



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

OCTOBER 2009

JORDAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal: K. Leskiw-Janvary

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Message from the Office:

Thank you to all the students, staff, parents and volunteers who helped to make our very busy first month of school such an exciting one. We enjoyed everyone's company at our BBQ/Open House, we were entertained throughout our Celebration Assembly for "RESPECT" and tribute to Mr. Koop as he continues to turn 40 on a daily basis, we cheered for our junior and intermediate soccer teams and encouraged our cross country runners as they continue to train for their meets, and we were impressed with the speeches from our Grade 7/8 students as they vied for elected positions on our Student Parliament. And, of course, there's the incredible learning that takes place every day. As the new principal of Jordan School, I feel privileged to be working with such a dedicated staff and enthusiastic student body.

Our first School Advisory Council meeting was well-attended and it is obvious that these parents work hard to ensure a positive school experience for all of our Jordan jaguars!! Thank you to our School Advisory Council members, especially Shawn Watson, for organizing such a fantastic opportunity to meet our Jordan families during our Open House/BBQ. Please stop in and introduce yourself if we haven't already met. We hope you will join us on Thursday, Nov. 5th for our Spaghetti Dinner!

With Thanksgiving approaching, it seems appropriate to reflect upon the many reasons we have to be thankful! Our Jordan staff wishes everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving.

As always, Jordan's staff is committed to providing an excellent education to our students. We welcome the opportunity to work closely with our parent community to build on student achievement and to ensure success for all. Your active involvement and interest is most welcomed. With your assistance and support, Jordan will continue to be a school where every student achieves success!

Karen Leskiw-Janvary
Principal

Amy Morocco
Vice Principal



Literacy

This year Jordan will have an overall focus on critical thinking. Critical Thinking is defined “as the thinking through of a problematic situation about what to believe or how to act where the thinker makes a reasoned judgement that reflects competent use of the intellectual tools for quality thinking” (Thinking Consortium). An example of a critical thinking question would be, “Should ice cream be part of a family’s diet?”, a much deeper question than “what is your favourite flavour of ice cream?” Critical thinking questions promote decision making and problem solving skills, are often open-ended questions, require thoughtful consideration of evidence gathered against a set of criteria, build on human curiosity and investigation and lead to new learning with prior understanding.

Numeracy

Did you know?

- a lesson without the opportunity for learners to generalize mathematically, is not a mathematics lesson (Mason, 2009).

Therefore...

- It is important that students get the opportunity to share ideas, challenge ideas, take advice from one another and take risks. In these safe learning environments, performance of all students is strengthened.

Looks Like/Sounds Like

- Therefore classrooms tend to work on larger mathematical ideas that encourage students to think independently, share their ideas, listen and then refine their thinking. Students solve problems in many ways and they share their knowledge with the group.

Character Education- “Caring”

During the month of October, students will discuss the importance of being a caring citizen. Students will review how they can demonstrate this virtue at school, at home, or wherever they may be. Please consider joining us on Friday, October 30th at 9:15 during our Celebration Assembly as we recognize students in each class who have demonstrated CARING.

A caring person shows understanding of others by treating them with kindness, compassion, generosity and a forgiving spirit.

Congratulations to the following students who demonstrated **RESPECT** during the month of September:

Sawyer, Grace JK/SK

Chelsey, Jorja, Sunshine 1/2,

Blake, Jacob 2/3,

Tanner, Noah, Emily L. 4

Josiah, Steven, Abbi 5/6,

Josiah, Megan 7/8

Winner of the Newsletter Draw for September

The winner of our newsletter draw for September is Emily L. in Grade 4. She wins a \$10.00 gift certificate from Tote Sweete.

Soccer Updates



Our Junior Girls Soccer team participated in the Region 3A Soccer tournament on Sept. 23 at the Leisureplex in Smithville. The girls played well and had an enjoyable day. Team members were: Megan S., Abbi V., Sabrina, Sarah, Grace, Kayla, Grayson, Abby, Evalyn, Emily S., Carley, Mackenzie, Chiara, Claire, Emily L.

Thank you to Mrs. Rouse and Miss D'Ippolito for coaching the girls. Your time and expertise is very much appreciated!

Thank you also to the many parents who volunteered to drive students to and from the tournament and who came out to cheer on our teams. Your support is also appreciated!

The Jr. Boys Soccer team completed our short soccer season with one tie and two losses at the annual soccer tournament in September. The boys demonstrated great enthusiasm, teamwork and sportsmanship. They were strong competitors in all three games and although we didn't advance forward; we all shared in a fun day of soccer! Team members included: Steven, Parker, Wiley, Aidan, Mathew, Josiah, Zachary, Raimondo, Harley, Tanner, Michael, and Noah.

THANKS BOYS FOR A GREAT TOURNAMENT!

The Jordan Intermediate boys and girls soccer teams participated in a one day tournament at the Leisure Park on September 16th. Many thanks to Mrs. Rouse for all of her time and effort spent coaching our young athletes. It was a great day, despite the cold weather!

Members of the Intermediate Girls Soccer Team: Samantha, Karly, Marty, Logan, Megan, Rachel, Morgan, Adrienne, Mackenzie, Amanda, Megan .S., Abbi, and Grayson.

Members of the Intermediate Boys Soccer Team: Carmen, Alec, Josh, Aidan, Ethan, Bowen, Owen, Max, Brad, Trevor, Josiah, Ben, Ian, Josiah MK, Steven, and Raimondo



Jordan Public School Advisory Council

Thank you to everyone that came out to the Welcome Back BBQ!

Our 2009-2010 Council has been elected.

Shawn Watson, Chair Erin Campbell, Vice-Chair

Laura Lee Blake, Secretary Julianna Aceti, Treasurer

Samantha Vail, Fundraising

Our Fundraising efforts for the year began with our Magazine Subscription Drive.

The Playground is in need of some updating this year and we are hard at work to raise the funds needed to complete them and continue to support the school.

We will be sending the Norcard Products home soon so you will have them over the holiday weekend to sale for three weeks.

Those orders will be arriving at the school by December.

Stay tuned for new events happening at the school in 2009/2010!

My Parent Rewards Program

NORCARD Card & Calendar Program

Cross Country

As we look forward to October, the Jordan Cross Country team has been training now for several weeks. There are 29 student athletes from Grade 2 to Grade 8 on the team this year, and everyone is enthusiastic, dedicated and competitive. As coach I have enjoyed getting to know them all and look forward to our upcoming meet. Unfortunately our first meet was cancelled due to rain, though we look forwards to our upcoming meet on October 5th at Nelles Public School in Grimsby (Centennial Park). The top eight competitors in each race category will advance to the finals at Firemen's Park in Niagara Falls on Wednesday, October 14th. This is an exciting time for cross country team members, parents, friends and interested observers. In addition to being a great competitive sport, cross country races, and especially training, lead to improved fitness and wonderful school spirit.



P.A. Day on Friday, October 9th, 2009

Friday, October 9th, 2009 is a Professional Activity Day for all staff, which means classes will be cancelled for the day. Our staff will be planning for the coming year. We hope you enjoy the day with your children. "Throughout the PA Day, our staff will be examining student data to make informed decisions around curricular planning and best teaching strategies."

Visitors to the School

As always, we enjoy having a parent community that is actively involved in their school. It is important that schools remain cautious with regards to strangers in the building. Although you may not be a stranger to your child's class, you are to students of another room or grade. **When visiting the school, it is important that you check in at the office.** Here you will be asked to sign in and wear a volunteer badge. When dropping off lunches or monies for your child, please leave it at the office and the secretary will page your child down to pick it up when it is an appropriate time. When coming in to the school to collect your child at dismissal time, please wait outside one of the exits. These precautions are for the benefit of our building and the safety of our students.

Fire Drills

We held our first drill of the 2009-10 school year in September. Each school practices three times in the Fall and three times in the Spring so we are prepared in case of a real emergency. Thank you for taking the time at home to reinforce the importance of these drills and



SMILE!! Student Photo Day



Mark your calendars for Thursday, October 8th as this is Jordan School's picture day. We will begin first thing in the morning to ensure our Kindergarten students get their pictures done first. Bryan Groff is once again our school photographer this year.

Tuck Shop

Our shop is open for business during the first 10 minutes of the second F/N break. Items range in price from .60 to \$1.00. Milk is 0.75 each carton.



Roots of Empathy



This year, Mr. Koop's Grade 1/2 class will be participating in the Roots of Empathy Program (ROE). Once a month, Armen and his parent Mrs. Kalousian will visit the classroom, along with Mr. J. Mars who is the program coordinator. This program teaches children about feelings, their own feelings, and the feelings of others. Over the next 9 months, the class will observe, predict, and participate as baby Armen reaches the developmental milestone of his first year.

Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test

All Grade 4 students in the school will take the Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test during the period of October 5th—23rd. This test helps us to identify individual student needs and abilities, so we can ensure appropriate programs are provided. It also provides a benchmark we can use to judge how well our school should be expected to do on achievement tests - whether these tests are teacher generated, board-wide, provincial or national. The test also provides information which shows particular strengths/needs in verbal, quantitative, and non-verbal reasoning.

Harvest Play Day

Friday, October 30th will be our Harvest Play Day. Students will be involved in various team activities during the last block of the day (2-3:15 p.m.) Students may dress in school appropriate costumes which will not interfere with their physical activities. Indoor activities will be planned in the event of inclement weather.

Newsletter Draw and Information

If you are willing to view the newsletter on our school website, please indicate below and include your email address so we can notify you when it has been posted at the beginning of each month. Jordan School website located at: www.dsbm.edu.on.ca/schools/jordan. Remember to hand in your slips to be eligible to win our monthly draw for a 24 slice pizza.

I have read the newsletter.

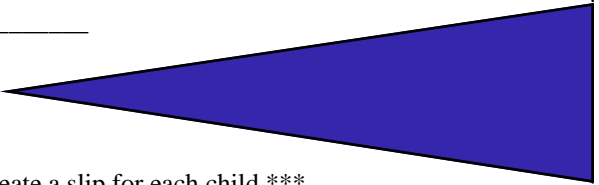
Please add me to the school website list. Please send me an email reminder at the following email address:

Student Name: _____

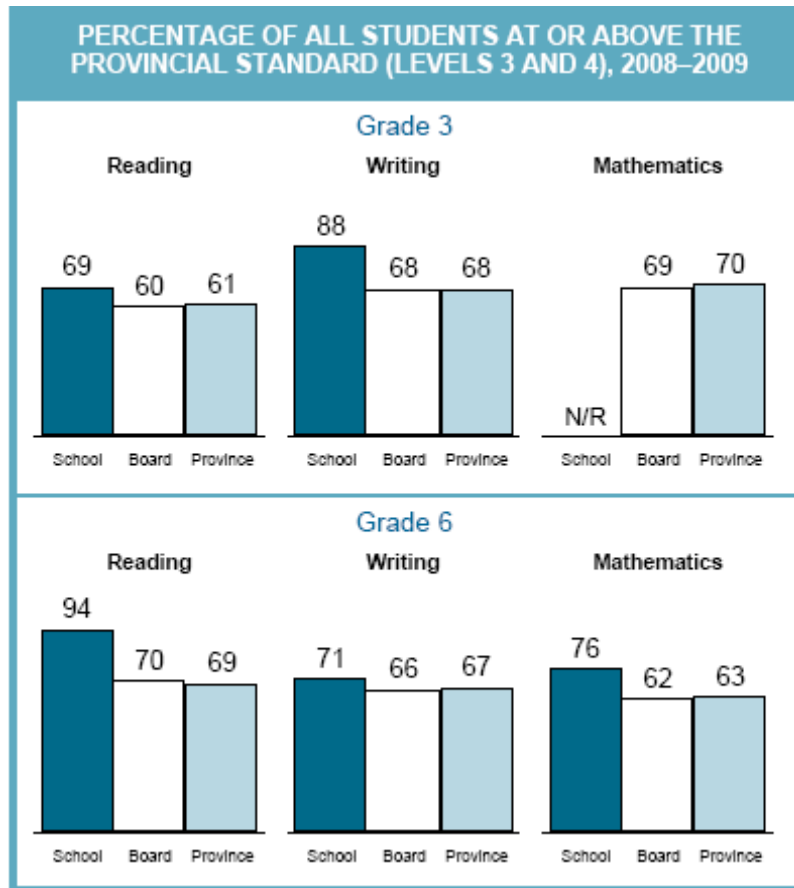
Grade: _____

Parent Signature

** If you have more than one child that would like to enter the draw, please create a slip for each child.***



Throughout the province, EQAO data informs professional practice and acts as a catalyst for improving student achievement. These assessments provide a means of measuring students learning. However, large scale assessments are just one piece of the picture about how students are doing in schools. These assessments, along with school based assessments, are used to identify strengths and needs and help set direction for our School Growth Plan. The following is an outline of the EQAO results for grade 3 and grade 6 students from spring 2009.



We are proud of our students for their efforts and equally proud of Jordan’s teachers for their commitment to ensure that all students are given the supports that are needed to reach their highest level of achievement.

"Success is a journey. Not a destination." (Ben Sweetland)

FLU & YOU:

What you need to know



Wash hands thoroughly and often for at least 15 seconds with soap and water.



Keep commonly touched surfaces and items clean and disinfected.



Keep an alcohol-based hand sanitizer handy at home and in your car.



Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your sleeve, not your hand. Dispose of tissues immediately.



If you are feeling ill, stay home.

For more information about seasonal flu, H1N1 and pandemic preparedness visit ontario.ca/flu
Or call ServiceOntario INFOLine at:
1-800-476-9768
TTY: 1-800-387-5359

If you have symptoms, call Telehealth Ontario at:
1-866-797-0000
TTY: 1-866-797-0007
Or contact your health care provider.

