



# Wing Tips

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

May 2018

**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:

### School Organization

Green Acres will be down in enrollment for the following school year (2018-2019). As a result of this, we are down one class and will be losing 1.2 teachers. Our ELL population is down and as a result Green Acres will have an itinerant system teacher that will be assigned to the school to service the needs of our ELL students.

Our School Organization is as follows:

- 2 FDK classes - JSA, JSB
- 3 Primary classes - 1A, 12A, 23A
- 2 Junior classes - 34A, 45A
- 3 Intermediate classes - 56A, 78A, 78B
- Grade 1 Speech and Language class
- Intermediate Comprehensive class

### Open House/School Cultural Festival/Talent Show

**We invite all of our parents/community to Green Acres' Open House on Thursday, May 3rd, 5:30-7:00. Alongside our Open House will be Green Acres School Cultural Festival which is being organized and run by our School Council.**

**Following the Open House/Cultural Festival will be our Talent Show starting at 7:00 p.m.**

**We are looking forward to showcasing the many activities the students have been doing over the year, celebrating and learning about the different cultures that makes Green Acres special and ending this amazing night with amazing talent from our students at the Talent Show! Thank you to our School Council for the planning and organization of our Multicultural Festival. Thank you to our staff for their work with our students and making this night a great celebration. Thank you to Mrs. Holden, Mrs. Robillard and Mrs. Iarocci for organizing our Talent Show and working with students as they prepare for the show!**

**We hope to see everyone out that night.**

### Kindergarten Orientation

Parents with children who are new to Kindergarten: Please join us on Tuesday, May 24, from 3:45 - 4:30 p.m. at our Kindergarten Orientation. This is an opportunity for our new JK students and parents to come in and learn about kindergarten, see the school and classrooms, and meet some of the staff. Invitations will be going home soon to our new JK parents. Thank you to our Kindergarten educators for planning this orientation.

### Grade 3 & 6 EQAO

Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will be writing EQAO from May 22 - June 4. Letters will be going home to parents soon. EQAO assessment questions are directly based on the expectations set out in the Ontario Curriculum, which is what is taught in the classroom every day. Therefore, students do not need to prepare in any special way. Students will write the test in their regular classrooms with their regular teachers and are simply encouraged to do their best.

### Track & Field

*Students in Grades 3-8 will be participating in Track and Field on May 16 & 17 from 12:00-3:00.*

*Thank you to Mr. Reynolds for organizing this event. Parents are welcome to come and watch their child participate.*

### Newsletters

Please remember that paper copies of the newsletter will not be going home unless requested at the office. To subscribe to the newsletter go to [www.hwdsb.on.ca/greenacres/](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/greenacres/) and click SUBSCRIBE on the right hand side.

### **Junior Swim Team**

Good luck to our Junior Swim Team this year as they compete in the Swim Meet at McMaster on Friday May 4th from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Thank-you to Mrs. Dempsey and Mrs. Gear for coaching the team this year.

### **HWDSB – We Help**

**At HWDSB, we are building a culture of help seeking and help offering in our schools and departments. This renewed commitment will take the form of a campaign titled *We Help*.**

**We know that students who struggle will first reach out to their friends or peers, not formal leaders like teachers and principals. We want everyone in our system, especially youth who are the peers of those who are struggling, to know that they can help. We want students to learn how to recognize when someone is upset, what to do to help and how and when to involve an adult.**

**Here at Green Acres, staff have been introduced to *We Help*, the concept of what it is and how we will introduce *We Help* to our students. Our focus will be on kindness and how we help each other by saying kind things to each other.**

***We Help* letters will be going home with students so all parents are aware of the idea of *We Help*. We encourage our parents to talk about *We Help* with their families by asking their children how they are helping out their friends.**

### **Grade 4-8 MDI Survey**

Over the past year, our community, families, students, staff and administrators have told us that we need to gather data specific to mental health and well-being.

In response, and to support the HWDSB Mental Health Strategy, HWDSB has partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia.

This partnership allows HWDSB to use the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) to measure student wellbeing across five holistic dimensions:

- 1) Social and emotional development, such as self-esteem, optimism, happiness and empathy;
- 2) Feelings of connectedness to school, family, friends and communities;
- 3) School experiences (climate)
- 4) Physical health and wellbeing; and
- 5) Time use after school hours, as well as children's wishes for their after-school time

Letters will be going home explaining the grade 4-8 MDI Survey, teachers were introduced to the MDI survey and how to administer the survey to their classes.

There are 2 survey's; the Grade 4 Survey is for grade 4,5 and 6 students to take and the Grade 7 Survey is for grade 7 and 8 students to take.

Students do not have to take part, **each student will have their own unique identifier number and data from the survey will be kept secure, protected and separate within HWDSB Research & Analytical Department apart from other data warehouses at HWDSB.**

**Questions or concerns about the survey, please call HWDSB Research and Analytics Department at 905-527-5092.**