



A.M. Cunningham Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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April 2018 Newsletter – A.M. Cunningham School

Dear Parents / Guardians,



Spring is coming....

We have had a couple of glimpses of warm weather and it will be here to stay soon. It is important that students arrive at school dressed for all times of weather. As we move from boot weather to "spring" footwear it is important that students have **appropriate shoes for Phys-ed.**

We continue to THANK our parents and students for respecting the dress code and the expectations we have for our students. All of our older students are role models and leaders in the school and we want to ensure that they continue to exhibit positive behaviours.

No Dogs and No Smoking on HWDSB Property

There are Municipal By-laws that are enforced on school board property that we wish to remind you of.

1. No dogs on school property: This by-law is to ensure the safety of our students, and many of our students are afraid of dogs. Please do not bring your dogs with you when you are picking up or dropping off your children at school, or bring them onto Board property.

After school hours you are welcome to bring your dog to the park; however when school is in session dogs are not permitted on the property. Thank you for your cooperation.

2. Tobacco Free Ontario: We are required to remind our school community in writing that smoking is not permitted anywhere on school property.

Thank you for your cooperation with these by-laws.

Ms. George



Pink Day

Day of Pink is Wednesday, April 11th - On Wednesday, April 11th, staff and students across HWDSB will join millions of people worldwide who wear pink for the Day of Pink. We do this because we want to make a statement that we stand against all forms of bullying. It also reminds us that when we stand up and speak out, we can make a difference.

The Day of Pink began in Nova Scotia when two high school students saw a classmate being bullied for wearing a pink shirt. The two students intervened, but wanted to do more. A few days later they were able to get their entire school to wear pink. That school sent a message that together we can stop bullying.

We know that bullying can be a problem in our schools and in our wider community. Bullying can happen to anyone, anywhere. Collectively, we can stand up and speak out against bullying. We will continue to support anti-bullying efforts that make our schools safe and welcoming places for all of our students.

Please wear pink on Wednesday, April 11th

You can learn more at <http://dayofpink.org>]dayofpink.org



Coins for Kids

Our "Coins For Kids" campaign is running from March 19th – April 6th. As has become a tradition at A.M. Cunningham School, families have collected loose change in coffee cups provided by Tim Horton's with all monies going to Hamilton Food Share, where \$1 can purchase approximately \$5 worth of groceries for families in need. A shout-out goes to the Tim Horton's at Kenilworth & Roxborough for donating our collection cups this year. This location has also generously donated 1 Tim's gift card per homeroom class. A draw for these gift cards will be made at our April assembly for all students who participated in this coin drive. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to see how their efforts can help others. We will let you know how much money has been collected. Thank you to Mrs. Gruza, our Office Administrator, for organizing this event.

Let's try to beat last year's total of \$2700.00



AMC Choir

The A. M. Cunningham choir will be participating in the HWDSB Choir Fest on Thursday, April 27, 2017 in the afternoon. HWDSB Choir Fest will be at Sherwood Secondary School in the auditorium. We have been busy preparing our pieces and choreography. It will be a great day!



Parent & School Council

As always, please feel free to send us your thoughts, comments, questions or concerns. We are always happy to hear from you.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 24th @3:45. Child care will be provided.

schoolcouncilamc@gmail.com



News From the Gym

April's theme in phys-ed is gymnastics. This means students will be exploring balances, leaps, jumps and some tumbles. This is a very exciting unit as students explore different skills they never thought they could do! We also talk about how these skills are important for everyday life and other activities such as hip hop, break dancing, martial arts, dance ... and the list goes on. The students will be putting routines together for their culminating task at the end of April. Just in time for you to view at open house! Mrs. Lowery



Skating

The AMC staff and students are hugely grateful to everyone who helped make our 2018 skating days a success. The students had a great time, got lots of exercise and were able to spend some good bonding time together outside of the classroom. An extra special thank you to our wonderful parent volunteers and student helpers for helping to organize the fitting of skates and helmets for nearly 100 students. Every student at AMC from grades 1-5 who wanted to skate, was provided an opportunity. We are also grateful to the many families who donated skates and helmets to the school this year. A big thank you to School Council for funding the cost of the busses and to M. Empringham for organizing this wonderful event.



Co-Ed Soccer

Please stay tuned. Keep an eye on the AMC website and listen to the morning announcements because AMC is starting a mixed boys and girls soccer team for grades 4s and 5s. A letter will be sent home with the interested students. Tryouts will start soon after Easter. The tryouts and practices will be after school, probably on Mondays.



Mad Science

Mad Science has been taking place every Thursday after school since Feb. 8th, for all those that signed up. The last session will take place on Thursday, April 5th.

Lego Club

Thanks to the generous funding from School Council, we have a Lego Club running day 4 & day 1 during Nutrition Break. Currently Grade 4 & 5 students are able to attend if they have signed up. They have been enjoying the creative outlet of Lego building and have made some fantastic builds so far! The junior students sessions will be finishing shortly and then the Primary students will have an opportunity to sign up. If you have any Lego at home that you would like to donate, please send it in to Mrs. Weston.

Thank you.



Library News

Students are reading!!! Every month there are approximately 950-1000 books being checked out of the AMC library. This is amazing!!!

Students visit the library with their class every week. Books are checked out for a maximum 3 week loan period. However if more time is needed to complete reading, books can and are being renewed.

Please help your child to keep track of their books at home. Currently we have about 150 OVERDUE books. Students are given oral and written reminders in the library or in class.

LOST and OVERDUE books = \$\$\$\$\$

Scholastic Book Fair coming in May. Stay tuned!!!!!!



Planning for the 2018/2019 School Year

Please trust that our teaching staff works hard to create strong, balanced classes, intended to meet the needs of all learners. Many factors are considered when we complete this task. Some of these factors include:

- Heterogeneous groupings (i.e. a balance of abilities in each class)
- A balance according to gender
- The placement of students in groupings where they will effectively learn
- Other factors highlighted by school staff, students and/or parents.

If there are things that you would like us to consider when building classes, please put this in writing and send it to the office by May 18th. We will do our best to accommodate requests but cannot guarantee meeting all of them due to the challenges that come with placing over 400 students in classes, based on the criteria above.

Information regarding next year's class placement (Teacher and class) will be provided with each child's final report card in June. Once classes are set, the only opportunity for change will be September reorganization. Every year, some parents make specific requests regarding their child's teacher for next year.



Kindergarten Registration

Since February, Kindergarten registration has been taking place for children born in 2014 for Junior Kindergarten in September 2018 and for children born in 2013 for Senior Kindergarten in September 2018 who have not attended JK. Please encourage friends and neighbours to enrol their child. Registration forms are available at the office or online on the HWDSB website.. JK and SK at A.M. Cunningham School is a full day, every day program.

As determined by HWDSB and trustees in February 2012, 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/SK aged children but live in our French Immersion catchment area, they will need to enrol their JK/SK aged 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 to help alleviate accommodation challenges at French Immersion Schools.

The entry point for French Immersion is Grade 1.

A.M. Cunningham will once again offer a **"Welcome to Kindergarten"** information session. This information night will be offered to families entering either JK or new to SK. All new JK and new to SK registrants are invited to attend a **"Welcome to Kindergarten" information night on Tuesday, May 15th from 3:45–5:00 pm**. Parents and children are welcome.



PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



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

ROOM	ACADEMIC	MOST IMPROVED	CHARACTER: INTEGRITY
118	MYLA	PAIGE	DEANDRA
114	ISABELLA	ELISA	ELI
124	AVA S.	CARSON	SADIE
131	SELENA	LILY	MELODY
208	ELIZABETH	-----	DARIUS
H113	RUDY	DARIUS	BRIXTON
303	DAWN	ZOPHIA	JACOB
112	BRYNN	MARGARET	AMELIA
209			
119	REGGIE	CONNOR	NATHANAEL
206	SIMON	AURORA	OLIVER
203	STELLA	CALVIN	COHEN
309			
H070	CATEY	KAEDEN	ROMAN
H125	PENNY	OWEN	AMOS
H201			
310	ALEX	RILEY	JANE
304	ROWAN	C.J.	AURORA
302	ALASTAIR	NEIMA	NATHANIEL

April's character trait is TRUSTWORTHINESS.

