

Helen Detwiler School



Hamilton Wentworth District School Board - Respect, Creativity, Excellence, Citizenship

From the Principal & Vice-Principal's Desk



We have had a very enjoyable fall and are heading into the winter season with many events and extracurricular activities going on at Helen Detwiler. Students are participating in volleyball, floorball, fitness club, social club and other extracurriculars to keep them engaged at school.

There is a P.A. Day on Friday December 7th giving our school team an opportunity to work on developing our School Annual Plan focusing on the HWDSB Math Strategy and Well Being. As a school team we will focus in on the Fundamentals of Mathematics. We will be looking at areas of student need and develop strategies to support our students math skill development and implement instructional practices to meet their needs. We will also focus on strategies to ensure each student can identify a caring adult at school.

On Friday November 30 we held our 'Toonies for Tummies' Toonie toss in support of our nutrition program. We raised over \$620 to support healthy snacks at Helen Detwiler. By showing a commitment to our nutrition program through fundraising we will gain access to additional funds to support our school. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

With the holiday season fast approaching we are in the spirit of giving and will be launching a school wide focus of "Just Give It" to support families in need. Thank you to all of our families for sending items in to support Neighbour To Neighbour and Interval House. We also look forward to welcoming the character trait of "Caring" during the month of December with our assembly scheduled for Monday December 3rd. Students always enjoy being "caught" in the moment showing their care in the classrooms, hallways and outside on the playground.

On behalf of the staff & administrative team, we hope you enjoy a restful & relaxing holiday valuing time with family & friends. We would also like to take this opportunity to wish you a very special holiday season and look forward to our students' safe return in 2019!

Sincerely,
Ms. Radojevic & Ms. Francis

DECEMBER 2018

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Ms. Radojevic - Principal
Ms. Francis - Vice-Principal



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twitter.com/HDHurricanes

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, December 3rd

Character Education Assembly

Friday, December 7th

PD Day - No School

Thursday, December 13th

Movie Trip - 9:45am-12:30pm

Monday, December 17th

Choir Trip to The Wellington 1:20 - 2:55

Wednesday, December 19th

Pita Pit Day

Wednesday, December 19th

Joy Day - Grade 1-3

Thursday, December 20th

Holiday Assembly - Parent Show
Doors open @ 1:20 p.m. in the gym.

Friday, December 21st

Holiday Dance

Monday, Dec. 24th - Friday, Jan. 4th

Winter Break

Looking Ahead

Monday, January 7th - First Day Back

Thursday, January 10th

Character Education Assembly
11:15 a.m. in the gymnasium

Character Builds - THE WORD ON THE STREET!



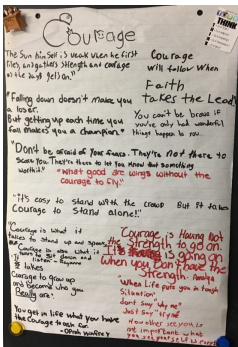
In order to build upon our students Character development, at Helen Detwiler we are focusing on educating our school community on the Character Traits that will support our students success in life and build upon a positive school

culture. Last month our Character focus was Courage. This month's Character Focus is **Caring** where we are sharing its meaning of demonstrating a willingness to reach out and help, support & protect others.

Monthly Focus

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

Sharing our Work on Courage



Grade 7 students created a list of quotes that summarize what courage means.



Grade 8 students researched famous people who showed courage.

Inclement Weather

The decision to cancel School and Board Administrative Operations is often a difficult call to make. Please be assured that the decision to remain open or to close is always made with the safety and security of our students and staff in mind. Please check the Board's Website (www.hwdsb.on.ca) or listen to local media (CHML900) for notice of school closure. *School Closure Hotline # 905.521.2535*. The board's commitment is to have families informed as early as possible on the days that school will be closed.

School Cash Online

School Cash Online is an easy to use and safe way to pay for most school items from your own home. All you have to do is register an account, attach your children and in no time you will be able to make payments online. School Cash Online is available at all HWDSB schools and transfers from school to school with your child right up to grade 12. For your convenience, we offer many payment options including prepaid Visa or Mastercard.

<https://hwdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Home/WhatIsSchoolCashOnline>

Volunteers at Helen Detwiler

We are so very grateful for all the work our volunteers do at Helen Detwiler. From driving and supervising students on field trips to running pizza days and our daily snack program, volunteers provide invaluable support for student well-being at our school. But they also help students to find and sign out books in the library and provide support in helping students to read. We would like to thank all of you for the contributions you make. It truly takes a whole village to raise a child. We are proud of our community!

If you wish to become a volunteer, please contact our office for information. We are currently looking for volunteers to read with our Kindergarten and Grade 1 students.

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS

Recreation Assistance Program

The recreation assistance program provides families living with a low income the opportunity to participate in organized sports and recreational programs.

- Free Family Participation Pass (valid for City wide drop-in recreation programs with no instructor)
- Free Family Skate Pass (valid for City wide drop-in public skates)
- 90% discount off City of Hamilton registered programs (up to \$150 per child)
- 50% discount off Affiliated Minor Sport* league registration fees (up to a maximum of \$100 on baseball, basketball, soccer, lacrosse and football or \$150 on hockey, skating, ringette)
- 65% discount off of year round Camp Kidaca programs (up to 15 days at the base fee)

To apply go to:

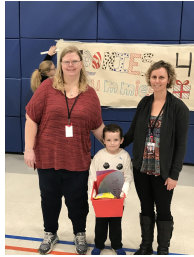
<https://www.hamilton.ca/parks-recreation/registered-recreation-programs/recreation-assistance-program>

Toonies for Tummies

On Friday November 30 we held a toonie toss to raise money for our nutrition program. We appreciate your support for this valuable program.

Did you know:

- We provide healthy snacks to over 500 students daily
- Each classroom is provided a bin of snacks every morning.
- There are 2-3 different snacks provided each day.
- Some of our students favourite snacks are: yoghurt tubes, granola bars, cheese, crackers, cereal and veggie sticks.
- Our program is entirely run by AMAZING volunteers!



The winners of our Toonies for Tummies Toonie toss were:

FDK-Grade 2 - Mason - FDK - Mrs. White and Mrs. Hucal's class

Grade 3-5 - Charlotte - Grade 4 - Mrs. Walsh's class

Grade 6-8 - Deon - Grade 6 - Mme. Payant's class

December Trips

Our Grade 1-8 students are all attending a trip to the Movie Theaters on Thursday December 13. The Grade 1-5 students will see 'Ralph Breaks the Internet' and our Grade 6-8 students will see 'Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald'. Our FDK students will be going to Puddicomb Farm on Friday December 21 for a Polar Express experience. The bus costs for all of these trips is being covered through School Fundraising. Thanks for your support with our school fundraisers as it allows us to make school trips more affordable for our whole school community.

Council Corner

The school council welcomes all parents to our December 6th meeting at 6:00 pm in the library. This will be a holiday potluck. We are looking for input on our school fundraising goals for the year. For further info please contact us at helendetwilerSC@hwdsb.on.ca. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Holiday Concert December 20th

- Doors Open at 1:20 p.m.
- Program begins at 1:30 p.m.
- Program ends at 2:45 p.m.

Our Holiday Assembly will take place on Thursday, December 20th. Parents and community guests are invited to attend the assembly beginning at 1:30 pm. We look forward to celebrating the season with many of you at this time. Given it is a regular instructional school day, parents we ask that students remain at school until dismissal. Thank you for your understanding and enjoy the concert!

JUST GIVE IT!

We are in the giving spirit at Helen Detwiler. Class 7/8 has begun a donation drive and are very pleased how every classroom has embraced the initiative. Thank you to those of you who have already sent in items with your children. There is still plenty of time for everyone to get involved. We will accept donations right up until Wednesday, December 19. Thank you so much for your generosity. Together, we are making a difference. Donations will be given to Hamilton Interval House and Neighbour To Neighbour.

Just Give It Suggestions

Parents: Cosmetics, Deodorant, Shaving Items, Toiletries, Jewelry, Gift Cards, Gloves, Hats, Teas

Teens: Gift Cards, Toiletries, Cosmetics, Energy Bars, Sport Socks, Gloves, Hats, Hoodies

Children: Books, Toys, Pyjamas, Socks, Diapers, Mittens, Hats

Also Accepting: Non-perishable Food Items
Cash Donations (loose change is great)

*Please ensure all gifts are unwrapped.

Thank you for your generosity and good spirit!



Holiday Break is Dec. 24th to Jan. 4th