



# VICTORIA'S VOICE

September 2010

Victoria Public School  
5635 Heritage Drive  
Niagara Falls, Ontario  
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<http://www.dsbnschools.on.ca/Schools/VictoriaS/>

## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Welcome to the 2010 – 2011 school year at Victoria School! It is with much anticipation that the staff and I look forward to another great year at Victoria. We are excited to see all of our returning students and hear about their summer activities. An especially warm welcome is extended to our new students. We are very proud of our school and are confident that as you visit and involve yourself in your child's education that you will appreciate Victoria School for the wonderful place it is.

The staff of Victoria School is committed to providing excellent educational opportunities for all of our students in order to attain our goal of *Achieving Success Together*. Parents and family members are an important part of team needed to continue to make this goal a reality. We look forward to working with you to do what is best for our students, your children.

I am pleased to welcome Mrs. Piazza, our morning Kindergarten teacher, and lunchtime supervisor Mrs. Wiebe. I know they will be a wonderful additions to our community.

## **THANK YOU MRS. LOWTHER**

Over the summer holiday, Mrs. Lowther, worked very hard to get our school clean and prepared for the new school year. Our classrooms and hallways look great! Well done!

## **LOST LIBRARY BOOKS**

We have been fortunate to have had large sums of money invested in our school library through DSBN, private and provincial funding over the past few years. Our library has wonderful new resources for the students to access thanks to this funding. In order to maintain the collection properly, when books are lost the full replacement cost will be charged. Please help your children to be responsible for their library books and to return them on time (library checkouts are for 10 school days).

## **NEW VICTORIA SCHOOL PEANUT SAFE POLICY**

In order to best protect all students and visitors at Victoria School, a peanut safe policy is in place. We ask that no products containing peanuts or peanut oil be brought to the school. We appreciate your help in ensuring the safety of all students at Victoria School. A separate letter will be sent home with each student further explaining this policy.

## **VERY IMPORTANT**

We will be sending home a number of important forms for completion over the next few days and we ask that you are diligent in completing and returning these as they affect the safety and well being of your child. Along with this newsletter today you should find a copy of the blue DSBN school year calendar, an enrollment form for optional insurance and a lunch form indicating what your child will be doing each day, during the second nutrition break (i.e. staying for lunch, going home).

## **STAFF FOR 2010-2011**

Principal	Mr. P. Schuyler
JK/SK-AM	Mrs. S. Piazza
JK/SK-PM	Mrs. C. Hollemans
Grade 1/2	Mrs. C. Quaranta
Grade 2/3	Mrs. I. DelGobbo
Grade 3 /4	Mme. Michaud
Grade 5/6	Mr. K. Kitchen
Music	Mrs. S. St. Pierre
L.R.T.	Mrs. S. Foley
L.R.T./I.S.P.	Miss A. Stouffer
E.A.	Miss J. Kerber
Secretary	Mrs. V. McGrath
Head Custodian	Mrs. R. Lowther
Lunch Supervisor	Mrs. P. Irwin
	Mrs. T. Wiebe
Youth Councillor	Mr. R. Mellor

## **SCHOOL TIMES**

### **Kindergarten**

AM	8:45 – 11:20
PM	12:45 – 3:20

### **Grades 1-6**

8:45 – 10:30	Instructional Block
10:30 – 11:10	Nutrition Break
11:10 – 12:50	Instructional Block
12:50 – 1:40	Nutrition Break
1:40 – 3:20	Instructional Block
3:20	Dismissal

### **HELP US HELP BY DRINKING MILK AT SCHOOL**

This year we are again happy to announce that we will be working hard to make a difference by drinking milk. Last year we were able to give important support to our Humane Society and this year we will continue our Victoria School Cares tradition by supporting various organizations and causes. We will assign our small profit from our school milk program to these efforts, so we ask that you encourage your child to order milk to drink during their nutritional break. We will keep you informed of our efforts throughout the year.



### **CROSS COUNTRY**

Starting the first week of school, students interested will be training for our Cross Country Team, 2 to 3 times per week. The Cross Country Meet date will be announced at a later date. Only students consistently attending practices and meeting running times requirements will be able to attend the Meet.

### **TERRY FOX – WALK/RUN**

On Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, (Early Release Day) , the students will be participating in the Terry Fox Run/Walk.

Parents are welcome to participate. Donations will be collected to help support the Terry Fox Foundation. We all know someone affected by this horrible disease so let's do our part to help this worthy cause and donate a Toonie for Terry!!!

### **OPEN HOUSE**

We are planning an informal Open House Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. This will be an opportunity for students to introduce their parents to their teachers. I look forward to this opportunity to say "Hello" to the Victoria Community. If you have a barbeque we could borrow for this event, please contact the school office.

### **VICTORIA SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The council would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to another exciting year, especially the new families joining our school. The SAC is a very active group participating in many special events and discussing important school issues. It is a great opportunity to become involved in your child's education and the well being of our school.

Our first meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Please plan to attend if you are interested. We look forward to developing an active Parent Group.

## **INSURE YOUR CHILD**

The District School Board of Niagara does not provide coverage for students. Reliable Life Student Accident Insurance forms have been provided to each student to assist you in getting coverage. If you have no other coverage it is important that parents/guardians purchase this coverage to ensure that medical or dental costs are covered in case of accident. It costs as little as \$3.50 per student for basic school day/school activity coverage. Forms should be completed and returned directly to the insurance company.

## **DRESS CODE**

Student dress should be appropriate to an academic setting and contribute to an overall positive image of our school. Hats or head coverings (bandanas, etc) are to be removed when entering the school. Head dresses or head coverings worn for religious or medical purposes are exempt. All tops must adhere to the "three finger" rule which is the approximate width necessary for all straps. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct in your child's agenda for further details.

## **PERSONAL BELONGINGS**

In the interest of safety, bicycles **are not** to be ridden on school property. Students are also encouraged to have and use locks to prevent damage or theft. Helmets are required. Other personal items such as radios, disc players, electronic games, cell phones, hard balls, scooters, roller blades, skate boards and wheeled shoes **are not** permitted on school property. For safety reasons, please leave these items at home.

**It is important that you have your son/daughter's name inside all of their personal belongings.** This should include clothing items, boots, lunchboxes and backpacks. This will help when items are found outside or in the hall. Junior students will be assigned a locker for the storage of their belongings.

## **AGENDAS**

Agendas have been found to be a very successful means of communication between the home and school. We will be using agendas in all the classes this year, except JK/SK. They include a plastic pocket to hold important communications being sent to the school or home. There will be no cost for agendas, thanks to the Delta Monte Carlo Sponsor's Association who generously donated the funds to pay for them for each student.

## **MEDICATION REMINDER**

Every year some parents request that medication be administered to their child by school staff. This may be done provided that the parent has completed the "Authorization of Administration of Oral/Topical Medication" form, available at the office. This form must be updated each year. If a child is highly allergic (anaphylactic), another form must be filled out by the parent: "Consent for Intervention during an Emergency Allergic Reaction". Medication brought to the school must be in properly labeled original containers.

## **CROSSING GUARDS**

The City of Niagara Falls provides crossing guard services. For Victoria School there is one location, at the back of the school yard on Church's Lane. Please encourage your children to cross this busy street with the assistance of the crossing guard.

## **RECYCLE FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Victoria School is again registered in the Staples Business Depot's Recycle for Education Program. For every eligible ink and toner cartridge that is dropped in the bin at Staples, a dollar will be donated to participating schools across Canada. In May, this dollar amount will be divided among participating schools and our school will receive a cheque based on the number of schools participating. This is an easy fundraiser for our school, so we ask that you either drop your cartridges at Staples or if you prefer you may bring them to the school office and we will take them there for you! This is good for the environment and good for the school.

## **EARLY RELEASE DAY – SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**

An Early Release Day is scheduled for Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Students in grades 1-6 will be dismissed from school at 12:00 p.m. Bus students will be picked up 3 hours early at 12:20 p.m. For our morning kindergarten students there will be no bus transportation home at 11:20. Morning kindergarten students may attend class if they have a way home. The afternoon kindergarten class is cancelled for that day.

