

DYS STAR GAZE-ette

Donald Young School Newsletter January Aabita-biboonigiizis Janvier 2018

From the Principal's Desk ...

The start of a new year means the start of a new opportunity for me! I bring experiences and skills that will be an asset to the DYS school community. Over the past two years, I was the Vice-Principal at Robert Moore School where I acquired a wealth of knowledge from the students and staff.

I am very excited to start this new chapter of my career. I am excited for the new challenges and the new opportunities. I am most excited to make new connections with the students, staff and families of Donald Young School.

Mr. Beckett

December Highlights

Newsletter Draw

The Tom family won the December Newsletter draw. They won a Tim Horton's gift card. Congratulations!

Christmas Crafts

A special thank you to John Laplante for all his help cutting and preparing the beautiful Christmas crafts that students made the last week of school.

Christmas Concert - December 14

The annual Christmas Concert was one to remember! Thanks to Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Councillor, Ms. Lucas the MCs and all the staff and students who worked hard to put the program together.

A special thank you for all the families who donated an item or basket for door prizes. Many families left the concert with a prize basket.

Christmas Carol Sing - December 18 to 22

Students and staff met in the gym every morning during the last week of school to sing Christmas carols. Thanks to Mrs. Williams for organizing and

Get Ready, Get Set, for... Kindergarten Registration! 2018/19 School Year



Kindergarten Registration will take place at Donald Young School on Wednesday, February 28, from 3:30 to 6:30 PM. Parents/guardians and children are invited to visit the school, meet the teachers and register for the 2018-2019 school year.

To be eligible to register, students must meet the following requirements:

- **Kindergarten Year 1**
* attain the age of 4 years before December 31/18
- **Kindergarten Year 2**
* attain the age of 5 years before December 31/18

Please bring the following with you when you come to register:

- * Birth certificate or other legal proof of birth
- * Proof of residency (utility bill, driver's license)
- * Ontario Health Card
- * Immunization Record

NOTES:

It is not necessary for Year 1 Kindergarten students already attending school to register for Year 2 Kindergarten.

Don't worry if you cannot make the Registration. Students can be registered at any time.

If you know of someone who has children who meet the above requirements, please inform them of the registration date and encourage them to attend registration.

Ontario's Kindergarten program is a play-based program. Learning through play is supported by research. When children are engaged in purposeful play, they are discovering, creating, improvising, and expanding their learning (CMEC Statement). You can read more about the Full-Day Kindergarten Program at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/> or come in and see it in action! ★ ★ ★

DYS Welcome

The staff and students of DYS would like to extend a big thank you to Mrs. Meyers for all of her help over the last couple of months. We would also like to extend a welcome to Mr. Beckett who will be the new Principal and to Mr. Koomans who will continue to work in the Grade 2/3 classroom for the mornings until the end of January.

Outdoor Recess

In accordance with RRDSB policy we monitor the weather closely each day. If the temperature dips to -25 C with the wind chill we keep students inside otherwise students need to be prepared to be outdoors. Thanks for sending your children with warm clothing.

Toronto Trip Update

The Grade Seven and Eight Toronto Trip will take place from Friday, June 8th to Thursday, June 14th. 34 students have expressed interest to go on the trip. Bussing has been booked and accommodations will be confirmed this week. Mrs. Councillor has been working on the itinerary and it is coming together nicely. The bus will be picking up and dropping students off at DYS. Mrs. Councillor, Mr. Beckett and two other chaperones will be attending the trip. Chaperones will be selected and contacted in the next couple of weeks. Students and chaperones will be kept busy with an extensive schedule of events. An itinerary will be sent home once it is fully developed. At this time, we are asking that parents make a commitment to the trip by submitting a non-refundable deposit of \$300.00 by January 31st, through cash online found on the DYS webpage.

Upcoming Events

Family Literacy Day Activities- January 25

Family Literacy Day takes place annually on January 27 to celebrate adults and children reading and learning together, and to encourage Canadians to spend at least 15 minutes enjoying a learning activity as a family every day. Playing games that encourage literacy and numeracy - such as board games, card games and word games - is a great way for parents and children to practice their literacy skills and have fun.

We have a special day planned at DYS on Thursday, January 25th which includes:

- Royal Readers
- Lunch with a Learner
- Door Prizes
- Book Buddies



Mini-Stick Hockey

Please remind your child of the contract he/she signed to play mini-stick hockey. Students have been reminded and need to demonstrate good sportsmanship and a positive attitude while playing the game.

Student Headphones

Students in Grades 1-8 are asked to please bring a labelled pair of headphones to school for the remainder of the school year. This will allow students to actively engage in their Literacy and Numeracy program and not disturb the learning of others.

Parent Engagement and School

Parents have a strong influence on their children's attitudes towards school, learning, and their future success. As their child's first teacher, parent hopes/dreams for their child matter. Therefore, engaging parents in the life of the school yields many positive benefits and rewards for families and schools alike. Understanding how to meaningfully engage parents is less understood.

There are many ways parents make a difference in their children's successes at school. Parents who:

- talk with their children about their day at school,
- help with homework,
- meet with teachers,
- serve on school councils,
- attend school-related events,
- and/or volunteer on school trips are all examples of engaged parents.

Parent involvement that is focused on student learning has the greatest impact on student achievement. While some parents approach their children's schooling with confidence, comfort and trust, others are more hesitant. Yet families of all background have significant aspirations for their children and they want to help them learn,

regardless of income, educational level or cultural background.

Emo Cadets Starts Thursday, January 18

What is Cadets? Cadets is a Boys Club for boys in Grade 4 – 8. Through Cadets, boys will be involved in activities such as projects, merit badges, Bible studies, meeting new friends, hiking, games and much more. Cadets will be held at the Emo Christian Reformed Church bi-weekly on Thursday evenings – 7:00 PM to 8:45 PM starting January



January 8	First Day of School for 2018
January 25	Family Literacy Day
January 26	PD Day (No school for students)
January 29	NWHU Immunizations (Kindergarten)
February 16	Term 1 Report Cards Go Home
February 19	Family Day (No school for students)
February 27	Grade 8 Grad Photos @ 1: 00 p.m.
February 28	Pink Shirt Day



We share
the **AIR**

Let's keep it
**SCENT
FREE**



Due to the health concerns arising from exposure to scented products, the Rainy River District School Board is requesting that all schools and work sites be as "Scent Free" as possible.

Scented products can trigger allergies in both staff and students. These products can include:

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|--------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| . Shampoo | . Perfumes | . Cosmetics |
| . Hairsprays | . Lotions and
creams | . Air fresheners |
| . Deodorants | . Soap | . Oils |
| . Colognes | | . Candles |

Please refrain from wearing and/or bringing scented products to school. Thank you for your cooperation.

January 2018 Donald Young School Newsletter Draw

Please complete and return.

1. What day is DYS hosting Family Literacy Activities? _____
2. What other ways could the school help you support your child's education or learning? Please list anything that would be helpful to you in helping your child.

Comments

Please return by Thursday, January 25th to be eligible for the draw.