

May, 2018

The Panther Press

From the Office...

Dear Plymouth Families,

May has certainly come in like the lamb they say it is! The sunshine was a welcome addition to the end of April and the warm May start has been delightful! We hope that you have had some time to enjoy the outdoors with your families.

As you will notice on the May Calendar, we have a month jam packed with activities, trips, academic experiences and EQAO, just to name a few. Please take some time to look at the calendar and ensure that you are up to date with when your child is going to be involved in something... I know I often lose track of my own girls' busy schedules. Between Swim to Survive, Red Maple and Silver Birch Reading Clubs, Rankin Running Club, Badminton, Track and Field and a plethora of others, our students are going to be tired students by the end of the month!

With the warmer weather comes some muddy days in our field. We encourage you to send a spare set of clothes (including socks) with your child in case they end up slipping or falling. This saves you a trip to the school to drop off new clean clothes and saves your child the uncomfortable experience of being mud covered at their desk. If possible, a pair of indoor AND outdoor shoes would be a great idea as well.

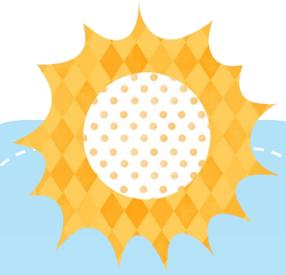
We look forward to a great month full of experiential learning and high expectations for our Plymouth Panthers.

Have a wonderful May,
Mrs. Kristen Kosh and Mr. Greg Watson
Plymouth Administrative Team

From Parent Council...

Thank you to all of the Plymouth Families for your support of our Annual Garbage Bag Fundraiser. With your generous support, we were able to raise \$ which will go directly back to the students of Plymouth. We will be splitting the profits and placing half into the Playground Fund and the other half will go towards supporting student learning in the school environment.

Our next meeting is **TUESDAY, MAY 22 at 6:00pm in the PLYMOUTH LIBRARY**. We would love to see any interested parents attend and share their thoughts and ideas!



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Important Dates

05/18	PD Day
05/21	Victoria Day Holiday
05/26	Running Club Rankin Run



Year End Trips

With the end of the 2017-2018 school year rapidly approaching, your child will be bringing home permission forms and information about their year end trips. We are aware that these trips sometimes have a significant cost attached to them and would like to offer our support where possible.

If you find that the costs of the year end trips is prohibiting your child from attending, or you have multiple trips to pay for within your family and find it difficult to manage them all, we ask that you please contact your child's teacher. The teachers will be able to communicate the payment options and support that are available to you if needed.

We would never exclude a child because of financial means and want to ensure that you have the opportunity to work within the needs of your family. Please call your child's teacher at 905-732-4110 to discuss your options.

Thank you!

Plymouth Dance Team

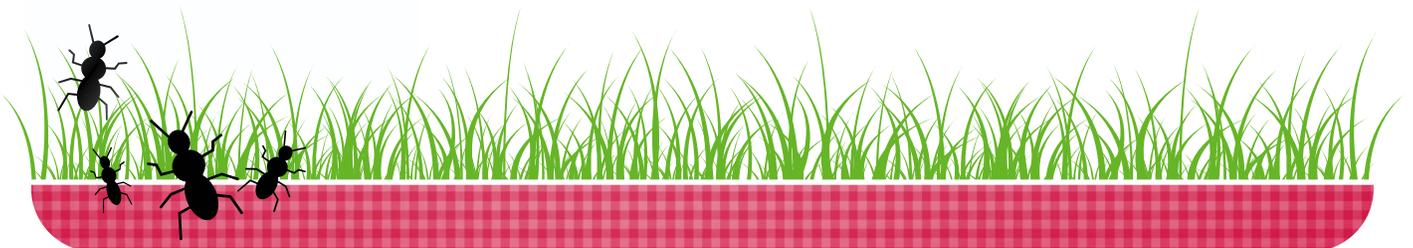
This team sure has moves! Dancing to Meaghan Trainor's "Dance Like Yo Daddy" our Junior-Intermediate Dance Team will be showing off how they dance like pros at the DSBN Dance Showcase on the evening of Tuesday, May 8th at the ScotiaBank Convention Centre. Lead by Ms. Demers, our Team is comprised of Skye P., Grace C., Hannah V., Tessa V., Emma B., Brooklyn E., Kaeli S., Aden C-F. and Nick M. We are so proud of their commitment to practicing and growing their skills and VERY excited to see them perform on the big stage. Good luck Plymouth Dancers!!

Rankin Run Running Club

The Rankin Run is fast approaching and our Running Club is getting fast too! Under the leadership of Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Lamothe and Ms. Hann, the Running Club has been practicing twice a week to build their endurance and stamina. On Saturday, May 26, our Running Club will attend the Rankin Run for Cancer and take part in the 5km run with numerous other schools, families and community members. Congratulations goes out to: Cameron G., Logan G., Chloe F., Emma B., Will G., Damien B., Stephanie E., Alex K., Deanna C., Cailyn J., Gordon C., Sam A., Sierra D., Sierra H-G., Grace C., Savannah B. and Alexis D. Not only have you worked hard on your healthy habits but your hard work is going to benefit a great cause!

Brock Student Teachers

You may have heard your child talking about a new teacher in their classroom lately. Our staff roster hasn't changed but we have added a few new soon-to-be teachers to our team for seven weeks! Each semester, Plymouth teachers have the opportunity to host a teacher candidate from Brock University's Education Program. These Brock students come to the school to experience what it is like to be a homeroom teacher in a school setting. They develop lesson plans, teach the lessons, create assignments and grade all the student work, just like our full time teachers. This experience allows them the chance to grow and develop their skills in a setting that is safe and supported. As staff, we get the opportunity to mentor young teachers who could one day be our colleagues! We see them gain confidence and become better instructional leaders over the course of their placement. It is a mutually rewarding experience for all involved. Currently, we are hosting Mr. Mezzarobba (in 7/8M), Ms. Hann (in 7/8C) and Ms. D'Aloisio (in 2S). We wish them the best of luck in their placements here at Plymouth and in their educational journey as future teachers!



Swim to Survive

Each year, the Education Foundation of Niagara puts forward a grant to access money for a program called "Swim to Survive" in partnership with the YMCA. The program provides students in Grade 3 with 3 "in water" lessons during which they are taught the basic aquatic skills to survive in the water.

Once a week, for three weeks, Plymouth's Grade 3 students get on a bus and travel to the Welland YMCA. Throughout the three weeks, students learn how to roll safely into the water, tread water and swim a 50m distance without touching the bottom. At the end, they receive a certificate of participation if the lifeguards determine that the students successfully learned all three skills.

In addition to the "in water" skills students learn, there are also 2 "in class" lessons that the students complete at the school. These lessons are designed to support the aquatic skills students have now learned.

This year, our Grade 7 students had the opportunity to take part in Swim to Survive Plus which allowed them to learn how to survive a sudden fall into the water. One of the in water lessons had them jumping in fully clothed!

We would like to thank EFN, the YMCA and the DSBN for supporting this lifesaving skills and providing us the opportunity to participate, for FREE!!

Thanks everyone for making our summers safer!



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
- Nelson Mandela

Plymouth Academics in Action

