

## December 2017 Newsletter – A.M. Cunningham School



Dear Parents / Guardians:

There are so many exciting activities happening at A. M. Cunningham School this month to celebrate this holiday season. We hope that all families find some time to come and celebrate with us.

### Food Drive/ Hat, Scarf and Mitten Tree/Toy Drive - Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>



Christmas is a time of giving, and so our tradition continues at AMC with our non-perishable food drive, donation of new unwrapped toys, and collection of new hats, scarves, mittens for our “Christmas Tree of Warmth.” Once again, we have chosen the Boys’ and Girls’ Club (Kiwanis) a recipient of our donations to distribute to families in need within our East End Community. Donations will be accepted in the front foyer and will be picked up by the Boys’ and Girls’ Club of Hamilton on **Thursday, December 21st**. Thank you for your support.

### “Stuff-a-Sock” - November 27<sup>th</sup> - December 20<sup>th</sup>

Continuing with our spirit of giving, AMC is also collecting socks for the Notre Dame Homeless Shelter for teens (ages 15-18). This year, we ask if you are also able to stuff some socks with some personal care products (i.e. toothpaste, toothbrushes, and deodorant). Your generous donations will help to keep everyone warm this winter.

### Candy Cane Messages (Candy grams) and Gingerbread Village Raffle



Candy Cane Messages will be sold from Dec. 4 – Dec. 20, in the foyer, at a cost of 5 for \$1.00. Students will be able to send their friends in their homeroom and in other classrooms, a holiday message and candy cane. Candy Cane Messages will be delivered on Thursday, December 21. Gingerbread Village raffle tickets are also being sold 5 for \$1.00. The lucky winner will be drawn on Thursday, December 21. Proceeds from these two activities will support Notre Dame House.

## Sharing the Joy of the Season



The Primary and Junior Choirs will be travelling to Juravinski Hospital on December 14th, 2017. The students will be bringing joy, music and smiles to patients and their families who are going through difficult times this holiday season. You are welcome to come and sing along with us in the lobby near the big Christmas tree at 12 noon.

Ms. Clarke and Mrs. Williams



## Family Sing-Along - Tuesday, December 12th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

All families are invited to attend our Holiday Sing-along on Tuesday, December 12th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the gym. School Council will provide hot chocolate. This is a great way to get into the Christmas spirit!



## Door Decorating Contest

Once again AMC classes are challenging each other to a Holiday/Winter door decorating contest. Door decor are hand made by our creative students. Classes will be able to view all the wonderful doors and vote for their favorite primary and junior classroom decorated door on Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.



## "Sing It Forward"

In the spirit of gift giving for the Holidays...AMC classes are offering each other the gift of song. Every class will prepare a unique holiday song or poem and then they will offer their "gift" to another classroom. AMC hallways will be alive with the jingle jangle of merry songs during the last week of school before the winter break! What a wonderful way to end 2017!

## AMC Has Heart!



A single dream. A world of hope.  
The Terry Fox Foundation

Thanks to your support, A.M. Cunningham School has generously donated \$358.00 to support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation from Crazy Hat/Hair Day and \$282.00 to Unicef at Hallowe'en. We also gave \$408.00 to Terry Fox back in September. Wow!

## Holiday Concert – Celebrations Around The World



**Parents are invited to come and celebrate with us on Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017.**

**9:30 - 10:30 am performance:** Mrs. Schiller, Mlle Quait, Mme Cliffe, Mme Federchuk, Mme Parsons, Mme Brooks-Bittle, Mrs. Pessoa

**2:00 – 3:00 pm performance:** M Moore, Mme Melanson, M Empringham, Mme Derikx, Mme Rankin, Mrs. Alford, Mrs. Bird, M Ferlatte and Mme Kotecki

The primary and junior choirs will perform at both performances.

Please note that due to the HWDSB Media Consent Policy and the safety of all students, we ask that parents/caregivers take photos of their children before or after the performance. We have students at our school whose photos are not to be taken or shared. We thank you very much for your cooperation.

We look forward to seeing you and sharing our learning from around the world.

Ms. Clarke and Mrs. Williams

## **Samko and Miko Toy and Book Warehouse Sale – November 30<sup>th</sup> - December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Parents and guardians have a wonderful opportunity to visit the Samko & Miko Toy and Book Warehouse Sale at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum. Take advantage of the huge savings on thousands of brand name toys and books!

Thurs., Nov. 30 – 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Fri., Dec. 1 – 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Sat., Dec. 2 – 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sun., Dec. 3 – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm



**Did you know that if you get your original receipt stamped with a fundraising stamp by the cashier and then submit the original receipt to our office, that a percentage of your purchase goes back to A. M. Cunningham School to support student activities and programs? Great deal!**

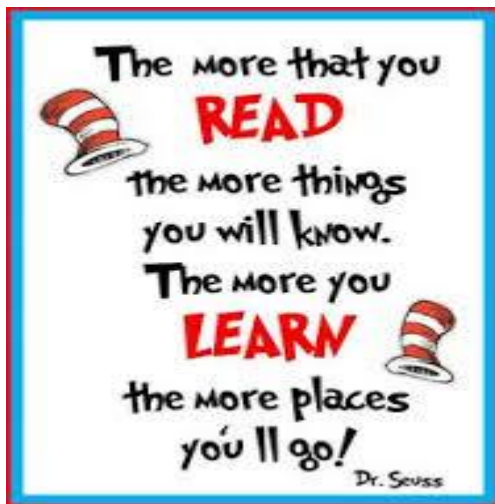
## News from the Gym



All students are finishing up our last unit of catching and throwing for the primary grades, and lead up to volleyball skills for the junior grades. December will see us having some scooter fun. For the month of January we will begin two short units. The first will be 2 weeks of floor hockey. The last two weeks will be winter ball (t-ball). We are hoping to play some of these games outside so please be prepared with warm clothing. M Ferlatte and M Empringham will be starting floor hockey intramurals in the gym at lunch times come the New Year.

Have a safe, happy and healthy holiday. Mrs. Lowery

## From the Library



All books will be due back in the library Dec. 15, 2017.

Want to continue to read during the holidays? Don't panic! Check out our Virtual Library and borrow e books. (HWDSB Hub)

A-Z Readers are also available in both English and French. Check with the classroom teacher/or librarian for a username and password.

## Dressing for the Weather



Students are reminded that as the cold weather is upon us, they need to dress appropriately for the weather: warm coat, hat, gloves, boots, and scarf. When students wear boots to school, they need to have a shoes for indoors, preferably running shoes, so that they can participate in physical education classes in the gym.

## Snowy Conditions



The City of Hamilton is responsible for snow removal for sidewalks around the school. The Board contracts the clearing of the parking lot, and the Custodial staff is responsible for sidewalks and entry points around the school. A path on the asphalt area will be cleared and salted, but the main asphalt area will NOT be cleared or salted.

Our rule at the school, which is strongly enforced, is **"SNOW MUST STAY ON THE GROUND."** Please remind your children about this rule.



## Early Dismissal Due to Inclement Weather Form- Snow Days

If the school must be closed early due to inclement weather or emergency, we need to have a plan in place for the safe dismissal of your child. Please ensure that you complete the early dismissal form by selecting the dismissal option that best suits your needs and guarantees your child's safety. We will keep the form on file in case it is necessary to put the plan in effect.

If there is the possibility that the school may be closed prior to the start of the school day, please visit the HWDSB website at [www.hwdsb.on.ca](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca) for important news, listen to announcements on local radio stations such as 900 CHML, CKOC, K-Lite FM, or get the news on CHCH TV. Please do not call the school regarding possible closures as our lines are limited and must be free for emergencies. If the weather is severe, please use your discretion in sending your child to school.

ALL VISITORS  
PLEASE  
CHECK IN AT  
FRONT OFFICE

## Safe Entry Protocol

Parents and guests are reminded to please check in at the office when dropping something off for your child or needing to speak to a staff member. Please phone the school at (905) 544-7771 to arrange a time to meet that is mutually convenient so that instructional time is not interrupted and that student safety is not compromised.



## School Website

Have you subscribed to our school website? By subscribing, you will be notified directly to your email address of new posts, monthly newsletters, monthly calendars, Board announcements, and other school notices for important events and activities.



## Popcorn Days

Just a reminder that every Wednesday is Popcorn Day! Popcorn is sold for \$2 per bag.



## December Pizza Days

Friday, December 8 and Friday December 22 are Pizza Days. Pizza costs \$1.50 per slice. Thanks to School Council and parent volunteers for organizing these days. Don't miss out!!

## 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 (AM Cunningham School Council) or email us at [amcschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:amcschoolcouncil@gmail.com). We also urge parents and caregivers to join us at our council meetings to share your input on how we should go about using our fundraiser funds. You helped raise the money, you should have your say as to how we spend it on our school, for our students! **Our next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 pm in Room 106.**

### Drinking Water Testing and Drinking Water Fixture Signage

Ontario is continuing to protect children's health with new regulation changes aimed at improving drinking water testing in child care centres and schools to minimize children's exposure to lead.

New amendments to Ontario Regulation 243/07 that took effect July 1, 2017, now require lead testing within these facilities for all fixtures used to provide drinking water and/or prepare food or drink for children under 18. There is a three-year period to test at elementary schools and child care centres, and a five-year period to complete testing at secondary schools.

Ontario Regulation 243/07 also requires testing to measure the presence of lead in drinking water against the provincial drinking water quality standard of 10 micrograms per litre, based on a national guideline set by Health Canada.

As we go through testing each year at A.M. Cunningham, you may notice stickers around certain sinks in the school. Any water fixture that is meant to provide water for consumption or for food preparation will be clearly labelled with a sign illustrating that the water is provided for drinking purposes. Water fountains will not have these signs as their intended purpose is for drinking.

#### Signage



## Swim Team



We wish to congratulate all swim team members for demonstrating great sportsmanship throughout this season and to the coaches Mme Kotecki and Mme Brooks-Bittle for their time and effort to make this event a meaningful one for the students involved. See list of winners.

## A.M. CUNNINGHAM



### McMaster Primary - Junior Swim Meet Award Winners Monday, Nov. 13th

Event	Student Name	Ranking
Girls' 25m Freestyle (Gr. 5)	Hailey Rowe	1st Place
Boys' 25m Freestyle (Gr. 5)	Nathan Tarka	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Boys' 25m Freestyle (Gr. 5)	Gavin Boadway	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Boys' 25m Freestyle (Gr. 4)	Alex Urbanovic	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Girls' 25m Freestyle (Gr. 3)	Jade Ramos	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Girls' 25m Freestyle (Gr. 3)	Victoria Weinhardt	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Boys' 25m Freestyle (Open)	Rowan Porter	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Boys' 25m Freestyle (Open)	Ethan Longhuckle	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Girls' 25m Freestyle (Open)	Dahlia Price Johnson	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Girls' 25m Freestyle (Open)	Heidi Stevens	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Boys' 25m Backstroke (Gr.4)	Alex Urbanovic	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Girls' 25m Backstroke (Gr.3)	Elinor Morris	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Boys' 25m Backstroke (Open)	Elliott Leyenaar	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Girls' 25m Backstroke (Open)	Hailey-Anne Sestric	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Boys' 100m Relay (Gr. 5)	Rowan, Callum, Gavin, Nathan	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Boys' 100m Relay (Gr. 5)	Ethan, Elliott, Nixon, Colin	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Girls' 100m Relay (Gr. 5)	Kyleigh, Mallory, Bridget, Sophia	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Boys' 100m Relay (Gr. 4)	Alex, Jaylon, Monty, Rudy	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Girls' 100m Relay (Gr. 4)	Eden, Layla, Jane, Hailey	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Girls' 100m Relay (Gr. 3)	Jade, Sadie, Georgia, Olivia	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Girls' 100m Relay (Open)	Hailey-Anne, Katie, Neima, Elinor	1 <sup>st</sup> Place



# PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



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

<b>ROOM</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>	<b>MOST IMPROVED</b>	<b>CHARACTER: ACCEPTANCE</b>
<b>114</b>	JALIYAH	ELLA	RYERSON
<b>118</b>	KATE	JOEY	DECLAN
<b>124</b>	ASHER	COLTON	BRAEDEN
<b>131</b>	KHLOE	IAN	AMBER
<b>208</b>	CHLOE	DANIELLE	PHILIP
<b>H113</b>	BRIXTON	AIDEN	AIDRIAUNA
<b>303</b>	DOROTHY	TRISTAN	EMMA
<b>112</b>	CHLOE	IAN	KATHERINE
<b>209</b>	FINN	JANELLE	DAVINA
<b>119</b>	KASSIE	ALI	RAMONA
<b>206</b>	LIAM	KATIE	NORAH
<b>203</b>	CHARLOTTE	MATHEW	VALENIA
<b>309</b>	ASHLYN	RACHEL	ARIA
<b>H070</b>	SAMUEL	JETT	ISADORA
<b>H125</b>	JADE	NEVE	NORRIE
<b>H201</b>	ELINOR	-----	
<b>310</b>	OLIVIA	MADI	CECELIA
<b>304</b>	ISABELLA	CONNOR	HEIDI
<b>302</b>	AVA	NIXON	ABBY

**December's character trait is EMPATHY.**