



# BURLEIGH HILL BUZZ

A Publication of Burleigh Hill School, 15 Burleigh Hill Drive, St. Catharines, Ontario (905-227-6641)

Burleigh Hill School's Monthly Newsletter

September 2008

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents:

Welcome back to a new school year! I am very pleased to be the Principal of Burleigh Hill School. I hope that over the next 2-3 weeks I can meet most of you, for now just to say hello, and later if you have more specific issues.

"How children see things depends on what we teach them"

I read this in a advertisement once, so I can't say its an original saying of mine, but it sure makes sense and it is the basis of everything we do in schools. Some of our teachers have taken courses this summer to improve how your children will see things.

Everything is in place for another great year. Mr. Keetch has cleaned and polished the building. Things look just great!

Mrs. McKernan has worked diligently at preparing lists of information and the proper forms to ensure your children have a successful year. Take a few minutes to read through carefully and return all the forms that are meaningful to you and required by us.

Our teachers have also spent a great deal of energy and time preparing for this new year. We are all eager to make this the best year ever.

We are expecting some first day/first week changes in registration that may require some shifting of classes or students. Please be patient with us as we go through that process. We will make every attempt to consult with you on changes that may be necessary.

The month of September will be very busy as together we plan for the success of our students.

Sincerely yours in education,  
Garry Vanden Beukel,  
Principal



## OPEN HOUSE B.B.Q.

Please join us for our "Open House B.B.Q." on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. The B.B.Q. (Dinner) is from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. followed by a short presentation in the gym. Classroom and school visitation will follow. Watch for more information to come regarding the B.B.Q. We hope to see you there!

## Staff Members at Burleigh Hill School for the 2008 - 2009 School Year are:

- Principal - Ms. Vanden Beukel
- Secretary - Mrs. McKernan
- ISP/Learning Resource Teacher - Mrs. Dixon
- Caretaker - Mr. Keetch
- Kindergarten - Mrs. Raaflaub
- Grade 1 - Mrs. Wood/Mrs. Warden
- Grade 2/3 - Mr. Budgell
- Grade 3/4 - Mrs. Chown
- Grade 4/5 - Mr. Blanchette
- Grade 6/7 - Mrs. Bingham
- Grade 7/8 - Mr. Brookson
- JR/INT Class - Ms. Kondo
- Child Care Worker - Mrs. Sabourin
- French/Library - Mrs. Carfagnini
- Youth Worker - Mrs. L. Sullivan



## BELL TIMES

- 8:40 - Teachers on yard duty
- 8:55 - Morning Entry
- 10:35 - 11:15 - Nutrition Break/Activity Time
- 12:55 - 1:45 - Nutrition Break/Activity Time  
(Students may go home for lunch)
- 3:25 - Dismissal

## DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Parents picking up children at 3:25 are **asked to wait outside the front doors of the school.** We have noticed that with the congestion in the foyer it is very difficult to take groups of students to the busses. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA  
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## **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Breakfast Club will begin Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, and will be in operation each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Volunteers are needed to help set up and serve food to the students from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. We served approximately 100 students a day last year, and need adult supervision to help continue or expand this very worthwhile program to a daily breakfast for our students. If you are available to assist at any time, please call the school at 905-227-6641. Our goal is to have a rotating schedule so that no parent volunteer is overburdened. We would like to extend a "Bulldog Thank You" to our existing Breakfast Club Volunteers!



## **PARKING**

Parents are asked to please park in the lower parking lot in the area to the left of the gym doors or along the fence. Please park and walk up to the school to pick up your child. The upper lot will be designated for "staff only" parking. Parents who are delivering supplies for Breakfast Club, etc. may come up to the upper lot to drop off their packages and then park in the lower lot.

## **BICYCLES**

Students in Grades 4-8 may ride bicycles to school. They must wear helmets, and walk their bicycles on and off school property. The school will not be responsible for loss due to theft. Each bicycle must have a lock and be secured.

## **ROLLER BLADES/IN-LINE SKATES**

### **SKATEBOARDS/SCOOTERS**

Students who are using any of the above modes to travel to school are asked to please walk onto school property and carry their equipment. There will be no rollerblading, skating, skateboarding or use of scooters on school property.

## **ALLERGIES/ANAPHYLAXIS**

If your child has a severe allergy (bee stings, peanut, milk, etc.) and requires medication, please come to the school office. There is a form to be filled out by a parent and the physician. A current photo is needed to attach to this form. ***It is the parent's responsibility to keep the school updated on their child's medical condition.*** This form is posted in the staff room and is reviewed at staff meetings, so that all staff are familiar with the student and their specific allergy, and what medication to administer.

## **P.A. DAYS AND EARLY RELEASE DAYS**

**P.A. DAYS** - Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 & Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009** have been designated as Early Release Days.

### ★ **BUSES**

Buses will run 3 hours earlier than their normal time.

### ★ **CROSSING GUARDS**

Crossing guards will be on duty for the morning trip to school and their regular trip to home at the noon hour.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

Our first School Council Meeting of the year will be held on **Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 p.m. in the front foyer. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend. Babysitting will be available. Refreshments will be served.

## **MILK PROGRAM**

This year we would like to encourage more students to participate in our milk program. The milk program will begin on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. We are offering a special deal to parents who pre-order. Ten cartons of milk will be sold for \$7.00 and twenty cartons of milk will be \$14.00 (at a cost of 70 cents/carton). Milk will also be sold individually for 75 cents/carton. There will be prizes and incentives for students who participate in our program. Studies show that the majority of Canadian children do not get the required amount of dairy products and this is a great way to help your child meet their nutritional requirements.



## **PARENT SIGNATURE FORM**

On the first day of school, Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, you should have received a package of information regarding Burleigh Hill School which included a Parent Signature Sheet for parents to sign for the following:

- ✓ Permission to Publish
- ✓ Lunch Form
- ✓ Code of Conduct
- ✓ Bus Rules
- ✓ Acceptable Use Agreement for Students Using Information and Communication Technologies
- ✓ Reliable Life Insurance
- ✓ Milk Order Form
- ✓ Neighborhood Walking Form

Please sign all forms and return them to your child's homeroom teacher no later than **Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>**. Please review the Burleigh Hill code of Conduct, Bus Rules and Acceptable Use Agreement for Students Using Information and Communications Technologies forms with your child.

**Lunch** - 12:55 - 1:45. Students are encouraged to go home for lunch if possible. Students who stay for lunch must abide by lunch recess rules. Those who do not stay for lunch are expected to finish their meals before returning to school.

### **Acceptable Use Agreement for Students Using Information and Communication Technologies Forms**

- This form must be signed and returned to the homeroom teacher before a junior or intermediate student can be allowed to go online on a school computer.

## **"ACCIDENTS CAN HAPPEN! INSURE YOUR CHILD"**

Is your child insured for medical or dental costs in case of an accident? The District School Board of Niagara does not provide medical payments coverage for students. 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. Reliable Life Student Insurance forms have been provided to each student to assist you in getting coverage. It costs as little as \$2.00 per student for basic school day/school activity coverage.

## **SCHOOL PICTURE DAY - Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**

School pictures will be taken on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9:00 a.m. We will start with the youngest classes first (Kindergarten, Grade 1 ....). In a few weeks, proofs will be sent back to the school and order packages will be sent home, details will be sent at that time.

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL PARENTS & STUDENTS REGARDING BUSES!!!!!!**



It is District School Board of Niagara policy that only those students who qualify for busing are allowed to ride the bus. Students may not take different buses home to go to a friends house. They also are NOT allowed to get off at an alternate stop.

This policy **MUST** be strictly enforced for the safety of all children. Please arrange after school plans at home in advance with your children. Thank you for your understanding

## **SCHOOL YOUTH CONNECTION NURSE**

The school youth connection nurse assigned to our school is Mrs. Sandy Polly. She will help us promote a healthy school environment. For more information, please contact her at Regional Niagara Public Health Department, 906-688-8248, x-7220.

## **DONATIONS NEEDED FOR BREAKFAST CLUB**

We need food donations for our Breakfast Club. Donations of non-perishable items are needed; such as muffin mix, raisins or other dried fruit, baked muffins (can be frozen), bread, nutritious cereal, margarine, instant oatmeal, jam, honey, frozen waffles, yoghurt, any healthy breakfast food is appreciated.

A box will be in the foyer the night of our Open House BBQ to drop off any donations. Any assistance will be appreciated. If you prefer, a cash donation would also be accepted. Your generosity is appreciated.

## **CORRECT CHANGE PLEASE!**

***We need your help!*** When sending money to the school for pizza days, school trips, etc., the money is collected by your child's homeroom teacher. Often they are unable to make change. Except when noted, please send the correct change with each child to help the staff make collection of money less time consuming. Please do not combine payments (eg; milk orders, pizza day, organizers, etc.) Exceptions would be Milk orders, one payment per family but individual forms for each child are required (please do not combine milk orders with pizza, etc.) Your cooperation with this is deeply appreciated by all staff

## **PIZZA DAYS/SPECIAL LUNCH DAYS**

Pizza is offered to students in grades JK - 8 every Wednesday, except for the last Wednesday of the month which will be a "special lunch day". Students who wish to purchase pizza should bring their money (correct change) on Wednesday morning. We will order pizza just for those students. Orders will be collected right after the morning announcements. Parents of Grades 1 - 3 students could use the organizer to write the order in. Payment should be in an envelope/ "baggie" labelled with your child's name. Order forms will be sent home prior to each special lunch day. This month we are having a Pita Day on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Pizza will not be sold on special lunch days.

## **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.



## **ABSENCES**

Parents are asked to call the school if your child is going to be absent. Our voice mail is on 24 hours a day, please leave your child's first and last name and the reason for their absence. Mrs. Allison would like to thank parents who call in to report their child's absences, as it saves a great deal of time.



## **HEALTHY SNACKS!**

## **HEALTHY LUNCHES!**

## **HEALTHY KIDS!**

As part of our Heart Healthy initiative, we are encouraging students to bring healthy snacks and healthy lunches. Try and include your child in making decisions regarding the types of food to be packed so that what they bring gets eaten and does not end up wasted!



## **CHANGE IN DISMISSAL PLANS**

There are times when last minute changes cannot be avoided (car break down, traffic jams, etc.) If you are calling the school about a change in dismissal arrangements, **please do not leave a message on the voice mail.** If the voice mail picks up the call, it means both lines are busy. Please keep calling back until you are able to speak directly to Mrs. McKernan or another staff member. Thank you in advance for your co-operation and support in dealing with this important safety issue.

## **YOUTH COUNSELOR**

Mrs. Laura Sullivan is the Youth COUNSELOR at Burleigh Hill. employed by the DSBN to support students who are experiencing difficulty emotionally, socially or experiencing a difficult time due to a variety of circumstances. Students under the age of 12 must have parental written consent to be seen more than once. Laura is available to speak to parents/guardians confidentially regarding an issue affecting their child. Please feel free to call our school to speak with her on Tuesdays. We appreciate her expertise and dedication to helping the students in our school.





