



Wing Tips

Green Acres School
45 Randall Avenue
Stoney Creek, ON L8G 2K8
(905) 662-7021
Ms. T. Gasparik, Principal

October 2017

Arrival Check Program Please call the school to let us know that your child(ren) will **not** be attending school for the day or will be arriving late. For your convenience, the answering machine is available 24hrs/day & 7days/week.

Principal's Message:

Welcome to October!

Thank you to all the staff, students, parents and friends who came to our Meet the Teacher Night and helped make it a wonderful success! It was a pleasure seeing all of you and we are looking forward to a successful school year at Green Acres! Thank-you to our School Council for organizing the food and bake sale.

Thank-you to Madame Woods and the Student Leadership Group for selling popsicles to raise money for the Red Cross to help with Hurricane Harvey and Irma.

School Picture Day:

Our School Picture Day this year is Wednesday, October 25th.



Volunteers At Green Acres

Part of the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board's Volunteer Policy is that any volunteers working with children must obtain a Vulnerable Sector Screening Report. This is essentially a criminal record check and is put in place to protect our children. To obtain such a report, you can pick up an application form from the school office, Police Station or online. Complete the form and submit either in person at the Hamilton Police Services Headquarters at 155 King William Street in Hamilton or on-line. The cost is \$25.00 and it is valid for 3 years with the HWDSB.

It could take up to 4-6 weeks for the report to be prepared. Once you have obtained the report, bring it to the school office for approval and complete Volunteer Forms for Green Acres School. If you are interested in volunteering, complete this process as soon as possible, so that you can take advantage of opportunities as they arise.

You will not be permitted to attend school trips without a Police Check!

CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS

Our Cross Country Teams have been practicing very hard for our meet on Friday October 13th! We know all our students will display great effort, dedication, and enthusiasm while representing Green Acres School in a positive manner. Thank you to Mrs. Holden and Mrs. Dempsey for coaching the team this year.

Chocolate Fundraiser:

Thank you to our parent community for supporting our Chocolate Fundraiser. The fundraiser will help support bringing in the Arts i.e. music/dance workshops & presentations for students, technology, and other things that promote positive school culture and achievement. The fundraiser runs until October 18.

Student Leadership:

Our student leadership group has been very busy planning events for the school. This month our Spirit Day will be Tie Day Tuesday on October 17th, followed by the Pumpkin Decorating Contest and Halloween Dance!



Newsletters

To receive the Green Acres Newsletter and other HWDSB information online go to <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/greenacres>, click subscribe and enter your e-mail address. Due to anti-spam legislation HWDSB is not allowed to renew parents subscription to the newsletter and website.

SECURE SCHOOLS

At Green Acres we will be practicing our "Secure Schools Procedure" with Constable Masters on Monday October 16.

A Lockdown is used when there is a potential risk of harm to people within, or outside the school setting. Although one can never predict when a violent or potentially harmful situation may arise, schools can prepare for responding to such an incident through intentional, scheduled practices, much like what we do with Fire Drills. The goal of the practice is to minimize the risk for staff and students during a time of crisis. In the event of a "real" lockdown, the Hamilton Police Services will be responding to the situation. All staff, students and volunteers who are regularly in the school buildings are required to know the procedures. The students will have the Lockdown Procedures explained to them ahead of time and the school will practice this procedure twice per year.

The following terms and language will be used to ensure everyone is using the proper terminology.

HOLD AND SECURE – Used when the school is secured due to an ongoing situation outside and not related to the school (e.g. bank robbery near a school) ·

The school continues to function normally, with the exterior doors locked until the situation is resolved. Staff member posted at each entrance.

All movement in and out of the school is restricted, exterior facing windows should be covered or blinds drawn and lights dimmed where possible.

The school will most likely be notified by the Hamilton Police Services.

SHELTER IN PLACE – Used for an environmental or weather related situation, where it is necessary to keep all occupants within the school to protect them (may be recommended by HES-Fire). Examples may include chemical spills, blackouts, explosions or extreme weather conditions.

People enter and remain in the building with the doors and windows closed. Fans, including heating and air conditioning units, should be turned off to prevent air from outside entering the building.

Normal operations may continue within the building.

LOCKDOWN– Used when there is a major incident or threat of violence within the school, or in relation to the school.

Threat is inside the school, or is on school property, and poses an immediate threat to the students and staff. All movement in and out of the school and within the school is restricted.

Doors remain open to permit police immediate entry. The "Safe Location" for our school is R.L.

Hyslop School.

The above terminology is used to ensure consistency across the province. Common language across the province allows for easy integration when staff, students and other emergency service personnel are transferred from one jurisdiction to another.

Along with this information being presented at school, we encourage parents to talk with their children about the need to always be safe and well prepared for an emergency situation.

School Council Update

Thank you to everyone that supported us by buying pizza and goodies at Meet the Teacher. These fundraisers throughout the year help us to provide refreshments and treats for school events, Pancake day in February, Play Day in June, and to help the teachers when they are in need of other things for the classroom and extracurricular activities.

School council had the first meeting on September 18, 2017. Our Executive remains the same as last year: Ms. Church (Chair), Ms. Babbey (Secretary) and Ms. Nalsok (Treasurer). Topics discussed included fundraising ideas for the year, parent engagement initiatives, the future of Green Acres, and upcoming events. If you would like to review the minutes, they are posted on the Green Acres School Website under the School Council tab once they have been approved.

We continue to be in desperate need of new members. It is a fantastic way to learn about what is happening at the school, meet other parents, and have a say. Everyone is welcome, childcare is available, and there is no commitment just by attending a meeting. We ask everyone to consider coming out even just once to check it out.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 6p.m. in the staff room. We hope to see some new faces.