



## A.M. Cunningham Elementary School

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### February 2018 Newsletter – A.M. Cunningham School

Dear Parents / Guardians:



It's hard to believe that we are already in the sixth month of school! There are many activities happening in the classroom and the school - be sure to keep informed through the class newsletter and school website.

Please continue to send your child prepared for the outdoor play whatever the weather. Extra mittens, gloves and socks are often needed especially when the temperature changes mid-day! We are excited about a potential update to the Creative Playground this summer by the City of Hamilton. Information will be shared as it becomes available. We are also waiting for more information about the renovations to the school gymnasium.

It is time to encourage your neighbours with young children to get registered for Kindergarten. Early registration helps us plan as a school for staffing and classroom organization.

We look forward to continuing our learning journey with you and your children.

Ms. George

***"When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind."  
Dr. Wayne W. Dyer***

On February 13th your child will bring home her/his report card for Term 1 (September to mid-February). This report differs from the Fall Progress report as it has letter grades so you clearly understand how well your child is doing. The report card will continue to emphasize learning skills and work habits required to be successful for success.

When reading your child's report card please focus on your child's strengths. Look at the comments for strengths and next steps for improvement and talk about these with your child.

Please take some time to talk with your child about their learning goals and how we can all work together to help your child reach the goals. Please complete the "student" and "parent" sections on page 4. Cut that section and return it to school before Monday February 26th.

## Understanding your child's report card Grades 1-5

"B" or Level 3	This is the provincial standard. <b>Students achieving at this high level of achievement can be confident of being prepared for work in subsequent grades.</b> They are able to demonstrate this when working independently, with considerable effectiveness and giving complete explanations.
"C" or Level 2	This indicates that they are <i>approaching</i> the provincial standard. They are "almost there". They have demonstrated some or the required skills or knowledge.
"D" or Level 1	This indicates that students are only beginning to demonstrate a skill or do so in a limited way.
"A" or Level 4	Students achieving at this level are surpassing the provincial standard, working with a high degree of effectiveness, applying the concepts in a sophisticated way

## Communication of Learning for Kindergarten Students

**FDK students** will once again receive a Communication of Learning, which describes learning in each of the four frames in the FDK program:

- Belonging and Contributing
- Self-regulation and well being
- Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematical Behaviours
- Problem Solving and Innovating.

## HWDSB Launches Parent Voice Survey to Gather Input for Improvement

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) invites parents, guardians and caregivers to participate in a Parent Voice Survey to share what you think HWDSB is doing well, and how might HWDSB improve its education services.

Parents, guardians and caregivers play an important role in HWDSB and we value your opinion. Your feedback helps us make decisions about how we deliver school services for students.

HWDSB has made a commitment to partner with its parent/guardian and caregiver communities, and to work together to help students learn and grow to their full potential.

This survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. There are no right or wrong answers. All data collected in this survey is anonymous and combined as a group.

You can find the survey online at [https://hwdsb.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3TKK1aKCPgO8e3j](https://hwdsb.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3TKK1aKCPgO8e3j)

If you would like to learn more about how we use the data and maintain your privacy, please click here.

Thank you for taking the time for this survey and helping HWDSB with your feedback.

**Looking for ways to help your child in math? Try some of the activities from Mathbeforebed.com**

### **Coins for Kids**



Once again A.M. Cunningham School will be running "Coins for Kids" from March 19 – April 6. Families will receive a coffee cup, provided by Tim Horton's, which hopefully can be filled with your loose change – pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, loonies and toonies and perhaps some paper money?. All money collected will be counted and a cheque will be presented to Hamilton Food Share. For every \$1.00 we collect at Cunningham, Hamilton Food Share can purchase \$5.00 worth of food. Let's try to beat last year's total of \$2600.00 !!!

### **Kindergarten Registration**



JK/SK registration will begin on February 5th for children born in 2014 for Junior Kindergarten and 2013 for Senior Kindergarten. Please encourage friends and neighbours to enrol their child. Registration forms are available at the office or on the HWDSB website. The Junior and Senior Kindergarten program is a full-day, every day program.

Only those students living in the English catchment area can attend Junior and Senior Kindergarten at A.M. Cunningham School. (This applies to other French Immersion schools as well.) For those families who have a JK or SK aged child but live in our French Immersion catchment area, they will need to enrol their child at their English catchment school. We understand that this causes difficulty for parents to have children attending different schools. These decisions have been made by HWDSB and Trustees to help alleviate accommodation challenges at French Immersion Schools.

### **AMC Skating Days**



On Thurs. Feb. 22nd and Thurs. Mar. 1st, we have arranged for our students to go skating at Parkdale Arena. **THERE IS NO COST TO STUDENTS THANKS TO OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL FOR FUNDING THE TRANSPORTATION AND TO OUR PIZZA FUND FOR COVERING THE COST OF THE ARENA. Permission forms will be coming home soon.** Please indicate as well, if you are able to volunteer your time to assist with skate tying at the arena. Every year, we find that extra hands allow for a greater skating experience. All parent volunteers are asked to find their own way to the arena please.

It is part of our mandate that all of our students have access to this opportunity. We have a large number of skates and helmets that students can borrow. We encourage **all** students to attend, and hope for total participation.

**If you or any extended family members have any figure skates, hockey skates, any type of skates or helmets that perhaps no longer fit or that you're willing to part with, we would be greatly appreciative!** Our students range in age (5-11) and size (tiny to adult). If you're able to make any sort of donation, please visit us or send your donations to school with an AMC student. We have set up a donation bin near the office to collect donations.

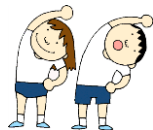
Please ensure your child has skates that fit properly along with a **mandatory CSA approved hockey helmet**. **Bike helmets and hockey sticks are not allowed**. If you do not have the required equipment and are not able to borrow, please inform your child's teacher, and we will do our best to outfit him/her. Students are also reminded to wear gloves or mittens while on the ice.

Students will travel by bus to the arena in two groups. Please see the following schedule for details. Lunchtimes will be adjusted accordingly.

<p><b><u>Group 1</u></b> – leaving the school at 11:40</p> <p>#131 – Mrs. Schiller #112 – Mme Quait #119 – Mlle Cliffe #203 – Mme Brooks-Bittle #206 – Mme Parsons #208 – Mrs. Pessoa #209 – Mme Federchuk #309 – M Ferlatte</p> <p>Skating from 12:00 – 1:00 pm</p>	<p><b><u>Group 2</u></b> – leaving the school at 12:40</p> <p>#304 – M Moore #303 – Ms. Chimanikire #H070 – Mme Kotecki #302 – Mme Melanson #310 – M Empringham #H113 – Mrs. Alford #H201 – Mme Derikx #H125 – Mme Rankin</p> <p>Skating from 1:00 – 2:00 pm</p>
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We encourage parents to meet us at the arena to assist with skate tying and to skate as well. JK/SK students are welcome to participate during the 12:00-1:00pm timeslot, if accompanied by a parent, and providing they have the required equipment. Parents of JK/SK students are asked to bring their child to the arena, as bussing is not available for these students.

### News from the Gym



We will be starting our Basketball/Bouncing/Catching unit in February. Students are reminded to always have gym shoes ready. February is a month of changing weather so always have clean shoes please for the gym. Parents are also reminded that your child needs a note from you or your doctor for any illnesses/injuries to sit out.

Thanks, Mrs. Lowery

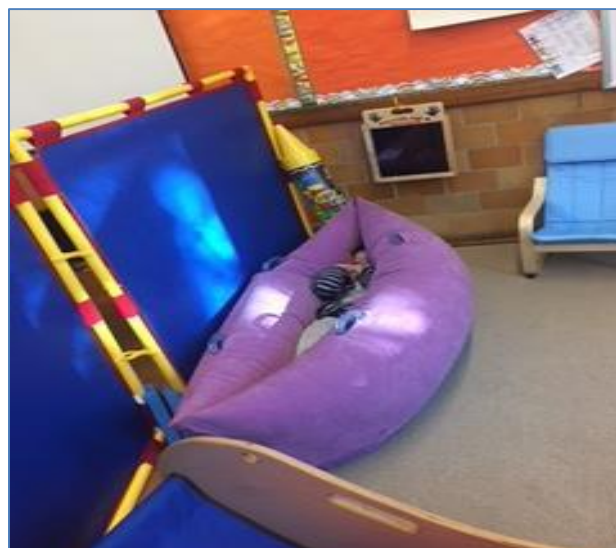
# School Council

Our next council meeting is set for Tuesday, February 20th at 3:30 pm. As always, child minding is available. Come on out, meet some new faces, share your thoughts! Please feel free to also contact us by email at [schoolcouncilamc@gmail.com](mailto:schoolcouncilamc@gmail.com). It's always great to hear from you, and we are happy to answer any of your questions. If you would like to receive information on news and upcoming events, please email school council.

## "Chill Zone"



Through funding by HWDSB Foundation and A.M. Cunningham School Council, We have been able to create a "Chill Zone" area in the student success room (Room 106). This area is designed for students that need a safe, supportive environment outside of the classroom to "chill out", calm down and then successfully return to class. We have been able to purchase comfortable seating options, calming sensory items and much more. We have many regular visitors to the area and find that students are able to calm themselves, and return to class in a quicker manner than previously. Thanks for the support!



## Chef à L'École



Chef à L'École will be visiting our school on Friday, February 23rd, 2018, and on Monday, February 26th, 2018. Students in the classes listed below will be participating on one of the two days, during one of the six 100-minute sessions.

From Chef à L'École's Permission Form:

"This exciting program provides a unique hands-on experience for all French Students. A new concept in teaching, it will boost your son or daughter's interest through the use of French in fun and practical ways!

"The students will prepare a nut-free, student-friendly French pastry, hear an exciting storyboard presentation on French Canadian culture and listen to authentic French music while they sample the creations they prepared! We have 6 different recipes & stories so it's always a new experience!

"Le Chef à L'École can be found at: [www.chefalecole.ca](http://www.chefalecole.ca)

**The cost for this activity is \$5.00 per student which includes all the required ingredients and supplies. Classes participating include:**

M. Moore- Gr. 5 FI	Mme. Derikx- Gr. 3/4 FI
Mme. Melanson- Gr. 5 FI	M. Empringham- Gr. 4/5 FI
Ms. Chimanikire- Gr. 4/5	Ms. Alford- Gr. 3/4

**MERCI BEAUCOUP to School Council for their assistance in sponsoring this event!**



**Forest of Reading:** Every year we receive new books to add to the library collection, both English and French. These books have been nominated to receive awards. Students read or have the books read to them and are given a chance to vote for their favourite book. We look forward to hearing what our students think of this year's nominees.



**The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity.** Dorothy Parker

We are in need of electronics or small appliances, for students to take apart and explore what's inside. Please remove the electrical cord and drop it off at the school.

Thanks!  
Mrs. Vanderburgh



# PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



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

<b>ROOM</b>	<b>ACADEMIC</b>	<b>MOST IMPROVED</b>	<b>CHARACTER: CITIZENSHIP</b>
<b>114</b>	FREDDY	MARLO	-----
<b>118</b>	EMMA	LYDIA	TANISHA
<b>124</b>	ROISIN	MYLES	-----
<b>131</b>	IAN	AVERY	CADENCE
<b>208</b>	LACHLAN	KEERSTIN	PHILIP
<b>H113</b>	MILENA	AVERY	OWEN
<b>303</b>	DAMIAN	SIMA	MOHAMAD
<b>112</b>	AMELIA	ALIE	CHARLOTTE
<b>209</b>	EMMA	AUDREY	SUMMER
<b>119</b>	-----	-----	-----
<b>206</b>	BELLE	BLYTHE	JASPER
<b>203</b>	OWEN	ALEXIS	CLAIRE
<b>309</b>	-----	-----	-----
<b>H070</b>	EVIE	GEORGIA D.	JORJA H.
<b>H125</b>	PETER	CONNOR	BRAEDEN
<b>H201</b>	-----	-----	-----
<b>310</b>	EMMETT	SARAH	SARAH
<b>304</b>	MAGGIE	AARON	WYATT
<b>302</b>	HAILEY R.	HAYLEIGH A.	JAMES

**February's character trait is CARING.**

