



Wing Tips

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

September 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 back to students and parents!
Welcome to another great year at Green Acres School!
I hope that everyone had a great summer with their families and had plenty of time to re-charge and now get back to routines.

New Staff to Green Acres

Mrs King Educational Assistant
Mrs. Thersidis & Mrs. McKinley Dunn DECE
Ms. Maika FDK 2
Ms. Workman Grade 2/3 p.m. (Mrs. Addis LTO)
Ms. Mirabella Grade 2/3 a.m.
Mrs. Iarocci Intermediate Comprehensive Class
Mrs. Freeman Educational Assistant
Mrs. Kavanagh English Language Learner Teacher
Mrs. Blunsdon Primary Reading Intervention Teacher K-1

Transportation:

If your child qualifies for bussing, you will have received a letter from HWDSB Transportation. In that letter it provided your pick-up/drop-off location and times that the bus will be there. According to the HWDSB Transportation Policy students qualify for transportation when the walking distance from home to school is more than:
1.0 KM for students in JK/SK
1.6 KM for students in Grades 1-8
All other students must apply for Courtesy Transportation, a new form must be completed for each school year. Priority will be given to those students with siblings in Kindergarten, followed by students in grades 1-6, then our grade 7 and 8 students .
Thank you for your patience and understanding during this busy time.

School Agendas:

Home -School Communication is essential for success. At Green Acres School, the agenda is the key device used for communication between teachers and parents. School Agendas are available to students for \$5.00. Parents are encouraged to buy an agenda as it a valuable communication tool between school and home.

School Nutrition Program:

Our school Nutrition Program will be up and running the third week of school. Thank you to Mrs. Dempsey, Mrs. Gear, Mrs. Iarocci's students and our volunteers for their with running the program. If you are interested in volunteering for the program please see either Mrs. Dempsey or Mrs. Gear.



Safety Procedures

Green Acres Elementary School will be practicing our "Lockdown Procedure" during this school year. 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. The goal of the practice is to minimize the risk for staff and students during 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 building 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. We will also be practicing our "Emergency Evacuation Drills" during this school year. Teachers will review emergency exit routes and procedures with their class regularly. 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. Thank you for your continued support.

Attendance

A reminder for all parents: please call the school at 905-662-7021, if your child is going to be absent or late. The answering machine at the school is always on. Help us ensure your child is safe!

School Entry

Parents are reminded to please use the "sign in" book when you enter the school to let us know you are in the building. The book is located in our main office.

This is a Safe School regulation and applies to all adults who enter our school.

We ask all parents to wave good bye to students on the playground. This makes for a smoother transition for the students when they enter the school with their classmates.

Digital/ Technology

HWDSB continues with their commitment to ensure that all students across the system will have access to a device. Last year our Grade 6 class received IPAD kits containing 6 IPADS and an Apple TV. This year classes with students in Grade 7 and 8 will be receiving an IPAD kit. Thank you to our Green Acres Community who continue to support the school through various fundraisers in order to provide laptops and IPADS for use in our classrooms that enhance the learning that is happening through technology.

One of the challenges with devices is the teaching of digital citizenship. One of the concepts of digital citizenship and the learning environment is the proper time and use of these devices. During the learning time we use all devices to enhance our learning.

In this we need your cooperation as well. **Please refrain from texting or messaging your child through the day. It's a distraction and takes away from the lesson. As always if you need to connect with your child in an emergency please contact the school directly.**

We continue to be Device Free during our Nutrition Breaks. By being Device Free our students have an opportunity to put their screens down and engage in some physical activity and social time talking to friends.

As a staff we continue to embrace technology through various blogs, and twitter accounts. Soon some of our teachers will be setting up their twitter and blogs to share their classroom happenings with their parents.

CHOCOLATE BAR FALL FUNDRAISER

On Monday September 25th we will be starting our Fall Chocolate Bar Fundraiser.

We appreciate the support from families and the school community with this initiative to help with the little extras such as digital technology, bringing in local art programs and other materials that will enhance our learning environment.



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School Council

Our first School Council Meeting is Monday September 26th at 6:00. Everyone is welcome to join!

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, an adult must 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 on King William Street in Hamilton or online. The cost is \$25.00 and the report is valid for 3 years with the HWDSB. It could take 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.

ONLINE PAYMENT OPTION is Available!

With the support of School Cash Online, we're making payments for school related expenses easier.

You will be able to make online payments through our school website. This is a win-win by making it safe and more efficient for everyone by reducing the amount of cash 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 School Cash ONLINE

HOW TO REGISTER

- 1) Go to <https://hwdsb.schoolcashionline.com>
- 2) Select "Get started Today"
- 3) Complete the 3 registration steps & Create a password. **Your password requires 8 characters, 1 uppercase letter, 1 lowercase letter, and a number**
- 4) A registration confirmation e-mail will be sent to you, click on the link to confirm e-mail & School Cash Online account
- 5) Open School Cash Online, the site will prompt you to sign into your account. Use the e-mail address & password you just created
- 6) Find Student—this step will connect your children to your account
- 7) Verify, School Board Name—HWDSB
- 8) Verify School Name—Green Acres
- 9) Enter Your Child's First Name, Last Name & Date of Birth—Select Continue , Next page confirm you are related to the child, check in agree box, select continue—your child has been added to your account

If you require assistance , select the " Support " option at the top right hand corner of the screen.

Newsletter on Website !

Please subscribe to our School Newsletter at www.hwdsb.on.ca/greenacres/
Click SUBSCRIBE on right-hand side

Important Dates:

September 18 - School Council Meeting
 20 - Girls 3 Pitch Tournament
 21 - Meet the Teacher 5 - 6:30
 22 - P.A. Day