

F.J. Rutland Review

Mr. S. Enns, Principal

Dear Parents,

On behalf of our enthusiastic staff, I would like to welcome our new families as well as our returning families to the F.J. Rutland learning community.

Creating and delivering a comprehensive academic and social program for every student is a team effort. We look forward to building positive relationships with students, parents, and community to provide children with maximum support.

We encourage parents to be active in their child's education. There are many ways in which you can reinforce what students are learning. We encourage you to read your child's agenda, assignments, and notes that come home. Please feel free to visit FJR to learn more about what we do. We would be happy to give you a tour of your school!

Throughout the year, there will be opportunities for parents to help out at FJR. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please contact the school at 295-3111.

If you should have any questions or would like to share your ideas, please contact the school.

*Together, we **will** make a positive difference in the lives of our children.*

Mr. Scott Enns

Academic Achievement

The staff at FJ Rutland is committed to our DSBN vision of "Achieving Success Together". Our staff meets regularly to share ideas, resources, and strategies to review, develop, and implement effective teaching practices to help individual students improve in the areas of literacy, numeracy, and character education. It is extremely important for our learning community to focus on relationships, respect, and responsibility to help meet our goals. Our school growth plan, which outlines our academic goals, will be shared at School Council Meetings throughout the year and will be posted on our website once it is updated.

Long Range Literacy Plan

F.J. Rutland's long term literacy plan sets out how we will cover the Star Reading Strategies, the 6 + 1 Writing Traits, and Working With Words activities for the year. We are currently developing our literacy focus for the year based on the current needs of our students.

Meet the FJR and RV Staff BBQ



On Thursday, September 17^h, we will be holding a barbecue for students, parents, and staff from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at King's Bridge Park. The purpose of this informal evening is to get to know one another in our school community. Chicken and pork/beef hot dogs as well as pop and juice boxes will be served free of

charge; however, we will be collecting donations for the Terry Fox Foundation.

Family Photo Night

Family Photo Night will also be offered at Kings Bridge Park on the 17th. For \$10, your family will receive a 8' by 10' portrait from Pegasus School Images; with the \$10 donated back to the school. Please read the flyer attached to this newsletter for more information and return the slip (if you are participating) to the school office by Tuesday, September 15 to book your sitting time.

Terry Fox Marathon of Hope!



Students and staff will be involved in Terry Fox activities on Friday, September 25th in the morning. More information about this initiative will come home with students.

School Council



Last year we had a very active School Council at F.J. Rutland and River View. This advisory group is comprised of parents, staff, and community members. In the past, School Council has helped to organize and plan student activities, provided guidance with educational programs, and offered input with school routines and procedures.

We encourage parents to attend school council meetings; these get together are a great opportunity for people in our school community to share information and ideas.

Once again, we will combine our River View and F.J. Rutland council meetings. Our first meeting of the year is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29th (6 p.m.) at F.J. Rutland School.

Niagara Falls Accommodation Review

The DSBN regularly reviews changing enrolment patterns, facility utilization, and program requirements to ensure that students are provided with appropriate educational programs. At the regular Board Meeting of May 12, 2009 a motion was passed to conduct an accommodation review for the schools in East Welland and South Niagara Falls. Included in the South Niagara Falls review are F.J. Rutland, River View, James Morden, Heximer Avenue, Princess Margaret, and Battlefield schools. An accommodation review is conducted over an 8 to 10 month period. There will be a lot of opportunity for input from parents during that time. Our first committee meeting will take place October 1 at 6 pm at Princess Margaret School. The first public meeting will take place November 9 with the time and location to be announced. Updates will be provided to our community through newsletters, our website, and at school council meetings. For more information contact Mr. Enns.

Community Support

Last year we had an unfortunate incident when one of our families lost all of their belongings in a

house fire. Happily, this family is back in the Chippawa community and has a brand new start. They are still in need of some furniture and kitchen items. If you are able to donate any of the items listed below, please contact the FJR office:

Dressers, baking pans, baking utensils, electric mixer, juice pitcher, bedding for queen and double beds

Parent Assisted Literacy Support (PALS)

Last year our parent volunteer readers helped our students to become more fluent readers. Over 40 students were receiving regular one on one support. Mr. Flower, our literacy coach, is aiming to start up this program once again at the beginning of October. Please consider donating your time (one hour a week) to this important initiative. If you are interested in helping out and/or would like more information, please fill in the slip at the end of this letter and return it to school with your child.

Computers

Once again, F.J. Rutland will be hosting an excellent school website. Currently the website is in the process of being updated to comply with our board's requirements. We will notify our community when it is once again fully operational. We thank Mr. Sirett who works hard to maintain our computer systems.

Athletics

Miss Steenhuis and Mr. Flower have called on all Trojans to come out for our Cross Country team (grades 4 to 8). Practices are starting up next week. Students need to listen carefully to announcements for practice times. Students who participate will bring home more information.

Mr. Flower and Miss Steenhuis are coaching our intermediate co-ed soccer team this year. Boys and girls will be selected from our grade 7 and 8 classes. Tryouts begin next week. Later this year, F.J.R. will be fielding

a junior co-ed soccer team for grades 4,5, and 6.

Student Safety

Staff at the Niagara Region is encouraging all parents to review water safety rules with their children. In particular, children need to have proper supervision and not swim or dive in prohibited areas.

Parents are able to access excellent information about the H1N1 Virus from the DSBN website: www.dsbn.org and click on the button that says, "H1N1".

All classes are equipped with Purell Hand Sanitizer and students are encouraged to wash their hands often to help prevent the spread of germs.

From the Desk of Mrs. Lamb and Mrs. Lyndon

Students and parents are reminded to return forms to the school as soon as possible so that we can have complete records of student information. Please remember to always inform us of any changes to your child's emergency contact information.



Parents are reminded to please call the school prior to 8:40 am if your son/daughter will be absent or has an appointment first thing in the morning.

Students of the Month

Each month, the staff at FJ Rutland take time to recognize students who demonstrate excellence in a particular area. Our first recognition assembly will be held on Wednesday, September 30 at 11:55 a.m. We will continue to attempt to notify parents prior to assemblies.

Spirit Wear

We are currently looking into different clothing vendors in order to offer our students a selection of FJ Rutland Trojan clothing. We plan to have clothing samples and order forms ready in October.

QSP Reader's Digest Fundraiser

Students will learn about the QSP Readers Digest Fundraiser later this

month at a school assembly. Students will be given the opportunity to win some fun prizes by selling magazine subscriptions. QSP offers low prices on a wide variety of magazines. Many people take advantage of this opportunity as they make for quality gift giving at a very affordable price. More information will come home prior to the campaign.

Breakfast Club

We will begin our breakfast club program on Monday, September 14.



Students interested in participating will need to fill out and return a breakfast club form (these were already sent home with students; forms are also available at the office). Mrs. Flachs, Mrs. Zulik, and staff will meet breakfast club students at 8:30 a.m. in the staff room on the second floor. Student participants will be expected to display excellent manners and help clean up the breakfast room.

Milk Program



We will be starting our Milk Program Monday, September 14th. Mr. Flower, our coordinator, has sent home order forms this week.

World School Milk Day

All F.J.R. students will be provided with free milk on Wednesday, September 30 in the afternoon to recognize World School Milk Day. Students who already receive milk as part of our lunch time Milk Program will receive an additional milk in the afternoon.

Recycling Club

Students will be invited to participate with our FJR Recycling Club in the third week of September.

Code of Conduct

A code of conduct has been sent home with each student inside the student agenda. This section of the agenda outlines the responsibilities

and expectations for all members of the F.J. Rutland community. Please take time to review the contents with your child. Also, the Student/Parent Handbook which can also be found on our school website provides an overview of most of our school's routines. Many common questions are answered throughout its various sections.

School Beautification

Mrs. Jonah and her assistants Mrs. Eade and Mr. Cam have done an amazing job of getting FJR ready for the school year. Students, staff, and visitors to the building are all very impressed with their efforts.

River View Connections

We had a great deal of fun working with the River View students and staff last year. It is our goal to make the transition for grade 3 students to F.J. Rutland a comfortable experience. To meet that end, our two schools will continue to plan cooperative student activities throughout the year.

River View is in the final planning stages of its 50th anniversary scheduled for Wednesday, October 21st. Please contact River View school's office if you would like more information about the event.

Stamford Connections

We look forward to working closely with staff from the Stamford Collegiate to prepare our students for high school. Our intermediate students have already begun attending Design and Technology and Choices and Changes classes this week. Please look at the monthly calendars to see when they attend. Please note C & C classes will be held at Princess Margaret School until renovations at Stamford are complete.

Pizza, Sub, and Hotdog Lunches

We are looking for parent volunteers who are interested in helping to run our Friday hot lunch program for our students. If you would like to volunteer, please check the appropriate location on the return

slip of this newsletter. Please see the calendar for our September lunch dates.

Insure Your Child

Is your child insured for medical or dental costs in case of an accidental injury? 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 consider purchasing this coverage to ensure that medical or dental costs are covered in case of accident. Reliable Life Student Accident Insurance forms have been provided to each student to assist you in getting coverage. If you are interested, please follow the instructions on the form.

Public Health Reminder

It is important to keep your child's immunization up to date. Also, be sure to contact the Public Health Department following your child's immunization to keep their records current. 1-800-263-2748.

Vaccinations

The first Hepatitis B and MenC vaccination for our grade 7 students and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination for grade 8 girls is scheduled for the afternoon of September 23. Mrs. Markarian, our designated nurse from Niagara Regional Health will be here to speak to the students on Monday, September 14 to share vaccine information and to provide them with parental consent forms.

Should you have questions or wish more detailed information regarding these vaccinations, please contact the Vaccine Preventable Disease program at (905) 688-3762 ext 7396 or 1-800-263-7248 ext 7396 or website:

www.regional.niagara.on.ca/living/health/wellness/disease-prevent/Human-Papillomavirus---HPV.aspx

These vaccination programs are happening province wide. Both

vaccinations require parental consent.

Calendar Reminder

Please check the calendar for a list of most activities.



Early Release Day

Please note that on Friday, September 25th, staff will be involved in professional activities during the afternoon. All students are expected to be in school for the morning. Bus students will leave the school and return to their drop off locations approximately three hours earlier than their normal time. A reminder slip will come home with students prior to this date.

School Pictures

Individual student photos were taken September 11th. Class photos and retakes will take place on October 6.

Niagara Instrumental Music

Students who are interested in learning how to play a musical instrument of their choice please check out the NEIM website at: www.freewebs.com/niagaramusic or call 905-688-2949. The cost is \$250 (student uses own instrument) or \$350 (student needs to rent a DSBN instrument).