

# **Billy Green School**

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PRINCIPAL: Mr. B. Berketa VICE-PRINCIPAL: Mrs. J. Adler

## **November 2016**



Nov. 3 and 4
Parent-Teacher Interviews

Nov. 4
PA Day (No School for Students)



Nov. 11
Remembrance Day





November 24 School Council Meeting (6:30)



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**Dear Parents:** 

Thank you to all of our families for your continued support of your child's learning over the past 2 months. Our staff and families are commenting on our improving student bheaviour, caring parents and supportive and positive staff. We continue to model and promote a safe and respectful working and learning environment. Calm, safe, orderly and inclusive!

I am pleased to welcome 4 new staff members who joined the Billy Green team in October. Mr. Fletcher is our new head caretaker. Mr. Zdero is our ESL support teacher and is in the school on days 1 and 2 to support our English Language Learners as well as their teachers. Ms. Knevel and Ms. Madia are Educational Assistants who work with students in classes JSD and 1A.

To keep up to date on the latest news and updates I encourage you to subscribe to receive email updates from HWDSB and Billy Green School at www.hwdsb.on.ca/media/subscribe/.

Mr. Berketa, Principal

### Attendance and Lates

Regular attendance and punctuality is essential to your child's academic and social success. On a daily basis we are noticing many students are arriving late to school. Not only does this disrupt the class when they arrive but it leads to gaps in a child's learning as lesson introductions are missed. If your child is going to be late or absent please contact the school office directly at 905-573-3505. Any student arriving late must check in at the office upon arrival before proceeding to class. If a student is absent and no reason has been provided we need to contact you by phone to ensure that your child is safe. If your phone contact information changes throughout the school year please ensure that you let our office know. If the number of student lates and absences becomes excessive you will receive a letter from the school indicating the number of times your child has been absent or late and an invitation to contact us to discuss how we can support you and your family to improve attendance. Our board social workers also serve in the capacity of attendance counsellors and are able to reach out to provide support to students and families where poor attendance or excessive lates are creating academic and/or social challenges.



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## **Visiting the School**

If you are visiting the school for any reason please ensure that you first come to the office so that you can check in with an office assistant who will provide you with a visitor sticker if you will be travelling elsewhere in the building. Without a sticker our staff will likely remind you that you need to check in at the office. This also includes parents who are bringing in their children late. In order to keep disruptions to a minimum, only school/board staff and students are to be in our hallways and classrooms during the school day unless you are volunteering or have a pre-arranged appointment. If you need to meet with a teacher or administrator please call or email them to schedule an appointment and avoid impromptu visits wherever possible. This values both your time and that of the staff and ensures that time is set aside free of distraction to be completely invested in the topic of discussion.

## **Supervision and Hours of Operation**

We are noticing that several students are arriving to school earlier than 8:25am. Teacher supervision outside is provided at entry from 8:25-8:40 and at dismissal from 3:00-3:10. Please ensure that your children are not arriving at school before 8:25am and are picked up no later than 3:10 if they are not bus students.

Our office hours are from 8:00am-3:30pm daily.

## Lunch Options



Pizza—Thursdays



The next order for the month of December will be at the end of November.

## **Generosity at Billy Green**







Assembling Halloween treat bags for McMaster Children's Hospital patients.

Thanks to Karem A. & friends!



Julianna G. & Mrs. Cunnigham raised money for McMaster Children's Hospital cancer research. Thanks to everyone who donated!

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#### Pickup & Drop Off

Please do not drop students off or pick up in the school parking lot. It is not designed for this purpose and interferes with the buses and creates potential safety issues for pedestrians. There are walkways on both the north and south sides of the school that are accessible from the sidewalk along the west side.

Please do not park in the neighbouring condo complexes. These are private property.

### **Dogs on School Property**

During the day we ask that no dogs be on the school property. While you and your child may love your family pet(s), not everyone does. If your dog is accompanying you while walking your child to or from school we ask that you not bring it onto the school property but to stop at the sidewalk or property line.

Some people at night or on weekends have been bringing their dogs to run on the playground, and *not cleaning up after them*. If you see the same people coming about the same time or you are able to get an identification or license number, you can call Animal Control at 905-574-3433. They will endeavor to follow up. *Our children play in the field area*.

## Toys and Trading Cards—Leave them at Home

It is highly recommended that toys and trading cards be left at home. These items often result in conflict that has a negative impact on instructional time. School staff do not have time to investigate lost, damaged, or stolen items of this nature. If an item is of value it is best left at home.

## **School Cash Online**

School Cash Online is our preferred method of payment for school purchases. Starting on November 14, 2016 the school will no long accept personal cheques. With the support of School Cash Online, we're making paying for school related expenses easier. This is a win-win by making it safer and more efficient for everyone by reducing the amount of cash and cheques coming into our school. While parents will still have the option to send cash for school related expenses, we encourage you to get on board with our new service.

#### How to register:

In September, you received a customized PIN code from your child's teacher. Once you receive your PIN code, it's as easy as 1, 2, 3! Step 1: Go to the link on our school website or by visiting https://hwdsb.schoolcashonline.com

Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account. In order to complete this step, please have the personal PIN code labels for each student provided by your school on hand.

If you have any problems with the registration process, the parent help desk is available 24/7 by calling 1-866-961-1803 (toll-free) or by email at parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com.