



LINCOLN CENTENNIAL

348 SCOTT ST., ST. CATHARINES, ON L2N 1J5

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From the Principal's Desk

Happy New Year! We hope that you all enjoyed a safe and restful holiday season. We are looking forward to all of the challenges and opportunities that a new year brings. We would like to thank all who supported our many holiday celebrations and activities in December. Our school community did a tremendous job of providing food, clothing, for Community Care. A special thank you to Mme Frie, staff and students for the outstanding musical presentation on December 22. It was fantastic!

As we begin a new calendar year, we are well into the final portion of the first term of the school year. We have only ten weeks before the March Break and yet, this is a very important part of the school year, with the presentation of many new skills and concepts. Please remember to review with your child, on a regular basis, their educational goals for this term to help them remain focused on their responsibilities and make good progress.

We would also like to thank Niagara Nutrition Partners and Sobey's for their continued support of Lincoln Centennial School. With the funds and donations they provide, we will be able to continue to offer a full breakfast program. A big thank you to our parents, staff and Rotary Club members for volunteering to run this beneficial program.

WINTER WEATHER

The New Year has brought snow and cold temperatures to St. Catharines. Please dress children appropriately for the weather. With winter now here and students wearing boots, it is important for safety reasons, that students have a pair of indoor shoes to wear at school.

Please listen to the local radio stations (91.7 F.M., 105.7FM, 97.7FM, 610 A.M.,) or check the DSBN website at www.dsbni.edu.on.ca. They will announce any bus changes or school closings by 7:00a.m..


Just think, only 70 days until spring!

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.dsbm.org/kindergarten for more information.

LITERACY MATTERS

Thursday, January 27th is **Family Literacy Day**. At Lincoln Centennial, we will highlight this day with a number of activities in the classroom. Below are a few suggestions for families to make this day and every day an opportunity to improve your child's reading.

1. **Cuddle up and read.** Quiet times together are opportunities to bond...and read. The cuddling can be as important as the reading. Make it exciting: put some drama into your voice or let your child read every other page. As you go, explain any new words or ideas.
2. **Public libraries today are worlds to explore so try to go regularly.** Your library has great resources – books, computer games, DVDs, CDs, magazines, newspapers and Internet access. There are also terrific in-house programs such as reading circles for little ones and homework clubs for older children. If you have access to a public library, talk to the librarian about what is available.
3. **Make your kitchen part of your "reading zone".** Have fridge magnets available so children can start making words and short sentences.
4. **Words are everywhere – take everyday opportunities to read with your child.** Your child's world is filled with words – on cereal boxes, street signs, stores, posters, subway ads, etc. Wherever you go, you can always find new words and point them out.
5. **Games can be great learning tools.** Board games or card games such as word bingo or memory and rhyming cards can be a fun way to learn about words, letter sounds, and reading. They can help children realize how much fun learning can be. Check out your local school fair or second-hand stores for gently used games. You can even create your own by cutting out pictures, writing words on cards and getting you child to match them.

MATH FOR FAMILIES

Teachers help build children's mathematical thinking at school. Families help build it at home. Research shows that an ongoing partnership with families can help children develop math understanding.

Math Everywhere

Children need to know that math isn't just something they learn at school. Math is everywhere. Have fun with math, talk about it and help your child be aware of math in everyday life.

Have Fun with Math

- play games together (including board games, card games, dice games and computer games)
- play with toys that encourage creativity (building blocks, Lego)
- read books together - talk about ideas that relate to numbers, space, time and money
- complete a puzzle

Talk About Math

- ask questions that encourage your child to use math language, include such words as add, subtract, equal
- measure for recipes, sewing, wood working
- use the clock to plan ahead
- read schedules for bus, television or movie times
- compare the size of objects
- have your child explain their thinking "Tell me how you knew that" or "How did you get that answer?"
- count and sort a variety of objects

Model Positive Attitudes Towards Math

- model a variety of ways to solve a problem
- spend time together doing math related activities: cooking, carpentry, working with tools, grocery shopping
- Promote math as thinking, not memorization
- Spend time talking about positive math experiences in school and life.
- Children are influenced by the attitudes of the adults around them; "When I was a kid I used to love play card games too" or "Math can be hard but if we work together we'll get it."

For more information about how to help your child with mathematics, please contact the school or access the student links from D.S.B.N. Learning Gateway www.dsbnet.edu.on.ca/gateway

LINCOLN CENTENNIAL WEBSITE

The Lincoln Centennial School website has recently been updated with the help of Mr. Belliveau. Each month, newsletters and other important items are added to keep parents and guardians informed of activities at the school. Please take the time to view the site at: <http://www.dsbnet.org/Schools/LincolnCent/>

We would welcome any feedback as we continue to update the website to make it user friendly for students and parents in our community.



Dates to Remember

Thursday, January 27

Family Literacy Day

Kindergarten Open House & Registration 4:00p.m. –6:00p.m.

Monday, January 31

P.A. Day

Wednesday, February 9

Term One Report Cards

