



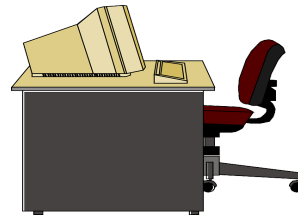
Helen Detwiler School



Hamilton Wentworth District School Board - Curiosity, Creativity, Possibility

From the Principal & Vice-Principal's Desk

Welcome back to the start of the 2017-18 school year at Helen Detwiler! It gives us great pleasure to welcome all of our returning and new families to our school community. We hope that your child has had a positive start to the school year establishing good work habits and routines to be prepared for daily classroom instruction & extracurricular events planned for September.



With the start of the school year, we recognize that the focus will be on setting good work habits and routines both at home and at school. We ask that you please go over all material that was sent home by your child's classroom or advisor teacher ensuring that the necessary paperwork is reviewed, signed and returned to aid in a smooth start. This will help keep all tracking of our student information current and organized at the school.

We had the pleasure of meeting as an entire school team at our first Welcome Assembly held on the second day of school. The assembly was a great opportunity to bring everyone together to introduce our entire staff, student body and share our school expectations to ensure a safe & orderly environment that focuses on Respect.

As an administrative team we value the importance of a Character Education program to build the character of our students and help them make good choices in their lives. Our Character Builds focus for the month of September is "Respect" and our students are working towards the goal of being recognized for their respectful behavior in the classroom, throughout the school and on the school playground. Our students take pride in building their character one trait at a time and are demonstrating respectful acts daily throughout our school! Those students "caught" showing "Respect" throughout September will be recognized at our next Character Education Assembly held in the beginning of October.

On behalf of the Administrative team & staff, we look forward to meeting parents and extended family members at our Meet the Teacher night held on Wednesday September 27th from 4:30 p.m.-6 p.m. We look forward to meeting you at our Meet the Teacher night and hope you enjoy the evening and tour of Helen Detwiler!

Sincerely,

Ms. Radojevic & Mr. Oulahen

Principal & Vice-Principal

SEPTEMBER 2017

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Ms. Radojevic-Principal
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UPCOMING EVENTS

September 18th

Sr. Boys Softball Tournament
at Turner Park

September 19th

Jr. Boys Softball Tournament
at Turner Park

September 20th

Sr. Girls Softball Tournament
at
Turner Park

September 21st

Jr. Girls Softball Tournament
at Turner Park

September 22nd

P.A. Day - No School

September 27th

Meet the Teacher 4:30-6 p.m.

September 28th

First School Council
Meeting 5:00 p.m. in
the library

October 2nd

Character Education
Assembly 11:15 a.m. in the
Gym. Parent(s)/Guardian(s)
are welcome to attend.

Character Builds - THE WORD ON THE STREET!



In order to build upon our students Character development, at Helen Detwiler we are focusing on educating our school community on the Character Traits that will support our students success in life and build upon a positive school culture. We started the school year with our September

Focus being **RESPECT** sharing its meaning of treating others and ourselves with courtesy, dignity and positive regard. We honour the rights of others and ourselves. We respect belongings, the environment and the world around us. Students will have the opportunity to be recognized at our future **Monthly Character Education Assemblies** by being "caught in the act" of demonstrating the trait of focus throughout the

school. Our staff are watching our students closely to "catch them" demonstrating respect and are provided with a "Caught Ya" card for recognition.

CAUGHT YA!	
Trait demonstrated:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Caring	<input type="checkbox"/> Honesty
<input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrity
<input type="checkbox"/> Empathy	<input type="checkbox"/> Respect
<input type="checkbox"/> Courage	<input type="checkbox"/> Responsibility
<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptance	<input type="checkbox"/> Trustworthiness
Name: _____	Class: _____
<small>Submit this slip to the office so the student can be recognized at the monthly assembly.</small>	
Teacher Signature: _____	

Monthly Focus

September - Respect	February - Empathy
October - Self Regulation	March - Honesty
November - Courage	April - Acceptance
December - Caring	May - Integrity
January - Responsibility	June - Citizenship

School Council

We welcome any parents that are interested in being a part of Helen Detwiler's School Council. The role of School Council is to advise School Staff of recommendations for our School Improvement Plan. Our first School Council Meeting with nominations and elections will be held on **Thursday, September 28th, 2017** at 5:00 p.m. in the Library. Meeting dates for the remainder of the year will be determined by council at our first meeting. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend School Council Meetings.

Parents/Guardians - Visitors to the Office

All parents/visitors **must first report to the office when coming into the school**. To ensure the safety of everyone in the building we must be aware of all parents/visitors that are in the school. Once you have reported to the office, our office administrators will be happy to help you. If you would like to get in touch with your child's teacher, we advise that a note be recorded in your child's agenda. This will ensure a quick & timely response from your child's teacher. You are also welcome to contact the school. A message left at the office will be shared with your child's teacher who will contact you to make arrangements.

Allergy Alert

A reminder that Helen Detwiler is a **NUT SAFE** school. For the safety of all our students, please do not send peanut or nut products to school. Thank you.

Student Information Package

The first week of school, your child brought home an information package with various forms for you to fill out. These forms are necessary for the classroom teacher and office. Please complete all the forms and return them to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

Students With Medical Needs



If your child has a medical condition for which he/she requires medication or special accommodation(s) at school, a form will be sent home for you and your physician to complete. In order to

administer medication to students, the school requires proper signed documentation. Thank you for your support.

Bus Transportation

If you have submitted a courtesy transportation form, we thank you for your continued patience with this process.

We would like to remind parents that students are **not** covered for liability by the board and are not permitted to ride on the bus until they are approved by Transportation Services. It will take the month of September to organize and process transportation requests and await approval in October. Thank you for your patience.



Student Agendas

Your child has received his/her new Student Agenda for the 2017/18 school year. This is an important organizational & communication tool which all students will be encouraged and expected to use. Under the HWDSB School Fees Policy, the \$5.00 fee for the Agenda is optional. We will use any donations collected to offset the cost to the school. Please submit donations to your child's homeroom teacher by Thursday, September 21st. Thank you for your support.

Pizza Days begins Thursday September 21st!

Pizza orders for students will be taken on Thurs. Sept. 21st. The cost per slice is \$1.50. Pizza will be handed out on Thursday of each week. Cheese and/or cheese & pepperoni on a regular white crust will be available for purchase. Both kinds meet the School Food and Beverage Policy guidelines. For the month of September, **we will only be accepting money orders.** School Cash Online will be set up in October. Thanks to our Parent Volunteers for running Pizza days.



Parking Protocol

A reminder that no one is permitted to park in the roundabout by the Kindergarten classes. This is for pick up and drop off only. All school & board support staff will park at our main staff parking located next to the school. To ensure the safety of our students, the **staff parking lot is out of bounds** to our students & parents. If you are coming into the school for a meeting or to visit the office, we ask that you please park at the Ontario Early Years Community Agency/Partnership Parking lot, located Southeast of the school. By-law signs stating **Employee Parking Only** and **No Parking** are visibly posted as a reminder for you. Please note that by-law officers will be monitoring these areas frequently for ticketing purposes with student safety in mind. We thank you for supporting the safety of our students' every day.

Supervision

Just a reminder that morning supervision on the playground does not begin until 15 minutes before the start of classes which is 8:20 a.m. If your child is on the playground before that time, please understand that they are **not** being supervised by an adult. Similarly, at the end of the day, there is supervision until 3:05 p.m. Please encourage your child to go directly home after school in order to ensure their safety.

HWDSB Nutrition Policy

The purpose of the policy is to guide school communities in the development of healthy school nutrition environments in which everyone is encouraged to make nutritious food choices and beverage choices. All food and beverages fit into one of 3 categories: serve/sell most, serve/sell less and not permitted for sale or to be served. Below are a few highlights that reinforce the Policy & its implementation:

- ❖ Food is not to be used as an individual reward or an incentive for good behaviour, achievement, or participation in classrooms
- ❖ Food incentives or rewards are permitted for groups, clubs or classes as long as it complies with the standards of the policy (Ex. fruit & veggie trays for classroom birthday celebrations)
- ❖ Nutritional standards do not apply to food & beverages available for purchase during field trips off school premises
- ❖ Schools will not serve or sell commercially bottled water
- ❖ Schools are entitled to 10 Special Event Days in which food & beverages sold or served in schools are exempt from the nutrition standard outlined in the Policy

Helen Detwiler - 10 Special Event Days

1. **Wed. September 27th: Meet the Teacher**
2. **Tues. October 31st: Halloween Celebrations**
3. **Fri. December 22nd: Holiday Festivities**
4. **Mon. February 12th: 100th Day Celebrations**
5. **Wed. February 14th: Valentine's Day Celebrations**
6. **Thurs. March 29th: Easter Celebrations**
7. **Open House : Education Week -To be determined**
8. **Wed. June 20th: Gr. 8 Graduation**
9. **June: Year End Celebration (dates will vary)**
10. **Open Date - To be determined**

Helen Detwiler Choir



HD Choir Begins!

Choir rehearsals take place on Day 2's during the first Nutrition Break in the music room. New members are still welcome to join us if they haven't yet signed up. All they need to do is come out to our next practice and be ready to sing. The HD choir will be performing at our Remembrance Day Ceremony on Friday, November 10 at 11:15am and at our Holiday Assembly in December (date and time TBA).

Helen Detwiler Nutrition Program

The Nutrition Program at Helen Detwiler started this Tuesday and we are very impressed with the organization and efficiency of our parents that work very hard to deliver nutritional snacks to over 500 students every morning. Thank you to our dedicated Parent Volunteers!

Lost and Found



Parents, if your child is missing an article of clothing, please have them check the Lost and Found which is located in the Junior Hallway by the student washrooms. We would encourage you to label all your child's belongings. If an item makes its way to the Lost and Found it could easily be identified and returned.

Helen Detwiler Softball Teams



The coaches are busy with softball tryouts as Detwiler prepares for the upcoming Middle School 3-pitch tournaments. The dates for each tournament are as follows.

Senior Boys - Monday Sept. 18th
Junior Boys - Tuesday Sept. 19th
Senior Girls - Wednesday Sept. 20th
Junior Girls - Thursday Sept. 21st

REMEMBRANCE DAY REQUEST

In order to plan for our upcoming Remembrance Day ceremony on Friday, November 10th, we are looking for any members of the Canadian Armed Forces or veterans in our community who might be willing to make a short presentation to our students during the ceremony. Please contact Mme. Payant as soon as possible if interested.



Vesey's Bulbs School Fundraiser

We are excited about our first school fundraiser to start off the new year! Students received the catalogue this week and have 3 weeks to fundraise. Order forms are due back to your child's teacher/advisor by **Friday September 29th**. A big thank you to our School Council & fundraising committee for organizing this to support our School Improvement Planning.



Helen Detwiler Bell Times



8:35 a.m.	Entry
8:35-9:35	Period 1
9:35-10:23	Period 2
10:23-11:03	NUTRITION BREAK #1
11:03-11:51	Period 3
11:51-12:39	Period 4
12:39-1:19	NUTRITION BREAK #2
1:19-2:07	Period 5
2:07-2:55	Period 6
2:55	Dismissal

Please note that **Nutrition Break #2** is considered to be lunch and students who go home for lunch would leave at this time. Students who fill out forms to stay at school for lunch must bring a **dated and signed** note from their parent/guardian **each** time they have been given permission to leave. This is imperative in order to assure that the school knows the whereabouts of our students at all times.

Playground Safety

Our school outdoor field is adjacent to a park which has a creative playground. Each year many children suffer injuries on playgrounds particularly strangulation. Here are some safety tips:

- Remove cords and drawstrings from children's hoods, hats, and jackets
- Tuck in all clothing that can get caught on playground equipment
- Wear a neck warmer instead of a scarf
- Take off bicycle helmets before using playground equipment -they can get caught on equipment and strangle a child
- Make sure children do not tie ropes or skipping ropes to slides and other playground equipment
- Supervise children on the playground
- Teach children how to use playground equipment and play safely

Please note that the creative playground is not on school property and is **not** supervised by staff. Many incidents have happened there both before and after school. In order to minimize conflicts and injuries, please encourage your children to go directly home or discuss proper behaviour and safety with your children when they are at the park.