

A.M. Cunningham School Newsletter



I would like to acknowledge the participation of numerous students in various activities that took place throughout the month of October: Cross Country, Swim Team, class trips to Pinocchio and Dyments Pumpkin Patch and "Toonie for UNICEF." These activities would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the following staff members: Mme Lowery, Mme Rankin, Mme Kotecki, Mme Brooks-Bittle, Miss Clarke, Mrs Jones with support from their colleagues. I would also like to thank our parent and community volunteers for supporting these events. Through the generous donations of our school community, we were able to raise a little over \$350.00 toward UNICEF!

Part of the learning process is to reflect on where you are, what you would do differently, and to set goals for the future. Progress Reports are tools for this conversation. They came home on Monday Oct 30th for students in grades 1-5. Our youngest students in FDK received a *Communication of Learning*, which begins to record students' progress so far.

At the upcoming Home/School Interviews, we encourage caregivers, teacher and students to reflect, set goals together and discuss plans to ensure future success and growth.

Ms. George, Principal



Save the Date!

Upcoming Dates

Nov 3 rd	PA Day (no classes for students) / Home/School Interviews
Nov 8	FDK - Grade 3 students to Fred Penner Concert
Nov 10	Pizza Day
Nov 13-17	Anti-bullying Awareness Week
Nov 13	HWDSB Swim Meet
Nov 14	World Diabetes Day (wear blue, \$2 collected towards JRDF)
Nov 24	Pizza Day
Dec 1	PA Day (no classes for students)



French Immersion Update

Calling all SK parents - Interested in French Immersion for Grade 1?

The board has moved to a system-wide application process for entry to French Immersion. Please check the [HWDSB website](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca) for more information. Applications are now being accepted. Information sessions for parents are occurring now, and application deadline is the **end of Nov.**

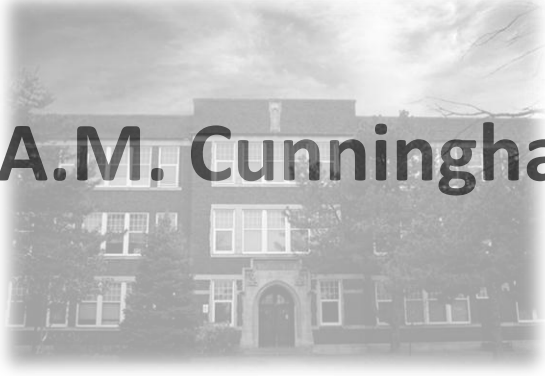
French Immersion Boundry Meeting

Last week there was an information meeting held at Glendale High school. Copies of the presentation materials and minutes are available at www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/boundary-reviews/ scroll down to East Hamilton / Lower Stoney Creek.

Reminders:

- Dogs are not permitted on school property
- Smoking is not permitted on school property
- Please check labels when sending snacks to school to ensure that they are nut free
- As winter approaches, students should come dressed for the weather: boots, hats, mittens. Student from Grades 1-5 spend at least 40 minutes outdoors each day. Kindergarten students also have outdoor play. When boots are worn, students must also have shoes to wear in school, preferably running shoes, in order to participate in gym and DPA (daily physical activity)
- Personal electronic devices should be kept at home

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IN FLANDERS FIELDS

*The World's Most Famous WAR MEMORIAL POEM
By Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae*

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead: Short days ago,
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved: and now we lie
In Flanders fields!

Take up our quarrel with the foe
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch: be yours to hold it high
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields

Sous les rouges coquelicots des cimetières flamands,
Qui parmi les rangées de croix bougent dans le vent,
Nous sommes enterrés. Et dans le bleu des cieux,
Les alouettes encore lancent leur cri courageux
Que plus personne n'entend sous le bruit des canons.

Nous sommes morts : il y a à peine quelques jours,
Nous connaissions les joies de la vie, de l'amour,
La fraîcheur de l'aurore, les lueurs du ponant.
Maintenant nos corps sans vie reposent en sol flamand.

Nos mains inanimées vous tendent le flambeau :
C'est à vous, à présent, de le tenir bien haut,
De contre l'ennemi reprendre la querelle.
Si vous ne partagez des morts la foi rebelle,
Nos corps ne pourront pas dormir paisiblement
Sous les rouges coquelicots des cimetières flamands.



Remembrance Day Assembly

On Friday, November 10th the students at A.M. Cunningham School will be participating in a Remembrance Day Assembly.

The purpose of this solemn event is to pay homage to the thousands of men and women who fought for our freedom: **lest we forget**



Nutrition Breaks

We are finding that many students are eating all their lunch during the first nutrition break.

Although, we usually have apples in the office for students who are still hungry, please talk to your child to see if he/she requires additional food in his/her lunch. **A reminder that this is a peanut and tree nut free school.**

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November 14 – November 18
is Anti-Bullying Awareness
Week in Ontario.



Bullying has become a societal issue where all stakeholders need to work together to shed light on the problem. HWDSB and A.M. Cunningham School has several structures in place to better understand and address the issue.

There are many pieces to the puzzle:

- Firstly, we need to understand the definition of bullying, “Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent and aggressive behaviour directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person’s body, feelings, self-esteem or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.”
- Not every incident, particularly in the primary/junior level is bullying. There are problems that arise between children that need to be worked through and learned from. Often the word, “bullying” is over used or not used correctly.
- Teaching your child to be kind to others is the key. By drawing attention to kindness,

is it
BULLYING?

When someone says or does something
unintentionally hurtful
and they do it once, that's
RUDE.

When someone says or does something
intentionally hurtful
and they do it once, that's
MEAN.

When someone says or does something
intentionally hurtful and they *keep doing it*-
even when you tell them to stop or show
them that you're upset—that's
BULLYING

we can teacher and encourage our children to say and do positive things to others. It is important to help your child learn how to appropriately solve a problem when it arises.

- By building these problem-solving skills to deal with these issues, we help our children become confident, well- adjusted and resilient.
- A.M. Cunningham focuses on a character trait each month. Students are acknowledged at the monthly assembly for demonstrating the character trait, and

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teachers reinforce the trait using “teachable moments” in the classroom as a pro-active measure.

- Children need to report incidents to staff members if they feel they are being bullied so that we can investigate the situation and help to resolve the problem. Everyone has a role in preventing bullying by speaking out when we see it happening! Let’s all make A.M. Cunningham School a safe, inviting learning environment!

Safe Schools Emergency Procedures

We will be practicing our first practice lockdown drill on Thursday, November 3rd. There are three types of emergency procedures:

- **Lockdown**- potentially violent situation at the school
- **Hold and Secure**- safety situation in the neighbourhood external to the school
- **Shelter in Place**- a potentially environmental hazard outside the school

If it were a real lockdown, the following measures would be in place

- HWDSB will post safety updates on the website www.hwdsb.on.ca
- Synervoice messages will be sent to the parent/guardian contact phone number provided by the school
- Corporate Communications will be in contact with local media outlets

- Current information will be provided on the Secure Schools HOTLINE (905) 521-2535
- During such time, cell phone use between parent and student is restricted. Phone lines must be free for emergency services



School Photos -

When you receive your child’s proofs and wish to order photos, please complete and return the order form with payment attached. The Photo Retake Day is scheduled for Thursday, November 16th.



November is Diabetes Month. Students are encouraged to participate in a “**Crazy Hair/Hat Day**” on **Thursday, November 14th** to support World Diabetes Day.

A \$2.00 donation will be collected to support Diabetes research and support. Thank you for your generous contributions.

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Bus Safety

On Friday, December 8th, we will be having bus safety presentations for our FDK, Primary and Junior students. Bus safety rules will be reviewed with your child to encourage safe practices on the bus. Please encourage your child to follow bus safety practices.

Grade 4 CCAT

The board-wide screening of Grade 4 students is scheduled for to take place during the month of November. The Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (CCAT) will be administered to Grade 4 students by the classroom teacher and by the Learning Resource Teacher.

The Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test was designed to provide an accurate and efficient measure of the abilities needed to acquire the desired outcomes of formal education. Test results will be used to assist with program planning for individual students and as part of the board-wide gifted screening process. No advance preparation on the part of students is necessary. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. *Ms. George*

School Council

School Council meetings are now taking place at different times and on different days, and child care is being provided! If you're not sure about how to volunteer or help out with special events, please consider coming to a meeting. This year's Council is working hard to promote an inclusive and positive space for parents, guardians or community members to participate. Feel free to join the private Facebook Page (A.M. Cunningham School Council) or email us at amcschoolcouncil@gmail.com.

Our next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 22nd, at 3:30 pm in Room #106.



**To
School Council for an EXTREMELY
Successful fundraiser!**

We will let them share the good news and the great ways that the funds are going to support the students at AMC in an upcoming communication.



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Congratulations to the following students who received Principal's Awards for the month of October.

	Academic	Most Improved	Character Trait: Responsibility
Fair/Potter	Emiliana	Mason	Arabella
Nguyen/Hanhan	Aithen	Adelaide	Sophie
Jones/Ferreira	Forrest	Levi	Penny
Schiller	Noah	Melody	Travis
Quait	Elena	Rowan	Miliie
Federchuk	Malia	Charlie	Charlotte
Parsons	Jasper	Tommy	Belle
Brooks-Bittle	Finn	Salem	Nathan
Ferlatte	Semyah	Henock	Yonas
Pessoa	Riley	Pablo	Brixton
Kotecki	Calvin	Catey	Kaitlyn
Rankin	Amos	Will	Hazel
Alford	Zophia	Liam	Casey
Empringham	Abigail	Jace	Kaydence
Moore	Duncan	Mallory	Gareth
Melanson	Katie	Hayleigh-Anne	Ruby

November's Character Trait is ACCEPTANCE. Let's work together to respect the differences among people. It is important to be accepting of others because people are different in so many ways.