



Absence Check Number  
905-845-3504

Stacey Sinclair, School Council Chair  
Stuart Miller, Superintendent  
Kelly Amos, Trustee, Wards 5 & 6

Website: [www.hdsb.ca/sheridan](http://www.hdsb.ca/sheridan)

# The Sheridan Showcase

1555 Lancaster Drive ♦ Oakville, Ontario ♦ L6H 3H4 ♦ 905-845-3925

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Mark your calendars for Sheridan's  
Holiday Celebration Evening  
on

Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>  
at 6:30 pm  
in the Gym

All of our grade 1-5 students have started to  
rehearse their songs in order to make this show a  
memorable occasion for parents and students alike.

During the weeks of December 5 – 21<sup>st</sup> the  
Sheridan Student Council will be conducting a **Food  
Drive and Mitten Tree Collection** as part of giving  
to the Oakville Community during the December  
Holiday Celebrations. Members of the Student  
Council will be at the front doors during the  
Christmas Concert Event to collect mittens and/or  
canned good donations, but both can be sent to the  
school anytime after  
Monday, December 5th.

Thank you for supporting the Students' Council and  
our community.

Please have your child here at 6:15 p.m. and  
dressed in white top and dark pants/skirt.



### Early dismissal on Friday December 23

On the last day before the December holiday, Friday  
December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011, all schools will dismiss 1 ½  
hours (90 minutes) early. Board provided  
transportation will be adjusted to reflect this early  
dismissal time. At Sheridan, dismissal will be at 1:45  
p.m.

Instruction begins	8:45 a.m.
Break 1 starts	9:55 a.m.
Break 1 ends	10:35 a.m.
Break 2 starts	11:45 a.m.
Break 2 ends	12:35 p.m.
Dismissal	1:45 p.m.

### Shoebox Float parade Friday, December 23

Parents are invited to attend the Shoebox Float  
Parade on Friday, Dec. 23 at 1:15 pm in the mall  
area.

Please find attached to this newsletter the  
instructions for your child about creating a Shoebox  
Float.

Join us as we celebrate the Holiday Break!

### The Multicultural Winter Holiday Assembly

Cheryl Thornton will be presenting **The  
Multicultural Winter Holiday Assembly** at  
Sheridan PS on December 12 from 11:15 – 12:15.  
The drama and storytelling presentation features  
seven different holidays celebrated in Canada and  
around the world. K-5 students help dramatize the  
holiday stories as they learn how fellow Canadians  
celebrate **Eid / Ramadan, Diwali, Winter Solstice,  
Hanukkah, Advent / Christmas, Kwanzaa, and the  
Chinese New Year.**

## **Register Now for Junior or Senior Kindergarten**

*We look forward to welcoming your child to school!*

**Junior Kindergarten 2012-2013:** Children must be **4 years old by December 31, 2012.**

**Senior Kindergarten 2012-2013:** Children must be **5 years old by December 31, 2012.**

**NOTE:** If your child is currently attending one of our schools for Junior Kindergarten, you do not need to register for Senior Kindergarten.

To determine your designated home school, access our website [www.hdsb.ca](http://www.hdsb.ca) and click on "Parent Information" (Where will my child go to school?). You can call your designated school to find out which dates have been established for Kindergarten registration.

Please bring the following **original** documents with you to register:

- proof of residency via lease, purchase agreement or property tax bill.
- birth certificate, passport or baptismal certificate for your child.
- proof of immunization, or philosophical or religious exemption forms (and completed medical authorization where necessary).

*If you are not the child's parent, or if you have sole custody, please bring proof of custody (court order).*

Please ensure your child is registered by **February 6, 2012.**

For further information, please contact:  
Burlington: 905-335-3663, ext. 3389/3294  
Oakville: 905 335-3663, ext. 3271  
Halton Hills: 905-878-8451, ext. 3435  
Milton: 905-878-8451, ext. 3307



## **Elementary Optional Attendance**

Halton students seeking placement at schools **other than their home schools.** do so by way of Optional Attendance.

Applications are being accepted at your home school from

**December 1- January 23, 2012**

Not all schools are open to Optional Attendance. For a list of schools open to Optional Attendance and to obtain a copy of the registration form (located in the Optional Attendance Procedure) you can go to our website at [www.hdsb.ca](http://www.hdsb.ca) and click on Parent Info, Optional Attendance.

## **Thank you Parents and Guardians**

Thank you to our parents and guardians for participating in our recent parent/teacher/student

conferences. The Progress Report is new to all and the conference format is also new to many. Your presence and interest in your child's progress and goal-setting is a critical component for their on-going learning and success. We value your partnership in the process and encourage your continued communication with our teachers.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS**

### **Holiday Gift Bazaar**



This year's holiday bazaar is being held on Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup>. We need your help! If you can volunteer for any amount of time on either of those days please contact our volunteer coordinator at

[sheridanvolunteers@googlegroups.com](mailto:sheridanvolunteers@googlegroups.com)

Also, we are looking for donations of Holiday gift bags, wrapping paper, gift tags and tape. Here's a great chance to clear out your closets and under your beds!! Please send in donations to the school with your child.

**The next School Council meeting is Tuesday, December 6 at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.**

## **FROM THE LIBRARY**

### **The Annual Book Fair At Sheridan**

Thanks to everyone who came out and supported Sheridan's annual Book Fair!

A special thank-you is in order to the parent volunteers, Mrs. S. and Mrs. G., who gave of their time to make this event a success. Mrs. Doyle would also like to once again thank those teachers who helped with the "store front".

Students and families alike commented on the wonderful selection of books and special interest items available at the fair.

Sales were steady and every purchase contributed to our being able to purchase extra, and sought after titles, for the school Library.

Congratulations to the S. family who won the family draw worth \$25.00 for books of their choice and \$25.00 worth of reading materials for the classroom.

## **ECONEWS**

### **Winter is coming - Idle Not!**

Transportation is a leading cause of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Canada, and a major source of the air pollutants that cause smog. Children are particularly vulnerable to air pollution. They breathe faster than

adults and inhale more air per pound of body weight. Halton Student Transportation Services (school buses) has an anti-idling policy – but what about private vehicles? Sadly a study in the City of Toronto found that more than a third (35-45%) of parents idle their vehicles while waiting to pick up their children.

#### How much is too much?

- study suggests that in the peak of winter, Canadians **voluntarily** idle their vehicles for a combined total of more than 75 million minutes a day. This is equivalent to one vehicle idling for 144 years!
- If every driver of a light duty vehicle avoided idling by three minutes a day, collectively over the year, we would save 630 million litres of fuel, over 1.4 million tonnes of GHG emissions, and more than \$780 million annually in fuel costs (assuming fuel costs are \$1.25/L). So what's stopping us?

**Myth:** The engine should be warmed up before driving.

**Reality:** The best way to warm up your vehicle is to drive it gently. Even in cold weather you need no more than 30 seconds of idling before driving your vehicle.

**Myth:** Idling is good for your engine.

**Reality:** An idling engine will leave soot deposits that can build up and cause oil contamination.

**Myth:** Shutting off and restarting your vehicle is hard on the engine and uses more gas than if you leave it running.

**Reality:** Frequent restarting has little impact on engine components like the battery and the starter motor. Idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting your engine.

#### Idling Cost Calculator:

<http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/transportation/tools/calculator/s/idling/idlingimpact-individual.cfm?attr=8>

Think about it – but first – *please* turn off the engine.

#### Halton & Solid Waste Management

Waste management is a continuing concern for our region.

Consequently the Halton Regional Council has adopted the 2012-2016 Solid Waste Management Strategy. It's goal is to increase the waste diversion rate in Halton to 65%.

Visit: <http://webaps.halton.ca/news/mediashow.cfm?MediaID=2011-11-16-02-52-49> for further details and to learn how you are able to make this a reality!

#### ECO FAST FACT

Did you know that the energy we save when we recycle one glass bottle can light a traditional light bulb for approximately four hours?!

Recycling and investing in energy efficient light bulbs will clearly help light the way!

#### Climate Change

For more information on initiatives relating to this topic, go to:

[www.globalclimatecampaign.org](http://www.globalclimatecampaign.org)

#### THANK YOU!!

#### New Sheridan Website

Thank you to Mrs. Rowe for the designing of our new Sheridan website which is now up and running. Make sure you check it out at [www.hdsb.ca/sheridan](http://www.hdsb.ca/sheridan)

Congratulations to Molly F. and Josh P. our website contest winners of \$25 gift card to Mastermind Toys for checking out the website and answering the questions correctly.

#### Remembrance Day Assembly

Congratulations to Sheridan Students and Staff for this year's Remembrance Day Assembly. Each class presentation was respectful to and honoured the contributions of all service men and women and their families, past, present and future.

The order of presentations was:

Welcome and Introduction by Mrs. Armstrong  
O Canada

Choir “

Kindergarten- song: Where Do I find Peace?

Grade 1-2- poem: What A Poppy Means.

Grade 2- poem: Remembrance Day- Questions and Answers

Grade 3- song: Highway of Heroes

Grade 4- poem: Why Wear A Poppy

Grade 5- Laying of the Wreath- for what we are thankful

Last Post, Moment of Silence-

#### Healthy Snack Update

From 9AM to 11AM on Wednesdays and Thursdays, the Sheridan kitchen is bustling with volunteers preparing healthy snacks such as: veggies & dip; trail mix; fruit; cheese and crackers; and a variety of other nutritional snacks for the students. Ann, Anna, and Danielle all deserve a pat on the back for their hard work! A big thank you too, to Mrs. Mitchell's grade four students who come in each week to deliver and serve the food to the classrooms!

#### Healthy Basket Program

**How Can You Help?** In order to help with the costs of the Healthy Basket program, we are asking for donations of any of the following snacks: Kellogg's Nutrigrain Bars; Unsweetened Applesauce (individual cups); Dole Fruit in Juice (individual cups); Cloverleaf Tuna Snack-It; Kellogg's All Bran Bars (except Chocolate Chip); and Kellogg's Brown Sugar Cinnamon Munchems.

**Please give our children the nutrition they need to learn, grow and thrive . . . because it's hard to learn on an empty stomach!**

Danielle Ferguson  
Co-ordinator  
four\_fergusons@hotmail.com

## **HOW PARENTS CAN HELP**

### **Bully Free Zone**

**What you can do if your son or daughter is being bullied.....**

If your son / daughter is being bullied, sharing these tips with him / her may help:

- If it's hard to stand up for yourself, ignore the bullying and walk away.... then tell someone who can help.
- Talk to someone who can help – an older student, your friends, classroom teacher, principal, parents or any adult you can trust.
- If you're scared to talk to an adult on your own, ask a friend to go with you.
- Go to areas where you feel safe.
- Stay close to students you can count on to stick up for you.
- Look confident and tell the child that bullies to back off...bullying is NOT cool!
- Stay calm...try not to show that you are upset when being bullied.
- Get funny... humour shows you're not bothered.
- Be assertive, not aggressive...fighting back often makes the bullying worse.
- REMEMBER no one deserves to be bullied.
- YOU help to make our school a better place by seeking help to stop bullying

It really does work when you talk to someone and get help.

You may have to tell more than one person...that's OK...DON'T GIVE UP!

### **Parent Volunteers**

Interested in finding out about various parent volunteer opportunities? Sign up to receive email notices from the Sheridan volunteer network. To sign up email us at [sheridanvolunteers@googlegroups.com](mailto:sheridanvolunteers@googlegroups.com)

### **Lost & Found Box**

The Lost and Found Box located in the office is getting quite full. We encourage parents to look in the Box for any items that may belong to your child. We will try to have everything laid out on the tables in the mall beginning Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Unclaimed items will be donated to charity during the second week of January.**

### **Inclement Weather Procedures**

Conditions such as severe weather may cause schools to be closed for all or part of a day. If you suspect that this might occur, please listen to CHFI

98.1; CHML 900; CFRB 1010; CKOC 1150; CHWO 740; CJOY 1460; CHFI 680; CKFM 99.9 (FM); KLite 102.9 (FM); Y108 107.9 (FM); CBC 99.1 (FM); WAVE 94.7 (FM); CING 95.3 (FM); CIMJ 106.1 (FM). Also, CH Television (Morning Show) will announce any closures. Generally, schools would not be closed after 11:00 a.m. except in extreme circumstances.

As is always the case, the ultimate decision of whether to send your child to school on days when we have inclement weather rests with the parent. If you feel that the road conditions are not safe for your child to travel to school, then it is acceptable to keep them at home.

### **Physical Activity - Ontario gets a D-**

Each year, the [Active Healthy Kids Canada](#) Report Card offers the most comprehensive national assessment of child and youth physical activity in Canada. To take a more focused look at the issues in this province, Active Healthy Kids Canada has worked with Ontario stakeholders to produce the first ever [Ontario Supplement](#) to the National Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Youth.

With an overall grade of D- for physical activity, Ontario's children and youth are doing marginally better than the country, but only 32 per cent are taking the recommended 13,500 steps per day to meet the [Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines and Canadian Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines](#).

### **Panago Pizza Coupons**

Just a reminder to use your Panago Pizza Coupon before the end of the year as they expire December 31, 2011.

### **For Bus Students:**



Please listen to the above-mentioned radio stations for announcements on whether buses are running or not.

**Sometimes the schools are open, but the buses are not running.**

**IF BUSES ARE CANCELLED IN THE MORNING, THERE WILL BE NO BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR THE ENTIRE DAY.**

## ***HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS!***

The December month brings our school community many cultural and faith celebrations: like Hannukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa. This is also a time that we can reflect on all the special days that have happened this school year for our families: Rosh Hashana, Diwali, Thanksgiving, Eid, Halloween and Bandi-Chor Divas to name just a few. These days of significance although unique and special to each community, also represent for us the universal values of peace, generosity, kindness and family togetherness.

At our school we encourage students to celebrate our many differences and similarities in authentic ways. We truly hope that your family will find ways of sharing the many holidays of our community together with joy, respect and understanding.

Sheridan Shoebox Float Parade  
Friday, December 23  
1:15 pm.

Yes, it's that time of year again for Sheridan's Seasonal Sizzler – The Shoebox Float Parade!! Make a float and participate in this wonderful event.

Here is all you have to do:

1. Find a **shoebox**
2. **Attach a cord** or heavy string. Remember your float will travel over carpet and tile.
3. **Decorate** your float with an interesting seasonal holiday theme. The theme can relate to Winter, Hanukkah, Christmas, Eid, Kwanzaa, Diwali. Use whatever materials you like – NO wheels, please (they fall off).
4. **Bring** your float to school on **Friday, Dec. 23**
5. **Invite** your parents to come and watch in the mall area. Parade starts at 1:15 pm. sharp!

Have Fun Making A Float! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

If you have questions please ask Mrs. Lynds.

