



POWER GLEN NEWSLETTER

POWER GLEN PUBLIC SCHOOL

34 Westland Street, St. Catharines, ON L2S 4C1 T: 905.684.7429 W: <http://powerglen.dsbns.org>



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

WELCOME TO THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR! On behalf of the staff at Power Glen, we would like to welcome back all returning students and families. For our students and families new to Power Glen, we are excited that you will be joining our 'Panther Family' this year. A new year is always filled with possibilities. At Power Glen, we know that this year will be full of new learnings, new experiences, new opportunities, and new friendships.

Although things will look different, we will create an amazing, healthy, and safe learning environment for our Panthers!

There is a great deal of information in this newsletter and we appreciate the time you are giving to reading all this information! If you have not already taken a few minutes to read the [DSBN Elementary In-Person Learning Guide](#), please do so. This newsletter will supplement the information in that guide with details specific to our Power Glen community.

Please visit the [DSBN website](#) and click on the 'Back to School 2021-2022'. You will find many valuable resources to prepare for your child's return to school, including:

- [Welcome to Kindergarten Parent Guide](#),
- [updates](#) and [advisories](#) as they become available,
- Information about how DSBN is 'Keeping Schools Safe',
- links to [Niagara region Public Health](#) and the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#),
- information about [Standardized Ventilation Methods](#)

The first days of school brings life back to the building, such as seeing smiling students eager to share their summer tales and hearing excitement in the air as students settle into their new classrooms. Thank you to Mr. Burns and Mrs. Turner for the excellent job they did this summer getting the school ready to greet our students.

We are to embark on our learning journey together! Our amazing Power Glen team of educators and support staff are here to keep our school safe together!

PREVALENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS

If you have a child with a prevalent medical condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, diabetes, and/or Epilepsy or others) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. All parents of children with prevalent medical conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. You can download the forms here dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions

For more information, please contact the school.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

School Office Opens	Aug. 30
Labour Day	Sept. 6
First Day of School.....	Sept. 7
Dress Purple for Child Abuse Day	Sept. 27
Rowan's Law Day - Wear purple .	Sept. 29
Orange Shirt Day	Sept. 30

RETURN OF BORROWED DEVICES



Did you borrow a Chromebook during the spring Learn from Home session? We ask for you to return the technology to Power Glen. We have students that are eager to use this technology.

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

Most of our Panthers live within walking distance to Power Glen.

When arriving by car please make sure that you are NOT blocking the bus lane or the entrance to the school parking lot. Please be patient and help us ensure the safety of all our students and families!

Of course, we encourage our families to choose active transportation to school by walking or riding a bike (for our students in Grade 4 or older). Bikes must be locked in the bike rack at the side of the school. Unfortunately, we are unable to store scooters or skateboards inside our school at this time and we encourage students to use an alternate method to arrive at school.

MORNING ARRIVAL

As students begin to arrive after 8:35 a.m., parents will say goodbye at the school designated drop off area and staff will direct students to class waiting zones. Due to the need to prevent crowding, and taking up space in the yard, parents will not be permitted on the school yard. There will be designated drop-off and pick-up areas. Our top priority is the health and safety of our students, staff and school community. It is essential we plan for spacing and minimize direct and indirect contacts with staff and other students. Thank you for doing your part to model physical distancing and your help to keep our school community safe.

For the safety and security of all students within our class communities:

- Supervision staff are on duty
- Students must be on time and follow all routines that support the well-being of the whole school.
- Parents are asked to say good-bye to their children at the school yard gates and allow them to enter the school yard to join their friends with the support and guidance of their teachers.
- Pick-up and drop-off of students can only happen outside of the school. Parents will not have access to the front foyer, classrooms, and unscheduled visits are not permitted.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is taken twice daily. Please help us to ensure the safety of our students by reporting your child's absence or if they will be arriving late to school. Your co-operation in calling will assist our secretary immensely. If we do not hear from you, we will call you either at home, on your cell, your place of employment and your emergency contacts. Please note that due to starting our days outside, attendance calls may be a little later than usual. Also, all students who arrive late to school (morning or afternoon) must report to the office. Parents will not be able to escort their child into the building. A staff member will meet the child at the front door and will ensure the child gets safely to their class.

How can I report my child's absence or late arrival? Whether it's an illness, a medical appointment or other important event, there are times when students may need to be away from school. Using the [Safe Arrival](#) system, parents will be able to report daily absences, and even schedule absences in one of three ways:

1. Call toll-free before bell time: 1-866-606-5567
2. Logging on to the web portal (<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/account/login>). Using this website, you can set up your account to report and schedule absences.
3. Using your smart phone or tablet. Simply download the SchoolMessenger app. The app is compatible with both Apple and Android devices.

Please report all absences prior to bell time for the current day. If your child has an upcoming appointment, you can also schedule future absences by using one of these three methods. Please do not contact the school directly to report your child's absence. For more information, please visit: <https://dsbn.org/safearrival/>

If you are changing your child's pick-up time, the office must know by 2:30 pm as it gets busy near the end of the day and some classes may be extending their learning outside at that time.

DSBN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR



2021-2022 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					29	30
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			6-10	7-1	7-2	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		10-2	10-3	10-4	10-5	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		11-10	12-1	12-2	12-3	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					13-8	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			17-8	17-9	17-10	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

- Professional Development Day
- Holiday
- First Day of School



MEET THE 2021-2022 POWER GLEN STAFF

Ms. J. Kerr, Principal
 Mr. O. Dickson, Vie Principal
 Mrs. S. MacTavish, Administrative Assistant
 Mr. Burns, Caretaker

HOMEROOM TEACHERS		SCHOOL-BASED TEACHING STAFF	
Kindergarten Team 1	Mrs. D. Garner Miss. M. Bruno	LRT	Mrs. C. Gadsby
Kindergarten Team 2	Mrs. S. Krieger Mrs. S. Ramunno	Primary and Rotary	Mr. D. Brown
Grade 1	Mrs. C. Lefebvre	FSL	Mme. A. Kesimaat Mme. C. Gifford
Grade ½	Mrs. K. Enns		
Grade 2/3	Ms. T. Vanderbent	SUPPORT STAFF	
Grade 3	Mrs. S. Pasquale	Educational Assistants	Mrs. L. Bley
			Mrs. D. Mastrangelo
Grade ¾	Ms. E. Vanderwal		Miss A. Rochon
			Mrs. J. Schwenker
			Mr. C. Thompson
			Mrs. J. Weldon
Grade 4	Mrs. J. Millin		Ms. S. Whalen
Grade 5	Mrs. S. Robinson	Youth Counselor	Mr. G. Sentence
Grade 5/6	Mrs. J. Ker	Social Worker	Mrs. S. Leibbrandt
Grade 6/7	Mrs. S. Code	Evening Caretaker	Mrs. S. Turner
Grade 7/8	Mr. T. Wright		
Grade Eight	Miss C. Whittal		
FSP	Ms. J. Daniels		
SSP	Mr. R. Brens		
Instructional Coach	Mrs. R. Dickson	Lunch Supervisors	Mrs. M. Brodeur Mrs. R. Ali Ms. B. Honsinger Ms. K. Banks

AGREEMENTS AND DOCUMENTS

Please inform the school if there are special custody orders for your child. Any relevant custody orders MUST be kept on file at the office. Please ensure that the school always has the most recent custody orders for your child(ren).

PARENT ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL

One of our goals is to maintain a school environment that minimizes the number of potential contacts for students and staff. For that reason, parents should not enter the school. Pick-up and drop-off of students can only happen outside of the school. Parents will not have access to classrooms and unscheduled visits are not permitted. Please note that ALL visitors must make an appointment with the office prior to entering the school. If you have made an appointment, you must complete the [Visitors Self-Assessment](#) on the DSBN webpage and wear a mask to enter to school.

WHAT IF I NEED TO GET SOMETHING TO MY CHILD?

If your child has forgotten something that they cannot do without, we will have you ring the bell at the front door and let our staff know who the item is for. You may leave the item in the designated space at the school entry. Staff will take care of delivery for you. We will see that your child receives it.

ROWAN'S LAW DAY – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Rowan's Law was named for Rowan Stringer, a high school rugby player from Ottawa, who died in the spring of 2013 from a condition known as second impact syndrome (swelling of the brain caused by a subsequent injury that occurred before a previous injury healed). Rowan is believed to have experienced three concussions over six days while playing rugby. She had a concussion but didn't know her brain needed time to heal. Neither did her parents, teachers, or coaches.

Rowan's Law and Rowan's Law Day were established to honour her memory and bring awareness to concussions and concussion safety. We wear purple on this day as this was Rowan's favourite colour.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in the spring of 2013. It grew out of Residential School survivor Phyllis Webstad's account of having her new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually. The initiative calls for every Canadian to wear an orange shirt in the spirit of healing and reconciliation. The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes and placed in residential schools, and because it provides an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year.

This year, DSBN will be recognizing this day on Thursday, September 30. Please join our school staff in wearing an orange shirt on September 30. We hope to see all of our students and many community members wearing orange on September 30.

SO MANY WAYS TO STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED

The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

SCHOOL WEBSITE: <http://powerglen.dsbn.org/>

SCHOOL MESSENGER

Using the School Messenger program, all families will receive a phone call and email on Sunday afternoon (Monday's on a long weekend) with reminders about events for the upcoming week. If you are not receiving these phone calls and emails, please check your contact information with the office to ensure we have the most current information. We have received many positive comments about this method of communication! In order for School Messenger to be it's most effective, it is imperative that we have up-to-date phone numbers and email addresses.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

All newsletters will be posted to the school website and sent via School Messenger through email on the first school day of the new month.