



# Billy Green Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

1105 Paramount Drive  
Hamilton, Ontario L8J 1W2  
Phone: 905.573.3505  
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EMAIL: [billygreen@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:billygreen@hwdsb.on.ca)  
PRINCIPAL: Mr. B. Berketa  
VICE-PRINCIPAL: Mrs. B. MacDiarmid  
[www.hwdsb.on.ca/billygreen](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/billygreen)

## October 2017 Newsletter



### Principal's Message

The beginning of the school year is always a busy, exciting and energetic time of the year. With 4 weeks of school behind us procedures

and routines have been established, practiced and refined and our students are well engaged in meaningful, authentic learning opportunities each and every day.

Currently Billy Green has an enrolment of about 485 students in 22 classes. In a community where parents have a choice in what school to send their children to we are honoured and thankful that you choose Billy Green.

The safety of our students is a priority. Thank you for respecting our parking lot and street signage and not parking in the school parking lot at entry and dismissal times when dropping off or picking up students. Walkers are reminded to use the sidewalks on the north and south sides of the parking lot to access the school. Pedestrians should not cut through the parking lot. Please don't compromise safety for convenience.

Communication is essential between home and school. Should you have any questions, concerns or compliments please contact your child's teacher first. They are accessible by phone and their contact information can be found on our school website. You can also write a note in the student agenda. If you wish to meet with a teacher and/or administrator please contact us to make an appointment.

### Volunteering at Billy Green

Billy Green School has several opportunities throughout the school year for parents interested in volunteering. Volunteer opportunities include supervising school trips, driving students to and from athletic events, fundraising, school lunch programs, classroom help and more. We are required to follow the HWDSB Volunteer Screening Policy that requires each volunteer to:

1. Complete mandatory Vulnerable Sector Screening with Hamilton Police Services every 3 years
2. Complete a yearly Offence Declaration form at the school.
3. Provide 2 references that you permit the school to contact.
4. Complete a mandatory orientation meeting with the Principal or Vice Principal at the school.

This process must be completed in advance of participating in any volunteer opportunities so it is best to complete the process early in the school year so that you are ready for opportunities arise throughout the year. We are especially in need of volunteer drivers for our athletic teams. Please contact the school office to apply to be a volunteer.



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## School Cash Online

School Cash Online is our preferred method of payment for school events, items and lunches. It is an easy to use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. Now, with a few clicks, you can pay for your child's yearbook, class trips and so much more from your own home. All you have to do is register an account, attach your children and in no time you will be able to make payments online. School Cash Online is available at all HWDSB schools.

School Cash Online is an on-line payment service offered through the KEV Group. The KEV Group is Canadian owned and operates its head offices in the Province of Ontario. There are over 9,000 schools using KEV's solutions for managing school bookkeeping across North America.

The School Cash Online website is certified compliant with Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standards. School Cash Online does not share personal information with any third party. They do not store credit card information on their own web servers, computers or other devices. With the exception of funds loaded into MyWallet, your payment information must be entered every time you checkout.

The KEV Group uses Moneris as the payment processor. Moneris is Canada's largest payment processor, processing over 3 billion credit and debit transactions every year.

Billy Green School does not accept personal cheques.

## 2017-2018 School Council

Welcome to our 2017-2018 Billy Green School Council Executive:

Chair: Jordan Hageman      Vice Chair: Sarah Langille  
Treasurer: Lucille Radcliffe      Secretary: Jessica Gibson      Fundraising: Trish Gibson



Our next meeting is on Thursday October 26 at 6:30pm in the library. All are welcome to attend.

## FUNDRAISING UPDATE:

Thank you to everyone who supported the Childhood Cancer Ribbon project. Together we raised \$343, which will be donated to McMaster Children's Hospital Cancer Research.



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This Wednesday, October 4th, will be our 1st day selling TCBY this school year. It will be sold every Wednesday this month for \$2 each and every week there will be at least one feature flavour.

## **Bus News & Information**

We have **8 buses** of various sizes coming in at the beginning and end of our school day. Please do not use or block the parking lot as it makes it difficult for the buses to maneuver and they are working under timelines.



**We encourage your child to be taking the bus if eligible, to reduce traffic congestion and for safety.**

We are NOT allowing students to go home with other students on a different bus due to space limitations as most of our buses are near maximum capacity. Please make other arrangements for students to visit another student's home.

The Parent's Portal tool on the HWSTS website ([www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca](http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca)) enables parents/guardians to create a secure online account where they can access transportation details for their student(s). They have further enhanced the portal to allow account holders to choose to receive email notification when their bus is delayed more than 10 minutes.

## **Vacations and Extended Absences**

The education of children is a right that we value and hold in high regard. When students are absent from school for extended periods of time, they miss large components of the curriculum taught and it becomes difficult for them to catch up as concepts that are taught build upon previous lessons.

Please note that we do not endorse or give consent to extended student absences for the purpose of family vacations. Every effort should be made to coordinate vacations with the school year calendar. We do however respect that you may choose to withdraw your child from Billy Green School for the purposes of a family vacation. Please note that a program of study will not be provided by the school and not all areas of the curriculum will be assessed and reflected on the provincial report card. Your child will be removed from the school register after 15 consecutive days of absence. You will be required to re-register your child at the school office upon your return if they are absent for 15 or more days.



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## School Renewal, Construction and Revitalization



We would like to take the opportunity to provide you with details regarding future construction at our school.

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) prioritizes the renewal and revitalization of its schools. Our school will be undergoing construction to enhance and improve our learning environment.

We want to direct you to HWDSB's website at [www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/construction](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/construction) for specific information about the work being done. Specifically, at Billy Green the following work is planned to begin next summer:

- gym expansion
- Classroom renovations including a science room, visual arts room and music room
- Playfield improvement

We thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work to revitalize our school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Berketa.

## 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.*

## Student of the Week Awards

Teachers have an opportunity to recognize a student from their class each week. There is no set criteria. It might be an academic achievement, a social or behavioural goal, a good deed, improvement, leadership or volunteer effort etc. Each Friday during announcements the principal reads the winners and call them down to the front entrance for a group picture.





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Website: [www.hwdsb.on.ca/billygreen](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/billygreen)

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB