



# Flamborough Centre Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

922 Centre Road, RR #2  
Hamilton, Ontario L8N2Z7  
Phone: 905.689.6636  
Fax: 905.689.2026

EMAIL: [flamboroughcentre@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:flamboroughcentre@hwdsb.on.ca)  
PRINCIPAL : Mr. M. Hopkins  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR : Mrs. D. Wojtasik  
[www.hwdsb.on.ca/flamboroughcentre](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/flamboroughcentre)

September 4th, 2018

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year. We are looking forward to an outstanding year at Flamborough Centre School; **'the best place to be'**. Our entire staff is to be commended for all of their hard work in preparing their classrooms and the school for your children. We hope you have had a great summer with your families and friends. We look forward to helping your children be curious and creative to see all the possibilities in their learning (socially, emotionally and academically). Thank you to Mr. LaRiviere and Mr. Maunder for their hard work in making our halls and classrooms sparkle. Thank you also to Mrs. Wojtasik for her leadership and organization in the office. We are pumped and ready for another year of teaching and learning with your children.

I am thrilled to join the Flamborough Centre School community. I had the pleasure of working with the Lincoln Alexander and Templemead School communities for the past 9 years as their principal. I was a former Math Facilitator and intermediate homeroom teacher at various schools within the H.W.D.S.B. I love to go camping with my family and I have a passion for playing hockey (still waiting for my name at the N.H.L. draft!). My philosophy of education is quite simple—**"think and care"**. I believe as a parent and an educator that we must consistently show care for each other and provide opportunities to think critically.

## **Attendance and Key Times:**

School begins at 8:00 a.m. and concludes at 2:20 p.m. Please know that the playground is supervised 15 minutes before school and 15 minutes after school. We would ask that if your child is walking or being dropped off that you are aware of these times for his or her safety. Please avoid dropping students off at the front doors in the morning. It is important to keep the bus loading zone free from traffic and we are encouraging students to arrive before the bell and enter with their respective classes at the back playground.

Additionally, it is extremely important to be at school on time as it creates a sense of calm, decreases interruptions in the class and promotes a team atmosphere as classes enter the school together. First nutrition break is from **9:40-10:20 a.m.** and the second nutrition break is from **12:00-12:40 p.m.**

*We are aiming to reduce the number of interruptions in class learning time and therefore, we are respectfully asking parents to not request their children to be dismissed during the last 30 minutes of the day (1:50-2:20 pm).*



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## Flamborough Centre Staff 2018-19

Educational Assistants: Mrs. Harris & Ms. Robb  
Kindergarten: Mrs. C. Baker & Mrs. D. Stam (DECE)  
Grade 1/2: Miss. A. Armstrong  
Grade 2/3: Miss. V. Serkus  
Grade 4/5: Mr. R. Bhaduri  
Grade 6: Mrs. R. Giammichele & Mr. A. Zandbergs  
Grade 7: Mrs. L. Tovey & Mr. E. Hackenberg  
Grade 8: Mrs. A. Ciuffreda & Mr. J. MacLean  
Library: Mrs. J. Said  
French: Mme. R. Kerr  
Music: Mr. S. Ruttan  
Learning Resource: Ms. H. Millington

Caretaking: Mr. A. LaRiviere & Mr. B. Maunder  
Office Administrator: Mrs. D. Wojtasik  
Principal: Mr. M. Hopkins

## School Council and Volunteers:

We look forward to seeing many of you at our first Flamborough Centre School Council meeting on **Wednesday, September 19th at 6:30 p.m.** in the library. We will establish the new School Council for the 2018-2019 school year. Nomination forms have been sent home with your children. Please return forms to the office if you are interested in joining School Council. We welcome all parents and community members; this is a great opportunity to learn together and provide community input to the principal on issues affecting Flamborough Centre School. We welcome and value the important role volunteers play in helping children learn and we are always on the look-out for more assistance. Volunteers will be needed for school trips throughout the year. We are no longer able to have parents volunteer on trips without an up to date police check.. Every volunteer requires a current police check to be shown at the office (they are valid for 3 years with the school); a brief discussion with the principal to discuss availability and the matching of school needs with volunteer preferences. If you are interested in being a volunteer at the school please make an appointment with Mr. Hopkins at any time during the school year.



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## Nutrition Update:

- Pizza Days will resume on **Friday, October 5th.**
- Lunch Lady will be offering hot lunches beginning on Wednesday September 19<sup>th</sup> and continuing on future Wednesdays
- The Tuck shop will be open during the first week in October where we will be offering Milk, cookies, popcorn and frozen yogurt.
- Please remember that we must follow the HWDSB Nutrition Policy
- Please do not send in treats to celebrate your child's birthday, please connect with your child's teacher for alternative plans if you wish.
- We are permitted to have ten school-wide nutrition exemption days which allows for greater flexibility with respect to food choices
- Our first school- wide nutrition exemption day (out of a possible 10) will be on Tuesday, October 31st.
- Additionally, please do not send any food with nut products as we have children with severe nut allergies at Flamborough Centre

## Safe Welcome Program:

- All exterior school doors will be locked during the instructional day, and visitors will access the school during school hours through the main entrance. **(Please ring the bell on the left side, introduce yourself and then we will 'buzz' you in)**
- Please note that we will continue to **ask visitors to report to the office for sign-in and wear identification at all times.**
- It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to call the school if you know your child is going to be absent due to illness or an appointment. Please connect with us at **(905) 689-6636** so we know your child is safe.
- If you wish your child to be excused early during the day please either call the school or write a note in your child's agenda so we can update this information in Power School (attendance tracking software).



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## Family and School Connections:

Communication is the key to a great partnership between home and school. Parent involvement is a key ingredient for student learning and achievement. We value your thoughts and time you spend to help your child to be successful. As always, if any concerns arise, please don't hesitate to connect with your child's teacher at **905-689-6636**.

Please let us know if your child will be absent or late by leaving a message. Please take the time to check our updated school web site for upcoming events and information.

Also, in an effort to become more environmentally friendly, we will be moving away from the traditional monthly newsletter and enhancing our communication with weekly updates on the Flamborough Centre website:

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/flamboroughcentre/>

Due to new anti-spam laws with respect to email lists, we will communicate ongoing events through our web site. **Please take the time to 'Subscribe' on the Flamborough Centre site to 'follow' any updates. When changes are made to the site you will be emailed to let you know there is new information.** Additionally, we will be using our automated phone out system (School Messenger) and notes home when appropriate.

## Forms:

Please complete all forms and send back to the school by **Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**. Throughout the year please let us know if your contact information changes so we have current information in the case of an emergency.

## Student Agendas:

The student agenda is a great communication tool for parents and teachers. It is also used as an organizational tool for students to help them prioritize and track both short and long term assignments. The school has purchased the agendas so there is no cost to you. Replacement agendas are available at a cost of \$5.00.



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## Upcoming Key Dates:

***Please see our calendar on the school website which shows upcoming dates for the entire year. This calendar will be updated on a weekly basis.***

Wednesday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>- First day for Lunch Lady  
Wednesday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>-School Council Meeting (6:30-8:00 p.m. in Library)  
Friday Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>- PA Day (Health & Safety/Assessment & Evaluation)-no school for students  
Friday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>-Terry Fox Run (10:20 a.m.)  
Friday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>-First Pizza Day  
Monday Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>- Thanksgiving (school is closed)  
Tuesday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> Picture Day (JK-8 students)  
Wednesday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>-Halloween (Nutritional Exemption day #1)

The following link will provide more information on the religious days of significance in H.W.D.S.B. These dates are also on the Flamborough Centre web site.

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/elementary/plan-for-school/calendar/dos/>

The Flamborough Centre staff is looking forward to a happy, safe and successful year with you and your children. As always, if you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to call us.

Sincerely,

Mr. M. Hopkins  
[mhopkins@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:mhopkins@hwdsb.on.ca)