



# PAULINE JOHNSON NEWS



Laura Romano, Superintendent of Student Achievement  
Dawn Danko, Trustee  
Colin Hazell, Principal ... Vice Principal: Jessica Lindsay  
South Phone: 905.388.1761 ... North Phone: 905.385.5344



**2016 - 2017**

**DECEMBER**

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER - Colin Hazell

December is upon us and the weather is wet and getting colder, so please be sure have an extra change of clothing in your locker for those little emergencies .

Our continued thanks to our Caretaking staff who keep our schools in great shape, despite all of the construction.

We would also like to welcome Mrs S Rhyno as our newest Office Assistant at PJ North.

### WINTER HOLIDAYS:

Winter Holidays this year begin on Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and go through to Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Students are expected to return to class on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 8:15 am.

### EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

With winter just around the corner we would like to remind everyone of the guidelines used around school closures.

### 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 closure information.

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 wet and slippery, especially during entry times.
- ⇒ Students need to wear boots outside and shoes inside as stocking feet could result in a fall even on dry floors.
- ⇒ Remind your children to cross roadways and driveways carefully.
- ⇒ Students 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.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING:

Our next School Council meeting is **Thursday, Dec 8th at 6 pm**. Please plan to join us as we need your help and your input on how to ensure our students are getting the most from their learning experience.

Thanks for continuing to support Pauline Johnson School.

Colin Hazell, Principal

## 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 DOORS BETWEEN THE TWO SCHOOLS** when the bell rings.
- ◇ Classroom instruction begins at 8:15 am and attendance is taken.
- ◇ 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 bell rings at 8:23 am and the morning announcements have started ... Students required to go directly to the office to get a late slip and have their attendance adjusted.



## 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.

## 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.



### HWDSB STUDENT SENATE

Congratulations to Tasfia Uddin and Reema Mohammed for being chosen to represent PJ at the HWDSB's Student Senate.

The Student Senate is essentially a group of students from HWDSB who meet on a bi-weekly basis to discuss issues affecting students and offer advice in order to provide the kind of education students want.

Each senator represents the voice of their school and by coming together they collaboratively create a comprehensive student voice.

The Senate is important because education is all about students. Our classrooms, our schools, our board is there to support us as learners and student senate is an outlet in which senators can voice their opinions and those of their school in order to positively affect change within the education system.

### CHOIR - Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

The Pauline Johnson Choir lead by Mr. Blunsdon will perform at the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board at 9:00 am on Thurs, Dec 22.

Thank you in advance to Mr Blunsdon and our Choir for their hard work in preparation for this wonderful opportunity.

### GRAD WEAR

Mark from JML Uniforms, Hamilton will be presenting at our Grade 8 Grad Shirt Assembly on Friday, December 9th in the PJ North gym at 9:00 am.

Look for more information regarding the items that will be available for sale to come home with your Gr 8 student after this assembly.

### Grade 8 Niagara Falls Trip

There are only a few seats left for the May 25th - May 26th, 2017 trip to Niagara Falls so please indicate your interest by paying a deposit to guarantee your spot.

To do this, go to the Chapman Cultural Tour website at [www.chapmantours.ca](http://www.chapmantours.ca) being sure to use the [Invoice/Order# 10604](#) when completing our online payment form.

### PJ Kinder Holiday Concert on Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 pm in PJ North Gym

#### PJS PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:

We love having you join us for these events ... however, please keep in mind when inviting extended family that there is limited space available in our gym.

### PJ Whobalation Holiday Concert Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> 6:30 pm - 8 pm in PJ North Gym

This concert has been planned with the families of our Gr's 1 - 8 as the intended audience.

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

### ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE



Our annual food drive begins Monday, Dec 5<sup>th</sup> and continues until Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

We are hoping 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.

All donations are going to **Mountain Kidz Klub** and the community it serves.

**There will be a Pizza party for the class that donates in the most food.**

#### Possible food items:

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

**In keeping with the spirit of sharing at Christmas time, our teachers have requested that students donate a gift of non-perishable foods to the Food Drive instead of buying a gift for their teacher.**



## Go Cardinals!

### SENIOR GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL TEAM

The volleyball season has come to an end but what an amazing season it was.

The team ended the regular season in 3rd place in our division but, sadly lost in a very close 5th game in the quarter finals match against Taplestown.

The team consisted of the following volleyball enthusiasts.

CJ Whittaker (Captain)

Paulean Abellon

Nyela Bennett-Powley

Chantel Le

Alecea Mattina

Reema Mohammed

Tasfia Uddin

Michelle Yang

\*A special thank you to Ivan Feng and Jay Chaudhry for scorekeeping at our home games.



### BOYS' VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Well done Jr and Sr Boys volleyball teams! We played great volleyball and extended our seasons into the playoffs. Be proud of the continued effort, skill and sportsmanship you displayed this year.

Juniors, come on out again next year and Seniors, show your high school what you've got!

Mr Kirk and Mr Parker

### BASKETBALL TEAMS

There will be some basketball team try-outs beginning in December.

Please check our website for further information regarding which teams, their tryout dates and times and the coaches once that has been determined.

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



Pauline Johnson will be selling  
**CANDY CANE GRAMS**  
from Monday December 19th  
to Friday December 23rd.

The candy grams will be sold for **\$0.50 each**



### YUSRA KEFEL'S WEDDING

Congratulations to our Arabic Instructor Yusra Kefel who was married in the summer of 2016.

Several people from Hamilton attended the ceremony and celebration in Dearborn Michigan.

Yusra and her husband Mike now live and work in the United States. Please join us in wishing them the very best in their lives together.





## DECEMBER FIELD TRIPS

- ◆ Dec 1st - Shrek! The Musical by Theatre Ancaster
- ◆ Dec 5th - Grades 3, 4 & 5 going to the Hamilton Art Gallery
- ◆ Dec 12th - Grades 7 & 8 going to the Hamilton Art Gallery



## WINTER IS COLD AND FLU SEASON

Please keep in mind that winter is cold and flu season. 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.



## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNITY FLU CLINICS

Protect yourself and the ones you care about ... Get your shot.

For more information call 905-546-2489.

## DENTAL ASSESSMENT

There is a Dental Assessment Clinic being held at Pauline Johnson North on **Friday, Dec 9th**.

This clinic is targeting the Kindergarten and Gr 2 students. However; any students wishing to participate can do so by bring in a note to the office requesting they be allowed to participate.



## TWIN DAY

Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> is Twin Day ... Who will you dress like?????

## PIZZA DAYS

Pizza will be available on Fridays, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. Pizza pre-orders are done in the classroom ... Please be kind and send in the correct change.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Pauline Johnson is looking for volunteers to help with the Nutrition Program at both schools and Pizza Sales in PJ North. Anyone interested in helping should contact Mrs Busse at Pauline Johnson North 905-385-5344.

## SHARE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

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](mailto:chazell@hwdsb.on.ca) making sure to include your student's name in the email.

## VISIT THE SCHOOL WEBSITE OFTEN

Please visit our school website regularly to view the current Newsletter, our Calendar page for upcoming events, and for numerous other important tidbits about what is happening in and around Pauline Johnson and the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board.

**On behalf of everyone at Pauline Johnson,  
please enjoy a Safe and Happy holiday  
during the Winter Break.**

**We look forward to seeing all of you at  
8:15 am on Monday, January 9th, 2017**







*Join us!*

**Are you a parent, caregiver or legal guardian of a student with special needs?**



Parents as Partners invites you to an evening with Shelley Woon, Superintendent of Leadership and Learning: Specialized Services for

## **Understanding Your Child's Individual Education Plan (IEP)**

**When:** Tuesday, November 29th, 2016  
5:30 p.m. - Light supper  
6 to 7:30 p.m. - Presentation

**Where:** 20 Education Court, Room 180A

**Upcoming Talks:** February 22, 2017 - Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder  
April 5, 2017 - Collaborative Proactive Solutions

### **To Register:**

Contact Karen Accardo at 905-527-5092 x2804 or by email [kaccardo@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:kaccardo@hwdsb.on.ca)