



PAULINE JOHNSON NEWS

DECEMBER 2015

Michael Prendergast, Superintendent of Student Achievement
Dawn Danko, Trustee
Colin Hazell, Principal



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER - Colin Hazell

WELCOME OUR NEW VP

Pauline Johnson is excited to welcome Mrs J Lindsay, who will assume the role of Vice Principal in January. Mrs Lindsay has been teaching for 15 years and is looking forward to working with our dynamic team of staff and students. She has a passion for positive school climate, safe schools and physical literacy, and believes in providing a well-rounded, inclusive environment for all. Mrs Lindsay will be working in the South school with our Grades 1-4 students.

NEW SOSA

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Michael Prendergast, our Superintendent of Student Achievement, who has accepted the position of Superintendent of Human Resources for HWDSB. We wish him well in his new position.

As of January 4, 2016, Laura Romano will become Superintendent of Student Achievement for the South Cluster.

WINTER HOLIDAYS:

Winter Holidays this year begin on Saturday, December 19th, 2015 and go through to Sunday, January 3rd, 2016. Students are expected to return to class on Monday, January 4th, 2016 at 8:15 am.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

SCHOOL CANCELLATION HOTLINE ... 905 - 521 - 2535

Just a reminder, in case of school closure, to listen to the **local radio / TV stations** (CHML, CKOC or K-lite FM, CHCH) for **all school closures**.

You can also check the HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD website (<http://www.HWDSB.on.ca/>) or their twitter account for up to date school closures.

Announcements are usually made by 7:00 am for a full day closure and 11:00 am for afternoon closures.

Please make sure your child is completely familiar with **your emergency closure arrangements** in case there is a closure during the day.

NOTE: ** If you, as parents, feel that weather conditions are becoming severe, please use your own good judgement as to whether or not you attempt to send your child to school.

Parents may, in inclement weather, pick up their children at the school at any time during the day.**

WINTER SAFETY

While it seems that Ol' Man Winter is napping at the moment, I'm sure he will awaken soon.

- ⇒ During the winter months, hall floors can be quite slippery, especially during entry times. Students need to wear boots outside and shoes inside at all times. Stocking feet could cause a fall, even on dry floors.
- ⇒ Remind your children to cross roadways and driveways carefully. They should not cut across our parking lots to get to a car. Please meet them and walk with them.
- ⇒ Keep an eye on your child's exposed skin when they come in from winter play. Watch for white, shiny areas which may be an early warning of frost bite.



ATHLETICS

Sports Day at Pauline Johnson was celebrated on Friday November 20th.

Thanks to all students and staff who wore their jerseys and participated in the soccer and basketball games during Physical Education classes. The student / teacher / parent volleyball game was a lot of fun!



TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

The volleyball season is over for another year.

Congratulations to the Pauline Johnson **Grades 4-6 Volleyball team** on an amazing season.

The team **captured the C Division Championship** with a win over Lawfield.

Thanks to Ms Guidotto, Mrs Garrett and Ms Atkinson for coaching, and to parent coaches Mr O'Neill, Mr Delaney and Mr Ho.

Go Cardinals!



The **Senior Girls' Volleyball team** came in second for our division but sadly lost in the first round of the play-offs.



The team consisted of 13 volleyball enthusiasts.

Emily Burns (Captain)
Sam Battaglia
Madison Graca-Ilies
Tianna Pembleton
Michelle Yang

Anisha Mathew (Captain)
Madison Delaney
Chantel Le
Tasfia Uddin

Paulean Abellon
Brienne Gouthro
Alecea Mattina
CJ Whittaker



The **Senior Girls' Basketball** season starts **January 2016**.

Team try-outs are well underway for the grades 8 girls.

A schedule of games will be posted shortly on the board website.

Please note that the **Junior Girls' basketball team** (grade 7) will be picked in **February 2016**.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE

- ◇ The playground is supervised from 8:00 am to 8:15 am and from 2:35 pm to 2:50 pm.
- ◇ Daily routines are important to establish at an early age.
- ◇ Children arriving at school late impacts negatively on their academic progress.
- ◇ It is the responsibility of both the parent and the student to ensure that they arrive at school on time daily.
- ◇ Students are to enter the school at 8:15 am **FROM THE BACK PLAYGROUND** when the bell rings.
- ◇ Classroom instruction begins at 8:15 am.
- ◇ It is very disruptive to the class when a student arrives late, as the teacher has already begun their classroom instruction.
- ◇ Students are considered late once the morning announcements have started at 8:23 am and therefore require a late slip from the office.



STAFF PARKING LOTS

Please do not use any of the staff parking lots between 8:00 am and 3:15 pm to pickup or drop off your students. Also, be sure to keep the corner of Skylark and Hummingbird Lane clear at 8:00 am and 2:35 pm to enable the bus to get up the street ... this is a "No Stopping" zone.

Please make sure that you obey all of the "No Stopping" and "No Parking" areas posted around the school, as the City By-law Officer frequently visits this area and if you are in violation of any of the regulations you will be ticketed.

hands out tickets

BUS STUDENTS ...

If traveling by our school bus, please be at your pick up area 5 - 10 minutes prior to your scheduled pick-up time. It is not the responsibility of the bus driver to wait for late students and they may leave without you. Also remember to be patient, as buses may occasionally be delayed due to winter travel.

SNOW CLEARING, SALTING AND SANDING

Staff from the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board will clear, salt and / or sand the following areas:

- *The walkways from the City sidewalk to the school
- *The school steps
- *Ramps to schools and portables
- *An area outside of entrances and Fire Exit Doors
- *Fire Exit stairs and ramps

When there is an accumulation of 5 cm or more of snow, parking lots and sidewalks are plowed by approved

contractors arranged through Facilities Management.

General salting and sanding of the parking lot is also done by contracted staff prior to the commencement of the school day.

Head Caretakers may salt or sand isolated areas on the parking lot on an as needed basis.

Playgrounds will not be plowed or otherwise cleared.

Head Caretakers will check the condition of the grounds early in the morning and during the school day to sand and / or salt isolated slippery areas that may occur due to changing temperatures.

Students and parents should take extra caution when walking onto or leaving from school grounds.

Caution must also be taken when playing on school grounds when conditions are slippery.

Based on the weather and playground conditions, the Principal may decide to have students remain indoors during recess and lunch / nutrition breaks.



The Perch Store
is open
Tuesday and Thursday
every week at
2nd Nutrition Break.

Items available are:

\$2.00 each:

Popcorn

Frozen Yogurt

Lays Baked Potato Chip

\$1.00 Each:

Chocolate Chip Cookies

75 Cents Each:

Orange Juice

**PJ South Holiday
Assembly**

on

Thursday, December 17th
at 1:20 pm

PJS parents please note
that we love having you join us,
however, there is limited space
available in the gym.

PJ North Holiday Concert
Wednesday, December 16th, 2015

Performances by:

**The Pauline Johnson North
Band, Choir and the Gr 6 Guitar class**

The first concert for PJ South will begin at 9:00 am.

Following that, at approx 9:40 am there will be a 2nd concert for the students of
PJ North

Please keep in mind that there is limited space available for spectators.

Pauline Johnson North
will be selling **Candy Grams**
from December 7 to December 16th.
The candy grams will cost **\$1.00 each**

Candy Grams will be delivered on December 17th & 18th.



WINTER IS COLD AND FLU SEASON

Please keep in mind that winter is also cold and flu season and that it is a good idea to send a box of tissue to school with your child during this time. It is advised that children who are sick or are recovering from an illness remain at home until they are well enough to participate in recess and classroom activities. In this way, the children will not spread germs to other students and will be able to participate fully in the school program.

2015 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNITY FLU CLINICS

Protect yourself and the ones you care about ... Get your shot. For more information call 905-546-2489.

VISION CLINICS

There will be 2 Vision Clinics held at Pauline Johnson on Thursday, Dec 3rd and Friday, Dec 4th. Please be sure to return the consent form by December 1st, so that your child can take advantage of this free and convenient opportunity to get their eyes tested.

PIZZA DAYS

Pizza will be available on Fridays, December 4th, 11th & 18th. Pizza is sold in the classroom on Pizza Day during 2nd nutrition break ... We appreciate receiving the correct change.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Pauline Johnson South and North are looking for volunteers to help with the Nutrition Program and Pizza Sales at both schools. Anyone interested in helping should contact Mrs. Busse at Pauline Johnson North.

ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Our annual food drive begins Monday, December 7th and continues until Friday, December 18, 2015.

We are hopefully that each class will try to fill at least one (festively decorated) box, so that we can help to make this a Christmas to remember for several needy families in our community. There will be a Pizza party for the class that donates in the most food.

All proceeds will benefit **Neighbour to Neighbour** and the community it serves.

Possible food items:

Powdered Milk	Canned Meat	Rice	Cereal
Juice	Spaghetti Sauce	Canned Stew	Peanut Butter
Canned Fruit	Jams & Jellies	Pasta	Coffee
Sugar	Diapers	Cake Mixes	Tea
Canned Soups	Canned Vegetables	Canned Fish	Cookies

In keeping with the spirit of sharing at Christmas time, the teachers request that students donate a gift of non-perishable foods to Neighbour to Neighbour, instead of buying a gift for their teacher.



Don't forget to share your email address with us to ensure that you get important PJ information as it happens.

Send your email information to chazell@hwdsb.on.ca

Make sure you visit our school website regularly to view our Calendar page, the current Newsletter and for numerous other important tidbits about what is happening in and around Pauline Johnson North & South.

**On behalf of everyone at Pauline Johnson,
please enjoy a terrific family holiday during the Winter Break.
We look forward to seeing all of you in the New Year!**