.Jan.27–MathJam presentation JK-3 8:30 a.m.
- Fri.Jan.27–VPS hosts CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY @ 10:00 A.M.
- Thursday February 2– Kindergarten Open House 4–6
- Monday February 6– School Council Meeting 6:30
- Thursday February 9 –Term 1 Report Cards go home

## District School Board of Niagara

Vineland Public School  
4057 Victoria Avenue, Vineland, L0R2C0

Phone: 905-562-5211  
Fax: 905-562-4820



## NEWS FROM THE DSBN.....

### We are Counting Down to Kindergarten!

Children who will be four years of age or older by December 31 are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten starting September 2012.

Going to school for the first time is a major step for children and their parents. At the DSBN, families start that journey together at the 'Kindergarten Countdown' open houses. Families can visit our school, meet the kindergarten teacher, and receive a gift bag filled with fun learning resources and information that will help children develop school readiness skills.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, February 2, 2012 from 4-6 p.m. for our Kindergarten Countdown open house. Visit [www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org) and click on "Kindergarten Registration" for all the details!

### Cold Weather Alerts at DSBN

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 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.