

Dates to Remember

April 6th – Hot Lunch

April 9th – School Council Meeting, 6 pm, library

April 11th – Spirit Day – pay \$1 to wear your hat all day

April 12th – Hot Lunch

April 13th - PD Day, no school for students

April 18th – Spirit Day – pay \$1 and chew gum all day

April 20th –Brier Park Celebrates Earth Day - wear green

April 20th - Hot Lunch

April 25th – Spirit Day – pay \$1 and participate in academic challenges versus other classes

April 27th – Hot Lunch, Jump Rope for Heart Event – AM

May 2nd – Book Fair until 5:30 pm

May 3rd – Hot Lunch day, Special Friends Day – AM, more information to follow

Principal's Message

The school is abuzz with activity in math classes. The staff have been completing professional development at each staff meeting, learning about new resources and teaching materials. I hope you enjoyed our math graphing activity photo from last month. During our April Professional Activity Day, we will be working on improving our math teaching skills and on doing a gap analysis to inform our school achievement plan.

April, May and June are busy months in school. April is dental awareness month. Our health unit findings helped us plan a weekly lesson for the primary, junior and intermediate divisions for the four weeks of April. Topics such as the importance of brushing, healthy and unhealthy food choices, healthy decision making such as going to the dentist and/or tobacco use for our older students are going to be covered. Thanks to Mrs. Coulis, Mr. Neeb and Mrs. Vanka for co-ordinating the lessons for the divisions. Thanks to our Public Health Nurse for providing toothbrushes for our students to be distributed at the end of April. A reminder: there is a free dental program for eligible children and youth 17 and under by calling 519-753-4937m ext., 450.

A reminder that April 20th is Brier Park's Earth Day celebration. Students are asked to wear green, pack a good boomerang lunch (everything sent today goes back home whether it's a wrapper that's garbage or an apple core), school wide 'power hour'- no technology and lights off where appropriate. This is the Eco

Team's last big push for this school year to get Brier Park 'eco' certified and earn a water bottle refilling station. Please help support this day.

As well, we are having three spirit days in April. These days are a fundraising effort for our snack program. Every year, the School Council receives funds from Brant Food for Thought to financially support our snack program. A condition to receiving the funds for our snack program is for the community to raise some funds as well. Last December, volunteers, including myself, wrapped gifts at the Lynden Park Mall to raise funds. The Intermediate classes are also selling popcorn three times in April to help raise funds for the snack program. Thank you to Mr. Petersen and the intermediate students for their support of this initiative.

The book fair will be during the week of May 2-7, 2018. The Book Fair will be open during nutrition breaks and on Special Friends morning. More information will be sent home with students closer to the date. We have EQAO in during the last two weeks of May and the first week of June. More information will be in May's newsletter.

A safety concern: for families, would you please park in the Kiss and Drop area when picking up students, and refrain from parking in the staff parking lot. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

I want to thank Mrs. Rypma and her Eco-Team for their efforts promoting recycling in our school. Our School Clean Up Team picked up garbage on two occasions, making our yard much nicer. Ms. Holmes has been supporting our students in the Ed Tech team where students are learning to code and send their robots on interesting paths! Badminton is the team sport for April. Thanks to Mrs. Coulis, Mr. Neeb, Mr. Petersen, our co-op students, Mr. Brennan, Mrs. Vanka and Mr. Nicholson for coaching/supervising.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Brittain

From the **Program Department**, please see the attachment regarding math.

From the **Speech Department**, please see the attachment, "Talk it Up" April.