



A.M. Cunningham Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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May 2018 Newsletter – A.M. Cunningham School

Dear Parents/ Guardians,



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.

Every year, some parents make specific requests regarding their child's teacher for next year.

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.

We thank you for your understanding.



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.

New Kindergarten Students for September 2018



A.M. Cunningham will once again be holding a **“Welcome To Kindergarten”** orientation session for parents and guardians. This program will be offered to families entering either JK or new to SK. New registrants will receive a post card in the mail about this event that will take place on **Tuesday, May 15th from 3:45 – 5:00**. At this event, parents will receive information to help prepare their child for school, as well as participate with their child in a variety of activity centers.

AMC Open House



You will have the opportunity to view your child’s classroom during **Open House on Thursday, May 3rd from 3:45-5:45 pm**. This is a great opportunity for parents and guardians to participate in their child’s learning. **Pizza will be sold for \$1.50/slice while quantities last.**

Little Jammerz



Almost 30 of our AMC students have signed up for the eight week Little Jammerz guitar program. This will run after school on Wednesdays from April 25 – June 13, with the exception of June 4th instead of June 6th.

Grade 3 Standardized Assessment – EQAO



Grade 3 students will participate in the yearly standardized assessment from the Education Quality and Accountability Office. This is an assessment of the Ontario Curriculum and is based on the type of work that is done daily at A.M. Cunningham School. The assessment will be written in six segments for approximately 1 hour over a six day period – May 23 am, May 24 am, May 25 am, May 29 am, May 30 am, May 31 am. Grade 3 parents, if scheduling appointments, please refrain from choosing these dates. A “Pancake Breakfast” will be held on Wednesday, May 23rd at 8:15 am to kick off the assessment period. More information will follow!

Volunteer Celebration – Tuesday, June 5 – 10:30 – 12:00pm



A.M. Cunningham is fortunate to have many dedicated volunteers who work in various capacities within the school. We have classroom volunteers, library volunteers, milk volunteers, pizza volunteers, School Council volunteers, trip volunteers, sport coach volunteers, garden volunteers and the list goes on and on. If you have volunteered in any capacity throughout the school year, please join us for lunch, entertainment and some social time.

Jump Rope For Heart



Once again AM Cunningham will support the Heart and Stroke Foundation through the Jump Rope For Heart event. On Monday, April 23rd, an assembly was held to present information about the Heart & Stroke Foundation and the importance of a healthy, active lifestyle. Students will bring home a pledge envelope for sponsorship of our skipping event on Friday, May 18th. All students can participate in our healthy, active May 18th event.

Coins For Kids



As you are aware, our annual Coins For Kids loose change collection supports Hamilton Food Share. For every dollar raised at the school, Hamilton Food Share can purchase \$5.00 worth of food. A special thank you to Mrs. Gruza for organizing the event and to the AMC community for generously donating. **This year your donations totalled an amazing \$2,535.00.... our second highest year ever !!!! A cheque was presented to Hamilton Food Share representative, Mr. Jim Martin at our assembly on Monday, April 23rd.** Over the last 5 years, A.M. Cunningham has donated over \$15,000 to Hamilton Food Share. Thank you so much for your generous support. **Also, a big thank you to the Tim Horton’s location at Kenilworth & Roxborough, for generously donating the collection cups !**

Choirfest



AMC students will be participating at the HWDSB Choirfest at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary on Tuesday, May 15th. A big thank you to School Council for providing bussing to and from this event. We are certain the choir will do an amazing job, and will represent AMC with style and grace. Thanks to Mme Clarke and Mrs. Williams for all their time and effort.

News from the Gym



May is the time when we are finishing up gymnastics routines and starting track and field. Please start packing sun screen and hats in case we are outside for the entire phys-ed period.

Inter-school track and field try-outs have already begun. The Track & Field event is scheduled for June 18th at Mohawk Sports Park. This will give the athletes time to practice before the meet.

Fire Safety Reminders



At AMC, we care about fire safety. Please read the following Key Messages and discuss them with your family to ensure that everyone has a Fire Safety Plan for your home...

- Have a home fire safety plan and practice it. Choose an outside meeting place.
- A smoke detector works like your nose when you sleep. Have a detector on every floor of your home.
- Smoke rises, you stay low.
- When you hear the signal, roll out of bed, stay low to the floor and crawl to the door.
- Use the back of your hand to feel the door and door knob.
- If the door is cool, crawl low and go to your family meeting place outside.
- If the door is hot, crawl to a window, if you are on the first floor go out the window and go to your meeting place.
- If you are on a second floor and the door is hot, crawl to a window and call loudly for HELP.
- Call 911 once you are outside.
- Never go back in a burning house.
- Do a fire drill with your family, just like we do at school. PRACTICE YOUR PLAN.
- Ensure your smoke alarm is working. Check it once a month.
- If you catch on fire, STOP, DROP and ROLL.

Scholastic Book Fair



“SADDLE UP AND READ” That’s this year’s theme for AMC’s BOOK FAIR!! MAY 9,10,11,14

Last year was a stellar year for students, parents and AMC. The parent volunteers manned the Book Fair, helped students find books and answer questions, and made sure orders were taken. The success of their efforts can be measured in a few ways - over 700 books were sold! This translated into **1,567 hours of reading**, and raised enough funds to buy books for each teacher’s classroom and the library.

This year, we will again be open for buying and browsing books before and after school. Doors open at 8:00. The fair will be open during the day for purchases and after school until 4pm.

Look for a ‘wish list’ to come home from school, after your child’s class has a chance to browse first with their class on Wednesday May 9th.

Buying days for students during class time will May 10, 11, 14.

Debit machines and cash only. No cheques please.

See you at the Fair!

AMC Book Fair Committee

Mrs. Vanderburgh



Tim Horton’s Field Day – June 6th 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Tim Hortons.

To make this day a success, we will need a large number of volunteers for supervision, set-up, distribution of snacks, and other tasks. Please let your child’s teacher know if you are interested in making it a great day for AMC !!!!!

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 2 - Scientists in School – Grade 1's
- May 3 - AMC Open House 3:45 – 5:45 pm
- May 9,10 - In-school Vision Clinics
- May 15 - Promotional "Strings" Concert – Grades 3 - 5 10:00 am
- May 9 - Book Fair browsing for students
- May 10,11,14- Scholastic Book Fair
- May 15 - Welcome to Kindergarten info night 3:45 – 5:00 pm
- May 15 - Promotional "Strings" concert for Grades 3-5 10:00 am
- May 15 - HWDSB "Choirfest" at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary
- May 18 - Jump Rope For Heart Event 1:45 pm
- May 21 - Victoria Day Holiday (no school)
- May 23 - Grade 3 EQAO Pancake Breakfast 8:15 am
- May 23,24,25- EQAO Testing (am)
- May 29,30,31- EQAO Testing (am)
- May 29 - School Council Meeting 6:00 pm (all parents are welcome)
- June (TBA) - Grade 3's go swimming (Dates will be sent home)
- June 4 - Junior Soccer Tournament
- June 5 - Volunteer Celebration 10:30 – 12:00 pm
- June 6 - Tim Horton's Field Day 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (whole school)
- June 7 - FDK year-end trip to L'il Monkeys
- June 7 - AMC Family Picnic 5:30 pm
- June 8 - PA Day (no school)
- June 18 - Track & Field Day @ Mohawk Sports Park
- June 21 - Track & Field Day @ Mohawk Sports Park (raindate)
- June 22 - FDK Family Picnic
- June 26 - Grade 5 year-end trip to Mary Dale Camp
- June 26 - Year-end Farewell School Assembly
- June 27 - Grade 5 Farewell Assembly 9:00 am
- June 28 - Last Day of School for Students

IMPORTANT DATES



PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS



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

ROOM	ACADEMIC	MOST IMPROVED	CHARACTER: TRUSTWORTHINESS
118	BLATHNAID	LUCAS	CLAIRE
114	FELA	FELIX	PARKER
124	RORY	AUSLYN	EMILIANA
131	REED	LANDON	AMBER
208	DANIELLE	SADIE	MAX
H113	RUDY	JAY	LOGAN
303	ELI	HAILEY	JACOB
112	CLARA	LEHLA	AMELIA
209	EDIE	OLIVIA	CHARLIE
119	-----	-----	-----
206	CHARLIE	LILY	TOMMY
203	MATHEW	SAMSON	CHARLOTTE
309	-----	-----	-----
H070	WILLIAM	ELLE	CHIYO
H125	JADE	NEVE	ROMAN
H201	ELINOR	ADELAIDE	EMILY
310	-----	-----	-----
304	ROSLYN	GARETH	KYLIE
302	SOPHIE	GAVIN	NATHANIEL

May's character trait is RESPONSIBILITY.

AMC OPEN HOUSE



Please join us on Thursday, May 3rd
from 3:45 – 5:45 pm

Meet the teachers and visit
your child's classroom.

Pizza will be available
at \$1.50/slice
while quantities last

