

THE RED HAWK REPORT

River View Public School

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February 2022

#REDHAWKPRIDE

#WATCHUSSOAR

#WELCOMETOTHENEST

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is important that we ensure we are maintaining balance with our families. Please ensure you take some time to care for your physical and emotional health and well-being. What can you do as a family to balance these needs? Take a family walk, play with your dog in the backyard, build a snowman, or perhaps bake some special treats. Sending uplifting messages can also improve our own mood. When we share our gratitude, it helps us feel more positive, build strong friendships, and deal with challenges. Tell someone why they are important to you.

If you would like to send a "Shout Out" to someone in our River View community, please send us an email to rvw@dsbn.org and we will share your thanks or congratulations with them!

With Term 1 Report Cards and the Kindergarten Communication of Learning coming home on February 17th, this is a great opportunity to reflect on your child's progress and set some goals for the remainder of the year. If you have any questions, comments, and or concerns, your child's teacher. Please see the important information regarding our Term 1 report cards and the Term 1 Kindergarten Communication of Learning.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Do you know a child who was born in 2018? If so, spread the word that Kindergarten registration is here! Please visit the [DSBN Kindergarten registration link](#) for more details and to download a copy of DSBN's book, "Barkley's First Day". Parents are encouraged to register to join the virtual "Kindergarten Kickstart Q&A" on February 3, starting at 6:00 pm. To register, please [click here](#). We ask that you spread the word to families that have children born in 2018 that may not currently be a part of our River View or DSBN community.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Black History Month	February
World Hijab Day	Feb. 1
Lunar New Year	Feb. 1
Groundhog Day	Feb. 2
100 th Day of School	Feb. 11
Valentine's Day	Feb. 14
Term 1 Reports and Kindergarten Communication of Learning go home	Feb. 17
PA Day	Feb. 18
Family Day Holiday	Feb. 21
Pink Shirt Day	Feb. 23

PA DAY

On Friday, February 18 all DSBN schools will be closed for a PA Day and all schools will also be closed as we recognize Family Day on Monday, February 21.



STUDENT RECOGNITION

During the month of January, River View students were recognized for their character traits, and as a community member for contributing to the school and/or classroom. The following students were recognized:

GOTCHAS

MEGAN (3M) – OFFERING TO HELP OUT IN CLASS WITHOUT BEING ASKED (MRS. MUSGRAVE)
 AAYDEN (3/4H) – BEING KIND TO HIS CLASSMATES AND FOR FOLLOWING THE RULES (MS. HANN)
 RYKER (KDG2) – BUYING CANDY CANES FOR OUR WHOLE CLASS (MRS. HIGGINS)
 COLT (3M) – OFFERING TO HELP A CLASSMATE GET ON A GAME DURING CHROMEBOOK TIME WITHOUT BEING ASKED (MRS. MUSGRAVE)
 AUSTIN (1L) – HE HAS A FRIEND FOR HELP WITH ZIPPING UP HIS COAT INSTEAD OF ASKING A TEACHER (MRS. LESLIE)
 MADISON (1L) – WHEN ASKED FOR HELP FROM A FRIEND SHE DIDN'T HESITATE TO LEND A HELPING HAND (MRS. LESLIE)
 HARPER (KDG1) – HELPING MRS. PEPIN CLEAN UP THE PAPER WHEN IT FELL ON THE FLOOR (MRS. PEPIN)
 DEVONTE (6/7M) – DEVONTE HOLDS THE J/I DOORS DURING ENTRY TIMES FOR MULTIPLE CLASSES (MR. SERAFINO)
 NALDIE (KDG3) – BEING SO KIND AND PATIENT WITH HER FRIENDS (MRS. FRENCH)
 TYSON (4/5L) – ALWAYS SAYING “Hi” AND FOR OUR GREAT CONVERSATIONS THIS YEAR (MS. DEROUSIE)
 DANIEL (7/8S) – VOLUNTEERED TO HELP MRS. HILBORN SORT THE PROJECT SHARE BINS (MRS. THERIAULT)

SCHOOL CULTURE SURVEY COMING FEBRUARY 7-22, 2022 (RESCHEDULED)

We're working towards building an equitable and inclusive school culture across the DSBN, and hearing from you and your child is an important part of this work.

We are proud to be offering the DSBN School Culture Survey to students, families, and staff. You and your child will have the opportunity to share how you experience your school to help us better understand how we can build and maintain a positive culture for all.



What is the School Culture Survey? The School Culture Survey is a valuable opportunity for students in Grades 4-12, their families and DSBN school staff to help us learn more about your experiences at school. The questions will be organized into five main factors that help create your school culture: Well-Being; Caring and Safe Schools; Sense of Belonging; Equity and Inclusion; Teaching and Learning.

When can Students Grades 4-8 and their Families do the Survey? Students in Grades 4-8 will be asked to take the survey during class time between February 7-22, 2022. Families will be sent the survey to take within this time as well. This survey will be entirely anonymous and confidential. While it is voluntary to take, the more responses we receive, the more effective the DSBN can be in supporting your family moving forward.

Where Can I Learn More About This? Check out the Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism Team's website for more information and Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.dsbns.org/equity/school-culture-survey>.

Please reach out to the school directly for additional questions. We're here to help!

GRADE 8 GRAD PHOTOS

Grade 8 Graduation photos are tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 5th. All students are encouraged to wear a white, button-down shirt and a tie for the boys. Further information will be sent home when we get closer to photo day.

Class of 2022

DSBN ACADEMY: VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE COMING SOON

Learn about the DSBN Academy at the Virtual Open House on **Tuesday, February 15, 2022!** Join us to find out:

- How this unique program prepares students to attend, and succeed at, college and university
- What extra opportunities are offered and how your child can benefit
- If the DSBN Academy is a good fit for your child

The DSBN Academy is a Grade 6-12 public school designed to support and empower students to be the first in their family to graduate from college or university. Staff and students are committed to the belief that, with hard work, all students can achieve their dreams.

Online registration opens in January at [ACADEMY.DSBN.ORG/APPLY](https://academy.dsbn.org/apply). Registration will close on FEBRUARY 25, 2022. Limited spots available.



WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY TO DSBN ACADEMY?

- Student must live within the Niagara Region
- Student is entering Grade 6, 7 or 8 in September 2022
- Student would be the first in their family to graduate from a college or university program
 - If a sibling has attended post-secondary but the parent(s)/guardian(s) have not, the student is still considered a First Generation Student
- Student is achieving current grade level expectations or just below
- Student has demonstrated the potential for achieving “good” or “excellent” learning skills
- Student is willing to attend a school that may be out of their community with free transportation provided
- Student understands there are mandatory after-school academic supports and *ENCORE* programs
 - After-school *ENCORE* options include: Mixed sports, Board games, Photography, Yoga, Makerspace, Choir, Reading, and many more!
- Families understand that the DSBN Academy is a single track pathway beginning in Grade 9 (academic level only)

If you have any questions, please contact: Derek.Harley@dsbn.org - Elementary Principal

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, and boots).
2. Have dry indoor shoes and keep an extra outfit at school too (in case shirt and pants get wet outside).
3. Students are not permitted to throw snow or slide on ice patches. Students who disobey these rules will be sent indoors to the office.

If you need a winter coat, snow pants, boot, hats, gloves, or mitts, please contact the school office by phone or email (rvw@dsbn.org) to inquire about the support we can provide in getting these much needed items for your children.

All students will continue to have gym classes outside, in the winter months, weather permitting. Kindergarten children will also continue to have outdoor exploration time during the winter months.

Our 2 outdoor fitness breaks will occur regularly throughout the winter except in when an extreme cold weather alert is issued by the Niagara Region. For this reason, it is essential that students come prepared for the weather! We appreciate your efforts!

GRADE 1 FRENCH IMMERSION REGISTRATION

The French Immersion program (offered at French Immersion sites) is open to all Year 2 Kindergarten students and will close on Tuesday, February 22, 2022. 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. [Check out this video about our program!](#) For more information about French Immersion in the District School Board of Niagara visit www.dsbni.org/fi.



PARENT'S ROLE IN KEEPING SCHOOLS SAFE

As you are aware, all staff and students must self-screen every day before attending school. As part of our ongoing commitment to student safety, and as recommended by the Ministry of Education and Niagara Public Health, we added an active screening process that allows schools to verify if the daily school screening has been completed. Each day, if the student screener is not completed a follow up email will be sent to parents reminding them to complete it at that time. Everyone has a role to play in keeping families safe and reducing the spread of COVID-19. One of the most effective strategies is keeping COVID out of our schools and the daily COVID assessment is essential in achieving this goal. Please note that the DSBN is not collecting any specific health data about students or the results of the screening. Our system only reports confirmation that the screening has or has not been completed.

[The Daily Screening Tool can be found by clicking here and using your child's login information to complete the screening process.](#) We thank you for your cooperation in completing the Daily Screening Tool each day.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Little Caesars Fundraiser is BACK! We will be running this fundraiser in March. Please watch for more information coming soon!



Next Meeting: Week of March 21st, Date TBD

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History month. During Black History Month, Canadians celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate, and prosperous nation it is today. Just a few of the notable people who have helped shape Canadian heritage and identity are Harriet Tubman, Viola Davis Desmond, and the Honourable Lincoln Alexander. Do you know why Harriet Tubman has a DSBN school named after her? Do you know why Viola Desmond is on the \$10 bill and why we recognize Lincoln Alexander day on January 21? We look forward to celebrating many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians, past and present, throughout the month.

FEBRUARY SPIRIT DAYS

There are a few exciting dates coming up in February we are looking forward to celebrating and recognizing with our students.

Date	What to Wear	Purpose of the Day
Friday, February 4	Canada Gear	February 4 is the beginning of the 2022 Winter Olympics. To cheer on Team Canada, we are encouraging our Wolfpack to wear their Canada gear or red and white. GO CANADA!
Friday, February 11	100 th Day of School	This is the 100 th day of school. Students are invited to wear something to celebrate 100 th day of learning at River View. Let's see how creative we can be Red Hawks!
Monday, February 14	Valentines Day	February 14 is Valentines Day and students are encouraged to wear Valentine apparel or red, white, or pink.
Wednesday, February 23	Pink Shirt Day	Pink Shirt Day, is recognized on the last Wednesday in February in Canada

PINK SHIRT DAY

Anti-Bullying Day, also known as Pink Shirt Day, is recognized on the last Wednesday in February in Canada. On February 23, we encourage all members of the River View community to wear something pink to symbolize that we at River View will not tolerate bullying.

What is bullying?

Bullying is aggressive behaviour that is typically repeated over time. It is meant to cause harm, fear or distress or create a negative environment at school for another person. Bullying occurs in a situation where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.

Is conflict the same as bullying?

People may sometimes confuse conflict with bullying, but they are different. Conflict occurs between two or more people who have a disagreement, a difference of opinion or different views. Conflict between students does not always mean its bullying. Children learn at a young age to understand that others can have a different perspective than their own, but developing the ability to gain perspective takes time and the process continues into early adulthood (Stepping Stones: A Resource on Youth Development, page 26). (The above information is taken from

www.ontario.ca/page/bullying-we-can-all-help-stop-it

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

With School Cash Online, you will be able to approve permission forms and make payments for items online. Understanding that we're quickly becoming a cashless society, we know it can sometimes be a challenge to find exact change for items and then send it to school through your child's backpack. Using School Cash Online, you'll be able to use your debit, credit card or echeque to make quick and easy payments online. It will also allow you to track payments made and receive an invoice for your purchases. The link to School Cash Online can be found on the River View Website.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

Transportation and School Closures

There are times in Niagara when weather conditions are so poor that we must cancel student transportation, and/or close schools to preserve the safety of students and staff. The decision to cancel transportation and/or close schools is not taken lightly; a variety of factors are considered when making this choice. To learn more about how these decisions are made, please go to <https://www.dsbni.org/inclementweather>.

Transportation Cancellations:

Information about transportation delays and cancellations are posted to <https://portal.nsts.ca/Cancellations.aspx>. When transportation is cancelled, every effort is made to communicate the decision by 6:00 am on the day of the cancellation. There are times when transportation is cancelled, but schools remain open. If, on those days you feel it is best for your child to stay home, please report your child's absence <https://dsbn.org/safearrival/> so we can make sure they are safe at home.

School Closures:

When the decision to close schools is made, it refers to all schools: both in-person and remote learners. Every effort will be made to share school closure information before 6:00 am on the day of the school closure. You will find it on dsbn.org, all school websites, DSBNI social media, and local media share the news widely as well.

NSTS IMPORTANT NOTICE (FROM JANUARY 17, 2022)

NSTS wanted to make you aware that we have a school bus driver for every route, but not enough extra drivers to cover absences. NSTS and bus companies are making every effort to provide service daily to all eligible students; however, there may be service disruptions resulting in delays and individual route cancellations. Every effort will be made to post individual route cancellations by 6:00 a.m.

[View Guidance to Families for Potential for Individual Route Cancellations](#)

[View Route Delays and Cancellations](#)

Students are required to follow their school board procedure for self-assessment prior to arriving at the bus stop. Students (including Kindergarten students) are required to wear a face covering on the bus and sit in their assigned seat. Select windows will be open and all bus rules and COVID-19 protocols remain in effect.

[View all 2021-22 Transportation Protocols](#)

Further information and guidance can be found through our website www.nsts.ca.

Transportation cancellations will be identified by route on the NSTS site. Our students know their bus by their colour. Please note the following for your information to help clarify if your child's bus is a route that has been cancelled:

Route	Bus Colour
6305	Pink/Purple
6308	Blue
6340	Orange
6365	Brown
6311	Red
6561	Yellow
6538	Beige
6545	Green

THE NOSE KNOWS: NO SCENTS MAKES SENSE

Scented products have chemicals that can cause health reactions in people with asthma, migraines, allergies, or environmental sensitivities. Please help keep our air breathable for everyone and use unscented or scent reduced products where possible. Woodland is a Scent-Reduced Environment. Some staff and students have a sensitivity to odours, smells, and scents. Please do not wear, or send your child with, perfume, cologne, after shave, or scented body lotion into the school.

ANAPHYLAXIS – BE NUT AWARE!

Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening reaction to certain food substances. We have students in our school that suffer from a severe allergy which can cause an anaphylactic reaction. An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that in some cases, it can be life threatening. These children have a severe allergy to nuts. Prevention is the best approach. Therefore, we ask your cooperation in not sending any snacks or lunches containing nut products with your child.

DSBN SOCIAL WORKER SUPPORT AVAILABLE

Do you have questions about your child's mental health and well-being, such as anxiety, behaviour, or self-harm?

Do you need support in accessing supports in the community?

Do you need advice for setting goals to help with regular school attendance?

Do you have any questions or looking for support regarding a certain aspect of parenting?

If these are some questions that you have, please speak with your child's teacher or Ms. Cocco or Ms. Randall. All DSBN schools work with a DSBN Social Worker who supports families to provide an additional layer of support to help our students and families achieve success.

STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED

In our busy lives, events can sometimes be overlooked. Technology allows us multiple ways to connect with families. The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

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SCHOOL WEBSITE - <https://riverview.dsbns.org/> : Please take some time to visit the River View Public School website. Our website includes current newsletters, school calendars, code of conduct, school council information, a school year calendar, classroom websites, and bell times.

SCHOOL MESSENGER: Using the School Messenger program, all families will receive emails with reminders about important events and. If you are not receiving these emails, please check your contact information with the office to ensure we have the most current information.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Please follow us on Twitter (@RVRedhawks) to see updates on exciting events. All posts and tweets will be updated on our school website as well.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER: All newsletters will be posted to the school website and sent via School Messenger through email on the first school day of the new month.

TERM 1 REPORT CARD UPDATE

Elementary Provincial Report Card (Grades 1-8) and the Kindergarten: Communication of Learning

The Elementary Provincial Report Card (Grades 1-8) and the Kindergarten: Communication of Learning will be issued on February 17.

Report cards give a summary of student achievement at the end of each term. Teachers use their professional judgement and consider factors such as consistency, recent improvement, and amount of evidence in order to determine students' grades or marks. Teachers and students work together to gather evidence of their learning over time from observations, conversations, and student products.

This year, the Ontario Ministry of Education updated [the math curriculum](#) for Grades 1 to 8 which started in September 2020. The new mathematics curriculum is part of a [four-year math strategy](#) designed to:

- improve student performance in math
- help students solve everyday math problems
- increase students' employability to attain the jobs of the future

UPDATES TO ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION IN MATHEMATICS (GRADES 1-8)

To foster a cohesive approach to both instruction and assessment across the elementary mathematics curriculum, achievement in mathematics will be reported in the Elementary Report Card as one overall letter grade (Grades 1-6) or percentage mark (Grades 7-8), with supporting comments. Comments will describe significant strengths demonstrated by the student and identify next steps for improvement. Teachers may also describe a student's growth in learning.

The Ministry has provided more information about the new math curriculum for parents on the following website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/new-math-curriculum-grades-1-8>. If you have any questions, please make arrangements to speak with your child's teacher.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM NIAGARA REGION PUBLIC HEALTH

Niagara Region Public Health School Health Newsletter



COVID-19 UPDATE

Niagara Region Public Health is reviewing updated measures and guidelines from the Ontario government. Some of the information on the [Schools & Child Care During COVID-19](#) webpage may change due to these updates. If you or your child are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have tested positive on a PCR or rapid antigen test, review [guidance on self-isolation](#).

The COVID-19 vaccine remains the single best protection against COVID-19 and variants. Children five to 11 years of age and individuals 12 years of age and older can get vaccinated at Public Health clinics. To schedule your visit to a [Niagara Region Public Health COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic](#), book an appointment online through the provincial portal at [Ontario.ca/bookvaccine](#) or call the booking system at 1-833-943-3900. Additional information is available through [COVID-19 Vaccination in Children and Youth](#) webpage and fact sheets in [multiple languages](#).

Up-to-date information on COVID-19 and vaccine eligibility is available on Niagara Region Public Health's [website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

Public health professionals are available to answer any questions through the COVID-19 Info-line Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

- 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074, press 7

WINTER WALK DAY

Get ready to celebrate on **Wednesday, February 2** when hundreds of schools across Ontario will #JourneyOutside to mark Winter Walk Day, a reminder that active school travel can be an all-season option.

Schools or groups can register for an event or just check out the [resources and ideas](#). Visit [Niagara Student Transportation Services](#) for active school travel tips or contact HealthySchools@niagararegion.ca for more details.



PINK SHIRT DAY – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022

Bullying can come in many forms (such as physical, verbal and cyber) and sometimes be hard to see.

Signs that a student might be a target of bullying can include:

- Low attendance at school or at other activities
- Feelings of anxiousness, fearfulness, irritability, or unhappiness
- Low interest in activities and poor performance at school
- Loses things, needs money or reports being hungry



On **February 23**, join others worldwide in raising awareness of bullying by wearing a pink shirt to school. See <https://www.pinkshirtday.ca/>

NIAGARA PARENTS

Niagara Parents provides a variety of services to help you raise a happy and healthy family.

- **Niagara Parents**
 - Connect with a Public Health Nurse Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. through phone, live chat, video call, or email.
 - Live chat is available in 90 different languages

The Niagara Parents [social media pages](#) offer relevant resources and virtual events for parents.



Connect with a public health nurse at Niagara Parents

 **905-684-7555 or
1-888-505-6074 ext. 7555**

 **parents@niagararegion.ca**

Live Chat

 **niagararegion.ca/parents**

 **Niagara Parents**

Niagara Parents provides a variety of services to help you raise a happy and healthy family
Learn more about pregnancy and caring for babies, children, and teens at
niagararegion.ca/parents

Niagara  **Region**