



**Fitch Street School**

**September 2019 Welcome Back Newsletter**

The Fitch Street Staff would like to welcome back our returning students and families and offer a special welcome to our new students and families as they join our school community. We hope that everyone had a wonderful summer.

Our teachers have been working hard over the summer months to ensure a smooth and successful start to this school year. A special thank you to Mrs. Bering, Mrs. Counsell (Secretaries) and Mr. Bisson (Custodian) and Mrs. Cseh and Mr. Camden (night Custodians) for their efforts to prepare the school for another great start

We would also like to welcome a few new faces to Fitch:

Mr. Ridgway – Vice Principal

Mrs. Rajiva – ECE

Mr. Rypstra – EA

Miss Blakely – EA

Mrs. Simpson - EA

Mr. Sacco – Gr. 2

Ms. Nguyen – Gr. 2/3

Mrs. Matier – Kindergarten

Mr. Mazurek – Communication Class



We look forward to working together to ensure the success of all students and we are positive that we can accomplish great things. Have a great September!!!

**FIVE ITEMS THAT NEED TO COME BACK**

1. STUDENT VERIFICATION FORM with updated address and contact information.
2. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FORM (or your child will not be able to use our computers, chrome books).
3. PHYSICAL EDUCATION PERMISSION FORM to help us understand any medical issues.
4. AFTERNOON NUTRITION/FITNESS BREAK FORM (for Grade 7-8 students only).
5. MEDICAL FORMS THAT WERE SENT HOME IN JUNE FOR ANY CHILD REQUIRING MEDICATION OR AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL PLAN. (If these have been misplaced please contact the office asap)
6. Please send \$5.00 for your child's AGENDA (Grades 1-8 students only).



**Staff Assignments**

Mrs. C. Hodson – Principal	Mrs. C. Scott - Kindergarten
Mr. M. Ridgway – Vice Principal	Mrs. J. Leblanc - Grade 1
Mrs. V. Bering – Secretary	Ms. C. Kreamer - Grade 1
Mr. R. Bisson - Head Custodian	Mr. Sacco - Grade 2
Mrs. K. Cseh - Custodian	Ms. T. Nguyen - Grade 2/3
Mr. J. Camden - Custodian	Mrs. J. Gravelle - Grade 3
Mrs. J. Carpenter - EA	Mrs. S. Anderson – Grade 3/4
Mrs. L. O’Neil - EA	Mrs. A. Filion - Grade 4
Mr. D. Rypstra - EA	TBD – Grade 4/5
Miss K. Blakely – EA	Mr. J. Scozzafava - Grade 5
Mrs. S. Perna – EA	Mrs. B. Janzen- Grade 6
Mrs. H. Simpson - EA	Mrs. E. Giroux - Grade 7/8
Mrs. F. Nordquist - Lunch Supervisor	Mr. S. Ilskens - Grade 7/8
Mrs. C. Parry - Lunch Supervisor	Mr. M. Frank - Grade 7/8
Ms. M. Rajiva – ECE	Mr. B. Mazurek - SECO
Ms. V. Leveille – ECE	Mrs. J. Lepore - LRT
Ms. K. Nero - ECE	Mme. B. Jones - French
Mrs. C. Matier - Kindergarten	Mrs. L. Teal - Rotary/Library
Ms. K. Gordon - Kindergarten	Mrs. C. Carile - Rotary
Mrs. C. Fawkes - Kindergarten	Mrs. A. Rigg - Instructional Coach
	Mrs. J. Scozzafava & Mr. Breberina

**LOCKDOWN**

We are scheduling a LOCKDOWN DRILL on **Friday September 13, 2019** sometime during the school day.

The practice gives us an opportunity to implement our [Safe School Plan](#) to ensure the safety of all our students and staff should an emergency lockdown occur. During this LOCKDOWN DRILL staff members will ensure that all students remain inside a classroom, gym or Learning Commons, until otherwise notified by the Principal. All classrooms and exterior doors of the school are locked, lights turned off and curtains closed.



FITCH STREET PUBLIC SCHOOL

164 Fitch Street ■ Welland, ON ■ L3C 4V5 ■ 905-732-3683 ■ [fitchstreet.dsbni.org](http://fitchstreet.dsbni.org)

### BELL TIMES

**9:05 Entry Bell**

**9:05-10:45 Block 1**

**10:45—11:25 Nutrition/Fitness Break**

**11:25-1:05 Block 2**

**1:05—1:45 Nutrition/Fitness Break**

**1:45-3:25 Block 3**

**3:25 Dismissal**

### NEWSLETTER

In Order to be more environmentally friendly, we have in the past not sent hard copies of our newsletters home. However, if you would like a hard copy newsletter sent home please return the following form to the office:

**Please send a hardcopy of the newsletter home each month.**

**Youngest student(s) name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

All families not returning this slip agree and are able to access the newsletter via our website at <http://fitchstreet.dsbni.org/>

### EARLY RELEASE DAY

Friday September 13th is an early release day. This means that there is no school in the afternoon. Students will be dismissed at 12:25.



### SAFE ARRIVAL – REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

Whether it's an illness, a medical appointment or other important event, there are times when students may need to be away from school. The District School Board of Niagara uses the SAFE ARRIVAL program for parents to report their child(ren)'s absences. Using the Safe Arrival system, parents will be able to report daily absences, and even schedule absences in one of three ways:

1. Call toll-free before bell time: 1-866-606-5567
2. Logging on to the web portal (<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/account/login>). Using this website, you can set up your account to report and schedule absences.
3. Using your smart phone or tablet. Simply download the SchoolMessenger app. The app is compatible with both Apple and Android devices.

Please report all absences prior to bell time for the current day. If your child has an upcoming appointment, you can also schedule future absences by using one of these three methods. Please do not contact the school directly to report your child's absence. For more information, please visit: <https://dsbn.org/safearrival/>

### TRANSPORTATION

For transportation information please visit the Niagara Student Transportation Services website at [www.nsts.ca](http://www.nsts.ca) or call 905-346- 0290. If you need to request transportation for your child, or make a change to their schedule, please contact the school office. We ask for your patience as we endeavour to ensure that our students arrive to school on time and return home as close to the arrival time that you have been given. Students only on a bus route can take the bus.



### YARD SUPERVISION

Supervision before school, begins at 8:50 a.m. Parents/Guardians are asked NOT to drop off their children prior to 8:50 a.m. as there is no supervision on the playground until that time. Parents will be contacted by the office if children are left at the school prior to the supervised time. End of the day dismissal is at 3:25 p.m. and parents are asked to be prompt in picking up their children. Students are expected to go home after school.



## SCHOOL INFORMATION

### Entry and Exit Routines



Students will be shown which doors they are expected to enter and exit each day. This will become routine for students quickly in September.

If you are picking up your child(ren) from school, we ask that you **wait outside** or arrange with your child(ren) where you would like them. If older students are picking up younger siblings, they too are expected to follow these procedures. This is *for the safety of your children*. Also, for safety reasons, doors will be locked after our morning bell and entry shall be through the main doors on the buzzer system. All visitors must sign in at the office.

We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

**If you are driving to pick up your son/daughter, please adhere to the parking signs and bus lane signs. Please be aware of bus loading zones and wait patiently for our students to disembark and/or load our buses.**



### Anaphylaxis

We have children with severe allergies to **peanuts, nuts, nut products and shellfish. Just touching or smelling one of these allergens can cause a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction for students at our school.** Prevention is the best approach! We ask your cooperation in using discretion when sending food to school. We also request that you speak to your child about these allergies and about the importance of washing their hands with soap and warm water.

We know that if we work together, we can help to create a safe learning environment for all of our students. We thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

### Students with Medical Needs

If your child has any special medical concerns or requires medication that is to be administered during school hours, please contact the office so we can discuss your child's medical needs and share the forms with you. The forms must be completed, and medication must be sent to school in the original container with the label attached. Please contact the office for additional information.

### Cash Online

As you know Fitch Street School uses School Cash Online and we are looking forward to having all of our families register for School Cash. Families must register in order to receive notifications of upcoming events, lunches & school activities and to **sign class permission forms**. We **STRONGLY ENCOURAGE** families to complete the registration process for School Cash Online. Registration takes only a few minutes and requires ABSOLUTELY NO FINANCIAL/BANK information of any kind. More details to follow soon.



**School Council**

Our Fitch School Council is dedicated to supporting the fun and learning of all students at Fitch Street School. If you are interested in joining our School Council please watch the website for our first meeting date later in September.

**Student of the Month Assemblies**

Our first Student of the Month Assembly will take place on the Tuesday Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> and to accommodate our growing Fitch Family we will have a Kindergarten to grade 3 celebration at 9:20 a.m. and a grade 4 to 8 celebration at 10:10.

School Picture Day is on Friday September 20<sup>th</sup>. Get ready to smile!



Rowan's Law Day is Wednesday  
September 25th

In honour of the memory of Rowan Stringer, "Rowan's Law Day" is commemorated on the last Wednesday in September to raise awareness about concussions in sport.

Year 2 (SK) Kindergarten Vision Screening will take place on September 30th

Kindergarten Dental Screening will take place between Sept. 30th and Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>



**Orange Shirt Day**

Wear an Orange Shirt on Monday Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> to show support for residential school survivors. This day recognizes the effects and intergenerational impact of the residential school system on First Nations, Metis, and Inuit children in Canada. Everyone Matters!

Grade 7 Immunizations will take place on October 9<sup>th</sup>.



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# DSBN FLAG DESIGN CONTEST

Deadline: October 7, 2019. See reverse for details.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CREATE A FLAG THAT  
SHOWS HOW DSBN SCHOOLS VALUE:

STUDENT VOICE | LEADERSHIP

INCLUSIVITY | KINDNESS

ACCEPTANCE | DIVERSITY

BIAS-FREE ENVIRONMENTS | RESPECT

POSTIVE ENGAGEMENT | UPSTANDERSHIP



DISTRICT  
SCHOOL BOARD  
OF NIAGARA



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