

# James Morden Journal

Mr. M. Piazza, 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 James Morden 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 James Morden 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 James Morden. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please contact the school at 905-358-5011.*

*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.*



## James Morden Staff

Below is a listing of the entire James Morden Staff:

Mrs. C. Cobbe	JK/SK
Mrs. T. Kore	JK/SK
Ms. J. Gravelle	Gr. 1
Mrs. J. Climenhaga	Gr. 1/2
Mrs. J. Bouchard	Gr. 2
Mr. S. Fish	Gr. 2/3
Miss M. Demers (LTO)	Gr. 3
Miss E. Warkentin(LTO)	Gr. 4
Mr. K Felstead	Gr. 4/5
Mr. D. Redekop	Gr. 5/6
Mr. D. Gallacher	Gr. 6/7
Mr. C. Smith	Gr. 7/8
Ms. T. Shiner	Gr. 8
Mr. R. Paxton	Sp.Needs
Mrs. Kosuta	Lit. Coach
Mrs. C. Andres	Librarian
Miss H. Fraser	E.A.
Ms. Y. Cleaver	E.A.
Ms J. Kenny	E.A.
Ms. M. Matthews	E.A.
Mme. A. Duncan	French
Mrs. D. Bell	L.R.T.
Mrs. L. Yablo	E.L.L.
Mrs. I. Chadda	E.L.L.
Mrs. Mann-Wybrew	I.S.P.
Mrs. J. Mullen	Caretaker
Mrs. D. Cockhead	Caretaker
Mrs. V. Roots	Caretaker
Ms. L. Sullivan	Youth Counsellor
Mrs. K. McDougall	Lunch Supervisor
Mrs. V. Kertesz	Lunch Supervisor
Mrs. S. Bodner	Secretary
Ms. M. Zwolak	Vice-Principal
Mr. M. Piazza	Principal

## Meet the James Morden Staff Night

On Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding a barbeque for students, parents, and staff from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at James Morden. The purpose of this informal evening is to get to know one another in our school community. Chicken and Pork hot dogs as well as pop/juice will be served free of charge. We will be collecting donations for the Terry Fox Foundation and non-perishable food items for Project Share.



## Accommodation Review Reminder

The District School Board of Niagara regularly reviews changing enrolment patterns, facility utilization and program requirements to ensure that students are provided with appropriate educational programs. In May a motion was passed to conduct an accommodation review for the schools in South Niagara Falls. Included in the South Niagara Falls review are F.J.Rutland, Riverview, 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. The first Accommodation Review Committee meeting will be held October 1, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA  
Achieving Success Together

be at Princess Margaret School. The date of the first Public Consultation meeting will be November 9, 2009.

**Terry Fox Marathon of Hope!**

Students and staff will be involved in a Terry Fox walk on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. More information about this initiative will come home with students.

**Forms, papers and more ....**

During the first week there will be many forms coming home. Please take a moment each evening to fill them in and return them the next day. The verification form that came home today needs to be signed (both sides) and returned tomorrow to ensure that we have the correct information to contact you in an emergency situation.

**School Pictures**

School pictures date will be on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Choice Imaging will be the new photograph company we will be using this year. Reminder notices will be sent home.



**School Beautification**

Mrs. Mullen has once again done an amazing job of getting James Morden ready for the school year. Students, staff, and visitors to the building will be very impressed with her efforts.

**School Council**



The James Morden School Council is an advisory group comprised of parents, staff, and community members. School Council helps 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.

Our first meeting of the year is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the school library.

**DSBN Parent Conference**

The DSBN has scheduled its annual School Council Liaison Conference for parents interested in learning more about School Councils. This free event is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. at Westlane Secondary School in Niagara Falls. Participants will be able to select from different workshops that will focus on ideas to engage parents in schools to support student achievement. Parents will also have the opportunity to win door prizes and fund raising companies will be offering plenty of free samples. Please contact the school if you would like to join Mr. Piazza and Ms. Zwolak at this event.

**From the desk of Mrs. Bodner**

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 8:40am 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 James Morden takes time to recognize students who demonstrate excellence

in a particular area. Our first recognition assembly will be held on Wednesday, September 30 at 11:15 a.m. We will attempt to notify parents prior to assemblies.

**Computers**

Once again, James Morden will be hosting an excellent school website. Please visit our website to learn more about our programs and events. We thank Mr. Redekop who works hard to maintain our computer systems. Our school's website address is as follows:

<http://www.dsb.edu.on.ca/Schools/JamesMorden/>



<b>BELL TIMES</b>	
Morning Kindergarten	8:45 to 11:15 a.m.
Afternoon Kindergarten	12:45 to 3:15 p.m.
Entry	8:45 a.m.
Period 1	8:50 - 9:40 a.m.
Period 2	9:40 - 10:30 a.m.
1st Nutrition Break (Inside - Snack Time)	10:30 - 10:50 a.m.
1st Nutrition Break (Outside)	10:50 - 11:10 a.m.
Period 3	11:10 - 12:00 p.m.
Period 4	12:00 - 12:50 p.m.
2nd Nutrition Break (Inside - Lunch)	12:50 - 1:10 p.m.
2nd Nutrition Break (Outside)	1:10 - 1:35 p.m.
Period 5	1:35 - 2:25 p.m.
Period 6	2:25 - 3:15 p.m.
Dismissal	3:15 p.m.

### Parent Library and Workshop Series

At James Morden School, we encourage parents to become involved in their child's education. We believe that every child is unique and that all students are able to achieve high expectations given sufficient time and support, both at home and at school.

In our school community, we encourage the process of continuous learning for our staff and parent community in the interest of student success. To support this philosophy, a number of new resources have been purchased for use by the parents/guardians of the James Morden School community. Funding for these resources was obtained through the Parents Reaching Out Grant, submitted by your School Council in 2009. The new additions to our Parent Library include DVD's and audiobooks. We hope that you make use of this resource library and find it to be useful.

This year, we will be offering workshops for parents and guardians within the Westlane Family of Schools. These workshops will be fun, yet informative, and will be geared towards providing support to parents on a variety of relevant topics such as: supporting your child's literacy learning; training in effective discipline strategies for parents to use at home; family health and nutrition; understanding new technologies and the transition to high school. Please watch our newsletters and website for information about upcoming workshops.

### Code of Conduct

An updated version of code of conduct will be sent home with each student on the first day of school. The code of conduct outlines the responsibilities and expectations for all members of the James Morden community. Please take time to review the contents with your child.

### 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.

### Early Release Day

Please note that on Friday, September 25th, staff will be involved in professional activity sessions. Students will be dismissed at 12:00 p.m. on this day.



### 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.

### Spirit Wear

We are currently looking into different clothing vendors in order to offer our students a selection of James Morden Mustang clothing. We plan to have clothing samples and order forms ready in October. Stay tuned for more updates.




### Milk Program

We will be starting our Milk Program on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. Milk order forms for the month of September will be coming home on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Orders and money need to be returned by Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Also as a special treat James Morden will be participating in World Milk Day. All students will be receiving free milk at first nutrition break on Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.



### Pizza Lunches

Pizza lunch will be held on Thursday September 17<sup>th</sup>. The "Special" consists of 2 pieces of pizza and 1 juice box/water. Additional  slices of pizza can be purchased for 75 cents. All pizza money and order forms are due on Wednesday of each pizza week.

### Special Lunch Days

Throughout the year we will be offering special lunches for our students. Subs, hotdogs, pasta and even soup are some of the ideas staff have been discussing. For the month of September we will be offering a sub lunch to our students. The sub lunch for September will be on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. More information and order forms will be coming home in the next few weeks.



### Pets on School Property

In order to maintain a safe environment for our students and staff, we would like to remind all families that pets are not allowed on school property. Thank you for your support in helping us maintain a healthy and secure environment for all at James Morden Public School!



### Entering and Exiting the School

Students in JK/SK will exit and enter the school from the doors in front of the school at the South end nearest the JK/SK classrooms. These doors are not to be used by students in other grades as entry/exit doors.

All students in grades one to eight will be required to go to the back of the school upon arrival and to line up with their class to meet their teachers when the entry bell rings. Upon dismissal, students are also expected to exit through these doors through the back of the school. For safety reasons, students are not to exit the school through the main office doors.

Our school parking lot is a very busy place. If you are dropping your child off at school we ask that you pull up into the parking lot as far as possible. If parking lots are full, please be courteous to other drivers by not parking them into a spot. If you are unable to find a parking spot, we ask that you park your vehicle on a side street or in the plaza parking lot. You are welcome to greet your child on property by waiting near your child's exit door until dismissal and then safely escorting them back to your vehicle.

### Keeping our School Environment Clean

As an Eco-Friendly school, James Morden is encouraging students to be as litter free as possible with their lunches and snacks. With parental permission, some of our students leave the school property for lunch at our second Nutrition Break, from 12:50 - 1:35. In the interest of maintaining a clean environment, students are reminded not to bring food back onto the playground when they return to school. Supervision for the outdoor portion of the Nutrition Break begins at 1:15 p.m. Students should not be returning onto school property prior to this time for safety reasons. Once students have returned to school, they are expected to remain on school property.



### Bingo

A big thank you to Mrs. Goulet, Mrs. Liberia and Mr. Cabanaw who volunteered their time this year to work Bingo. If you would like to help out at any of our future Bingos, please call Mr. Piazza at the school. The money we make from these bingos help pay for trips and busses, purchase new uniforms, and help support many other student activities. Our next sessions at the Delta Bingo will be held on the following dates:

September 24th

October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29th



### Did you Know?

Smoking anywhere on school property including sitting inside a vehicle could cost you \$305.

Selling, supplying or sharing cigarettes with anyone under 19 can result in a minimum fine of \$365.

This law applies to:

**EVERYONE:** Staff, students, parents, visitors

**ANYTIME:** 24/7

**ANYWHERE:** Including school parking lots, cars in the parking lot, sports fields, driveways and courtyards

The *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* is designed to reduce the number of youth who start smoking and to protect Ontarians from second-hand smoke. Know the law and protect yourself!

Questions?

Call the Tobacco Hotline, 905-688-8248, ext.7393, or 1-888-505-6074.

### Six Simple Steps to Help Keep You and Me Healthy

Wash your hands often using soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Ensure hands are washed:

After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose

After shaking hands

Before eating

Before putting in contact lenses

Before touching your face

Avoid touching your face as much as possible.

Cough and sneeze into a tissue or your elbow. Throw out used tissues right away.

Do not share objects that have been in other people's mouths, eg. toothbrushes, drinks and

water bottles, unwashed utensils, lip products, and mouthpieces of musical instruments.

Stay home if you feel sick and talk to your doctor. Staying home will help prevent the spread of infections.

Frequently clean common surfaces such as keyboards, doorknobs, countertops, etc.

**Calendar Reminder**

Please check the calendar for a list of most activities.



**NEWSLETTER DRAW:**

Please sign and return this slip to indicate that you have read the *James Morden Journal*. One return slip will be chosen randomly. This lucky student will win a free pizza lunch!

The \_\_\_\_\_ family has read the *James Morden Journal*.

Student(s) Names

Teacher

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this page by Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009**