*Greetings!*

A warm welcome back to school. I am excited to start this September as the principal of Victoria Public School. I am looking forward to getting to know the students, parents and staff here at Victoria. Please take a moment to introduce yourself if you happen to be in the school or on the yard. I would like to invite you to our Meet the Staff open house on September 13th. It will be a chance for you to meet staff and for your child to show you their classroom. I hope to meet you then.

In June the community celebrated the retirement of Mrs. Tulloch, Mrs. McGrath, Mrs. St. Pierre and Mrs. Delgobbo. We thank them for the many contributions they made to the Victoria students community. They will be missed.

This September we welcome some new staff to the school. Ms. Triantopoulos Will be teaching grade 3 and 4. will be the Learning Resource teacher and arts teacher. Mrs. Benny will be our school secretary. We are all excited to join the Victoria family. Please be sure to meet all of us at the Open House.

Our teaching and support staff have been working hard to prepare the classrooms, lessons and materials for the students’ return. Mrs. Cye has prepared the building inside and out for our students’ arrival. Mrs. Elliott has been completing all the administrative tasks in anticipation of the new school year. I thank all the Victoria Staff for their efforts to get us ready for an awesome opening to the 2018 – 2019 school year!

I look forward to the opportunity to work with you and your children as they learn and grow throughout this school year.

*Mrs. Linda Oakes, Principal*

***Victoria Public School Staff 2018 -2019***

Principal- Mrs. L. Oakes

Secretary- Ms. Benny

Head Caretaker- Mrs. Cye

Night Caretaker- Ms.

Youth Counsellor-

Learning Resource Teacher- Mrs.

Junior/Senior Kindergarten- Mrs. Piazza

DECE – Mrs. Goulet

Grade 1/2 – Mrs. Quaranta

Grade 3/4 – Ms. Triantopoulos

Grade 5/6- Mrs. Liefl Gillies

French- Mme. Sand

Library – Mrs. Oakes

Arts- Mrs. Sand

Educational Assistant – Mrs. Cote

Instructional Coach – Mrs. Theodore

Lunchroom Supervisor- Ms. Lebatt

Lunchroom Supervisor- Mrs. Irwin

Lunchroom Supervisor-Mrs. Weibe

***BELL TIMES***

8: a.m. Outdoor Supervision

8:45 a.m. Entry Bell

8:50 a.m. Period 1 Start

9:40 a.m. Period 2 Start

10:30 a.m.-11:10 a.m. FITNESS/NUTRITION BREAK

 11:10 a. m. - Period 3

12:00 p.m. Period 4

12:50 p.m. NUTRITION BREAK

1:10 p.m. FITNESS BREAK

(40 minutes long - children who go home for lunch go at this time)

1:40 p.m. Period 5

2:30 p.m. Period 6

3:20 p.m. DISMISSAL

**Attendance**

If your child is ill or going to be absent from school, it would be much appreciated if you would call the school before 8:30 a.m. For your convenience leave a message on the answering machine any time, stating the child's name, reason and teacher.



Ms. Benny thanks you for doing that.

**ACCIDENTS CAN HAPPEN**

Each year a Student Accident Insurance Plan is made available for all students on a voluntary basis. The plan provides protection for **DENTAL DAMAGE DUE TO ACCIDENTS, FRACTURE BENEFITS AND OTHER IMPORTANT COVERAGES**, which are **NOT** covered under the Provincial Health Plan. Some parents may have Dental Plan coverage through their work but many of these plans are limited in one way or another, while this accident coverage is not. You should compare to make sure you have the coverage you need or desire.

**UNDER THE EDUCATION ACT THE BOARD IS NOT PERMITTED TO PROVIDE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ACCIDENTS TO PUPILS, THEREFORE**, the Board recommends consideration of this plan to any parent who wishes to obtain this kind of insurance. Although the policy has all the advantages of a group plan, it is essentially a direct contract between the parent and the insurance company.

Details of these plans are described on the enclosed application form. If you require further information, you may contact **Old Republic Life at Box 2046, Hamilton, L8N 9Z9 or call toll free at 1-800-463-5437.** If you wish to subscribe to this insurance, please complete the form and mail it *directly* to Reliable Life Insurance Company in the enclosed stamped envelope immediately, but preferably before **September 30th, 2018. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.**

You may also enroll online at [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com). If the enrolment form for the Student Accident Insurance Plan has not been received or it has been misplaced, please contact your school office.

**CLASS ASSIGNMENTS - Please note!**

Staff and class assignments are made based on the enrolment information we have at the end of June. In the event that enrolment numbers change significantly by September, the District School Board of Niagara adjusts the staff assigned to the school. If it is necessary to reorganize class assignments due to any such changes the changed class placements will take place on September 15th. Parents and students will be contacted directly if any changes are necessary.

**VISITOR SIGN IN & SCHOOL SECURITY**

Should you have to pick up a student early, or drop something off for your child, during school hours, we ask that you enter through the front door, using our security system, and then check in at the office. Items which you are dropping off may be left with the office and we will call your child down at the next class break. Please write a note in the student agenda for the teacher if you need to pick up your child early. We will make every effort to have your child at the doors waiting for you. All volunteers/visitors who wish to enter the school will need to sign in at the office and wear a Victoria tag. Wearing the visitor's tag signifies to staff and students that you have stopped by the office before entering the school.

At regular entry times, we ask that your child wait outside their assigned entry door and refrain from entering the building before the bell rings. If your child arrives late they should enter using the security buzzer and report to the office prior to going to class. We cannot dismiss students with someone who is not listed as one of your contacts without written or verbal permission from you so we ask that your contact information is always up to date. Please remember to send back the Student Verification form as soon as possible.

**NUT ALLERGIES**

We are asking students to bring nut free snacks and foods only to school. Victoria Public School is a Nut-Free Zone for several reasons. Peanut and nut allergies are usually severe and can be fatal. Even tiny amounts of nut particles or residue can cause someone with a nut allergy to have a strong reaction. Without treatment, this person could die within minutes. Victoria School can only be a nut free school with your commitment and co-operation. Please read labels to see if peanut or nut products are present. Please try to avoid products that do not carry a list of ingredients. Thank you for your help.

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**EARLY RELEASE DAY**

Friday, September 14th, 2018 is our first early release day. Students who walk to and from school will be dismissed at 12:15 (after period 3). Students who are bussed will be dismissed when their bus arrives – approximately 12:30 p.m.

**Meet the staff open house:**

Please mark your calendars for “Meet the Teacher BBQ”! We welcome all our VICTORIA PUBLIC students and their parents on **Monday, September 21st between 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.** This is a wonderful opportunity for you to meet your child’s teacher and of course take a walk through our fantastic school!

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**MEDICATION AT SCHOOL**

****We may not administer medication to students without a written request by parents and a physician’s authorization indicating the name, dosage, frequency and time along with the method of administration of the drug. This includes any “**over the counter**” medication (aspirin, etc.) Medication must be sent in the original container from the pharmacy, clearly marked with the student’s name, medication and dosage. **Medication must be kept in the school office.**

**THINGS TO KNOW:**

1. This year, our school photographer will be *Edge Imaging*. **Our school photo day will be September.** The retake day is 2015.

2. Victoria student agendas will be distributed the first week of school to all

students in Grades 1 through 6. Please take the time to read through the organizer with your child to establish a clear understanding of the school's policies and procedures. You are encouraged to use the organizer as a tool for communicating with your child's teacher. As well, students will use the organizer to record homework assignments, dates for upcoming quizzes and tests and special events.

**Today’s Correspondence**

Today your child will bring home a number of important forms which need to be completed. Please return the completed and signed forms to school as soon as possible.

It is vital to keep student information up to date throughout the year. In the unfortunate event that your child takes ill or is injured, we will make every effort to reach you, but we also need additional names and numbers in case we cannot contact you. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Milk Orders**

Once again chocolate milk will be available for purchase daily. You can purchase milk tickets (15 for $12.00) and send in payment at that time, no more searching for change in the morning.

**Dogs on the Yard**

Many families have pets (dogs) and while they enjoy walking the students to and from school we ask that they not be brought on school property. We have students who may be fearful of dogs or have allergies. For these reasons we ask that dogs be kept at home. Thank you for your consideration.

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**From your school nurse**

Did you know that every elementary and secondary school in Niagara has a school nurse?

The school nurse provides teachers, parents and students support and resources on health related topics, including:

* Healthy eating
* ****Physical activity
* Tobacco use prevention
* Parenting
* Mental and emotional health
* Puberty and sexual health
* Drugs and alcohol

Secondary school nurses in public schools provide:

* Sexual health counselling
* Birth control
* STI testing

To learn more about the school nurse call 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7379 or visit [www.niagararegion.ca](http://www.niagararegion.ca) search school nurse.

**Student of the Month Assemblies**

We will continue to host monthly assemblies where each class recognizes a student(s) for their exceptional demonstration of the monthly character trait. The student will receive a certificate. Their photo will appear on the bulletin board in our foyer. Parents are welcome to attend these assemblies. Please note the traits and their definitions below.

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