



# APPLEWOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

**Please note, Applewood is TREE NUT FREE. In addition to Peanuts and Pumpkin, Tree Nuts are NOT PERMITTED at school.**

It's March already?!

February was a very busy month! Swim to Survive, Discovery Day, Wacky Hair Wednesday, Toque Tuesday, Pancake Day, Pink Shirt Day, Mad Learn, Valentines Day...AND, we worked on persuasive writing, predictions in reading, data management, consonant and vowel sounds, Pablo Picasso, internet safety, sculpting, musique en francais, graphing...the list goes on! In addition to all of the great things that happened in and out of the classroom we updated the school with Rev Touches in the Kindergarten classrooms, an Interactive whiteboard in the Learning Commons, audio systems in the Grade 1/2 classrooms and TONS (almost literally) of new Math Manipulatives for the entire school! It's been an AWESOME month!

Thanks to Parent Council for their financial support for some of these initiatives and for funding the Art Gallery workshops that will take place in all of the classrooms during the next few months! Parent Council is a lot of fun...please consider joining us!

March is going to be just as busy and exciting...looking forward to it!

Kate Fish, Fortunate Principal

### AN IMPORTANT REMINDER...

Students that arrive late are to come to the office to receive a late slip and then go straight to class independently or with a staff member, if necessary. **For safety reasons, please do not escort your child to class.** Additionally, please inform the office if your contact information changes.

## DAY CARE IN THE APPLEWOOD COMMUNITY

The DSBN is currently in the process of determining the viability of before and after school child care programs in all schools.

If you currently use or plan to use before and after school child care, you must register or update your child care needs on the Niagara Region Child Care Registry, OneHSN portal at <https://niagara.onehsn.com>.

Once you've logged in, please choose Applewood from the drop-down menu (e.g., DSBN - Applewood) within the registry portal.

**You must register or update your child care needs each year.** This must be completed no later than **March 13, 2020.**

Please contact the school if you have any questions or require assistance.

Happy

March



Like and Follow  
us on Facebook  
@ApplewoodPS

### MARCH'S 'SAVE THE DATES'

- 2nd - Art Gallery Workshop for 2/3s
- 11th - Swim to Survive
- 16th - 20th - March Break (no school)
- 23rd - Little Caesars Orders Due
  - Mad Science @ 12:45 pm
- 24th - Trade Skills Presentation for 5/6s
- 25th - Dental Screening
  - Parent Council @6:30 pm
- 30th - Mad Science @ 12:45 pm
- 31st - Celebration Assembly @ 11:15 am
  - Little Caesars Pizza Kit Pick-up

### Congratulations to our February Award Winners!

*Caleb, Chloe, Paisley, Lisa, Celina, Meredyth, Jacob S., Kali x 2!, Andre, Jaxon B., Sofia, Lucas, Nawroz, Kiahna, Brooklyn, Dallas, Gemma, Malia, Tessa, Jaia, Avery, Jacob Z., Yaseen, Kali, Maryam, Arayah, Leanna Z.*

KEEP UP THE  
GREAT WORK!



### HEAD LICE

Just a reminder about the proper protocol if you discover that your child has head lice. Please call the school to let us know so that we can send home a notice that alerts all parents in that classroom to check their child's head. All information is kept confidential. Treat your child for head lice, using an over the counter product from your local drug store and comb out the nits. Another option is the "wet combing" method which uses no chemicals but rather a fine comb. We have information sheets available at the office.

### ILLNESS

A reminder to please keep your child home if they are ill so we can stop the spread of infection and illness. We are encouraging children to properly wash their hands with soap and water before eating and at other times during the day. Please spend some time going over proper hand washing technique with your child. We do have tissues at school but if you would like to send some in with your child when they are sick, it would be greatly appreciated! Please feel free to contact the office if you have any questions.

### 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 report your child's absence on SafeArrival/School Messenger.**

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:** [www.dsbn.org](http://www.dsbn.org) [www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca).

**Subscription Features: DSBN Facebook or Twitter**

**NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts Phone: Niagara Student Transportation Services  
905-346-0290 Voice Auto Attendant**

**Radio Stations: CKTB (610 AM), CHTZ-FM 97.7, EZRock 105.7**

### FRENCH IMMERSION

The French Immersion program offered at Jeanne Sauve is open to all students in Year 2 (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!

**Registration is now open!**

For more information about French Immersion in the  
District School Board of Niagara

visit [www.dsbn.org/fi](http://www.dsbn.org/fi) or speak to Mrs. Fish.



# HELPING YOUR KIDS AT HOME

## LITERACY

Your child has access to award-winning digital resources through Kids A-Z, Learning A-Z's website created for students. After your child logs in, each website your child's teacher has subscribed to is shown. Your child can work on assignments or select other resources for reading and writing practice.

You can access resources on mobile devices by downloading the Kids A-Z app from the app store.

Kids A-Z Login Instructions:

- Step 1: Go to [www.kidsa-z.com](http://www.kidsa-z.com)
- Step 2: Enter or choose the teacher's username
- Step 3: Your child finds his or her username on the class chart
- Step 4: Your child enters his or her password



How to Register for and Receive Progress Reports:

If you would like to receive activity and progress reports for your child and send him or her messages, you can register for parent access from your child's teacher. Once the teacher approves access, you can view reports and send your child messages by clicking on the parent link at the top of the screen at [www.kidsa-z.com](http://www.kidsa-z.com). Here are the three options for requesting access.

1. After your child logs in, click on the green parent button at the top right of the screen and enter your email address.
2. Send your email address(es) to your child's teacher at [firstname.lastname@dsbn.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@dsbn.org) (go to [www.applewood.dsbn.org](http://www.applewood.dsbn.org) for teacher email addresses).
3. Fill out the form that was sent home with your child and return it to his or her classroom teacher.

## MATH

Applewood School has purchased **DreamBox Learning**, a K-8 digital math program that independent studies have found to raise student achievement and better prepare children for future success.

**To Access DreamBox on a Browser:**

Your student can access DreamBox Learning from any computer, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All you need is a high-speed Internet connection.

If you're using a browser, use this link: <https://play.dreambox.com/login/42cv/applewood>

**To Access DreamBox on an iPad:**

To download the DreamBox Learning Math app, go to <https://www.dreambox.com/ipad>, or search for "DreamBox Learning Math" in the App Store. If you already have the app installed, you'll want to make sure the latest version of the app has been installed so your student receives the most current experience and lessons.

When prompted in the app, enter this school code: **42cv/applewood**

Create your DreamBox Account to review your student's academic progress at home in your Family Dashboard. Please follow these steps to create your free account:

You will need your child's DreamBox school login information from their teacher to login for the first time.

1. Have your student login to their profile just as they would at school.
2. Click Setup Parent Access at the bottom of the page.
3. Follow the instructions provided to create a new login and password.
4. Read Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.
5. Click "Submit".

Log into your home account after setup:

1. Go to <https://play.dreambox.com>
2. Enter your email address and password.
3. To see student progress, click the "Family Dashboard" button.



If you have any questions, please contact DreamBox Support by calling them at 877-451-7845 (weekdays 5 a.m. to 5 p.m., Pacific Time), or emailing [support@dreambox.com](mailto:support@dreambox.com).

NOTE: The DreamBox Support team is unable to provide your child's login information and password for security reasons. Please reach out to your child's teacher directly for their DreamBox login information.

## PARENT COUNCIL

Parent Council will be meeting on Wednesday, March 25th at 6:30 pm in the Learning Commons. Please, join us! This month we will be discussing fundraising (Little Caesars Pizza Kits, the Dance-a-thon) and many other interesting topics!

Please join us for one (or more!) of our meetings! There is no long term commitment required and we value everyone's input! We would love to have more people join us to discuss our school, ideas for the future, and questions you may have. We have a great time and are working together as a team to make the Applewood School community a positive place for our children / students to learn and grow up! **PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU REQUIRE CHILDCARE DURING THE MEETING SO YOU CAN ATTEND!**

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."

Jane D. Hull

## BREAKFAST CLUB



Breakfast Club is open Monday - Friday from 8:15 am - 8:30 am. It is located in the staff room and run by our greatly appreciated volunteer, Miss Hazel. Fruit, cereal, bagels, english muffins, cheese, and yogurt are available for ALL students.

**Students coming in for Breakfast Club should enter from the BACK DOOR.**

## PIZZA & MILK ORDERS

All pizza and milk orders will be done through School Cash Online (in addition to all purchases made for school and permission forms for trips, etc.) one month at a time. If you have not registered for School Cash Online, please do so as soon as possible (no credit card is required) on our website ([www.applewood.dsbm.org](http://www.applewood.dsbm.org)).



## REUSABLE CUTLERY & STRAWS



As part of our commitment to eliminating single-use plastics in the school, we will not be giving plastic straws to students who have ordered milk. Additionally, we will not have plastic forks and spoons available to students during snack / lunch breaks. Please ensure that your child comes with reusable cutlery and a stainless steel straw (available at dollar stores) if they require one for drinking. If you are really ambitious, try eliminating litter from your child's lunch by packing food in reusable containers—we can all do our part...every bit counts!

## WATER BOTTLES

Hydrated students are happy students! Applewood has a water bottle filling station on each level. Students are encouraged to bring a re-useable water bottle to use at school. Please label the bottle with your child's name.



## WARM, DRY & SAFE @ APPLEWOOD



A reminder that students must wear clothing appropriate for the cold weather. Students from grades 1-6 are outside twice a day for twenty minutes and Kindergarten students, even longer. Please ensure that your child is wearing a warm snowsuit, hat, gloves, scarf and winter boots. Indoor shoes are required for safety inside the school. Extra dry socks are also a good idea. Thank you!

## ALLERGIES - PEANUTS & PUMPKINS



Please ensure that all food brought into the school is PEANUT, TREE NUT AND PUMPKIN FREE as we have students with life-threatening allergies in the building. Alternatives to peanuts and peanut butter are welcome in snacks / lunches. Please identify the type of alternative that is being sent in your child's agenda or lunch bag. If you have any questions, please contact the office.



## REPORTING ABSENCES

Mrs. Flora, our Administrative Assistant, is in the office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each week-day. **Please inform the office of all absences using the School Messenger App which can be downloaded in the App Store of your cell phone and online.** If you have any questions about the procedure, please feel free to contact the office for assistance. We do recognize that from time to time it is necessary to contact the school to get a message to your child. Please try to make all of the necessary arrangements with your child/ren in advance of school to avoid any missed communication. Students are able to use the office phone and are not to be using their cell phones during the school day, unless they ask permission to come down and use it at the office.



## SCHOOL BELL TIMES & PUNCTUALITY

**BEING ON TIME IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR STUDENTS.** Children who arrive at school at 8:30 am, when outdoor supervision begins, have the opportunity to socialize prior to coming into their classrooms, can attend Breakfast Club if they would like, and receive ALL of the quality instruction of the day without interrupting the class when they arrive. Additionally, the office is able to address attendance concerns without being interrupted. Please consider the following bell times when planning your day...let's see if we can maximize student learning in December!

8:30 a.m.	Outdoor Supervision Begins
8:45 a.m.	Entry
8:45 -10:25 a.m.	Instructional Block 1
10:25 -11:05 a.m.	Fitness/Nutrition Break
11:05 - 12:45 p.m.	Instructional Block 2
12:45 - 1:25 p.m.	Fitness/Nutrition Break 2
1:25- 3:05 p.m.	Instructional Block 3
3:05 p.m.	Dismissal



## VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS



We welcome visitors and parents at Applewood! **A reminder that you must enter through the front door, sign in at the office and wear a visitor's badge.** If you are dropping off items for your child, please leave them at the office with Mrs. Flora and she will page the student to come down to the office. If you wish to communicate with your child's teacher, please do so through the agenda, call the school or make an appointment to meet. If you are interested in volunteering (and we'd love to have you!), please feel free to come to the office to receive a Volunteer Handbook and complete the DSBN Volunteer Information Form.

## STUDENT MEDICATIONS

All medication that is to be administered to students at school must have an authorization form on file in the school. **These forms are available at the school office.** This includes allergy medication, inhalers and epipens. **If your child requires an epipen or an inhaler, please contact the office immediately so we can send home the proper paperwork and put emergency procedures in place.**

