



PAULINE JOHNSON NEWS



2017 - 2018



Laura Romano, Superintendent of Student Achievement
Dawn Danko, Trustee
Colin Hazell, Principal ... Vice Principal: Jessica Lindsay
Phone: 905.388.-1761 ...



OCTOBER

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER - Colin Hazell

Well the month of September has come and gone and it's time to share another Newsletter with you.

To receive our newsletter and other important information via email please send an email to chazell@hwdsb.on.ca ... be sure to **include your name and your student's first and last name** in the email.

You might also want to subscribe to our Website to automatically get emails letting you know that important information has been added to our website / calendar that might be of interest to you and your family. Website: www.hwdsb.on.ca/paulinejohnson/

Go to ... **@PJ_HWDSB** ... to follow us on **Twitter**.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ... 2017 - 2018

Elections were held right after our Meet the Teacher event on Thursday, September 14th ... below are the members of this years School Council.

Laura O'Neill - Co-Chair of School Council ... **Laurie Walowina** - Co-Chair of School Council ...

Please get involved as we are still look for more School Council members and additional parent volunteers to help with the many projects needed to make Pauline Johnson the best possible school for your children.

If you are interested in helping, please contact the office to arrange to get the forms necessary to enable you to become a PJ volunteer.



SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

We have not yet confirmed our big fundraising events for this year. This will be discussed at our next School Council meeting on **Wednesday, October 11th**, at 4:30 pm in the PJ Learning Commons. Plan to join us.

PHOTO DAYS - EDGE IMAGING

Picture day will take place on ... **Wed, Oct 11th**

Our school photo day is fast approaching! Please remember to mark the date on your calendar, as Edge Imaging will be in the school that day capturing everyone's smiles. Edge provides a variety of photo options to capture your child's true personality, preserving all their school day memories. For more information on photo day, please visit www.edgeimaging.ca for answers to frequently asked questions.

Retake Photos will take place on ... **Tues, Nov 14th**

Grade 8 Grad Photos will be taken on **Thurs, Feb 8th**

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Our Grab and Go Breakfast Program is up and running. This program allows all students to enjoy a morning snack which usually includes one of the following, crackers, cheese, yogurt, granola or cereal bars and either a piece of fresh fruit or a vegetable such as apples, pears, bananas or carrots.

The success of our breakfast program is due in part to the dedication to our SSEA Mrs Busse who orders all of the food, fills the food bins and delivers them to the Learning Commons for classes to pick-up. At the end of the day, she collects the bins and begins to prepare them for the next day. Thank you Mrs Busse for all that you do.

If you have any spare time in the morning or at the end of the day, she would love to have your help.

The majority of the Breakfast Program is funded through **"Tastebuds"** and **The Bulldogs** as well as receiving a few **parent / grandparent donations**. We are hoping to add additional funds through fundraising events and through donations made by our Pauline Johnson community.

If you are able to make a donation to our Nutrition Program, please know that it would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks for continuing to support Pauline Johnson School ... Colin Hazell, Principal

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be sent home with your student on **Tuesday, October 31st, 2017.**

PIZZA FRIDAYS

Our pizza supplier is once again Limeridge Pizza. Their pizzas conform to the HWDSB nutrition policy. Pizza Fridays have been going fairly well, however we could use some volunteer assistance to help distribute the pizzas during 2nd nutrition break.

If you are interested in helping us on Friday's with the pizza distribution, please contact the PJS office at 905-388-1761.

MILK PROGRAM

Chocolate Milk is available for purchase during 2nd nutrition break for \$1.00 cash each.

Tickets are sold in the office prior to 2nd Nutrition break ... 10 tickets for \$7.50.

HOMEWORK HELP

Homework help information for grades 7 to 10 was sent home in September. This online math tutoring initiative is available to all students in grades 7 to 10. Please encourage your children to sign-up and become familiar with this online program. By the time these students are in grade 10, the chat line should be available for all students up to grade 12. The chat room is current open Sunday to Thursday from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

MATHLETICS:

We are thrilled to inform you know that **all students from Gr 1-8** at Pauline Johnson have been assigned their own **personal Mathletics account** ... <http://ca.mathletics.com/>

This **web based program** is a captivating online math learning space providing students with all the tools they need to be successful learners, both in the classroom and beyond.

This is powerful course that is **aligned with the provincial math curricula**, from Kindergarten through High School, that is matched with dynamic tools and reporting for teachers.

Mathletics is able to support and cater to each teacher's unique blend of **student-driven learning** and **teacher-led instruction** ... Your child's teacher has log-in information for all of their students.

TERRY FOX RUN

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Terry Fox National School Run Day on Thurs, Sep 28th.

Special thanks to Mrs C Wilson and our dedicated staff for organizing the event. **We raised just over \$630!**

Way to go Pauline Johnson community ... Thank you for your support.

DRESS CODE REMINDER

Just a reminder that we expect students to dress in a manner that is appropriate for learning and that is non-offensive to others. *"The bottoms of their tops must meet the tops of their bottoms."*

We appreciate the continued support of our parents in this matter.

BACKPACKS AVAILABLE

We have a few backpacks, that were donated to the school, to be made available to any student who does not have a backpack.

Stop by the Office and see Mrs Lindsay and she will be happy to give you one.



SMART COMMUTE - YELLOW WALK OR WHEEL TO WORK / SCHOOL DAY!

Hamilton Smart Commute Wear Yellow and Walk or Wheel to school day is - **Wednesday, October 4th**

On Wear Yellow and Walk Day students, parents and staff are encouraged to wear yellow clothing and use active transportation (walking, cycling, rolling, bus) to and from school.

Parents that must drive can park 1 km away from the school and let students walk that distance to school to join in on the fun. Remember to "turn it off" when parked as **Hamilton has a no-idling by-law.**



VOLUNTEERS IN THE SCHOOL

It is the policy of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board to support and encourage the participation of volunteers in Board activities.

Role of the Volunteer

- ⇒ Volunteers will perform their assigned duties as directed by Board staff
- ⇒ Volunteers will never be responsible for the discipline or evaluation of students
- ⇒ Volunteers will not be responsible for the identification or diagnosis of learning strengths or difficulties
- ⇒ The participation of Volunteers will be respective of any Collective Agreement requirements.
- ⇒ Volunteers will maintain in confidence any personal information, shared with them in the performance of their duties, in compliance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and protection of Privacy Act.
- ⇒ Volunteers will follow dress and behavioural codes as established by the school.
- ⇒ Volunteers will report to the school office on arrival, to sign-in and if applicable, will wear an identification badge at all times while in the school. They will also sign-out at the office and return their badge, before leaving the school.
- ⇒ Volunteers will notify their supervising teacher / staff member of any expected absence, as far in advance as possible.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

At Pauline Johnson we are delighted to have parent volunteers. Volunteers are a tremendous help to our students as they support the learning activities in the classroom.

We also need volunteers who can **organize fundraising activities** that support many of the school related experiences that enhance the learning of our students.

HWDSB and Pauline Johnson School, with the support of our School Council, asks that all volunteers provide us with a Vulnerable Sector Screening (police check) for the safety of our students.

Anyone intending to volunteer should come to the office to obtain a volunteer letter signed by the Principal or Vice-Principal that they will take to the Central Police Station when they go to apply for the Vulnerable Sector Screening. This check must be done prior to being assigned any volunteer duties in the school.

VISITORS

Just a reminder that visitors to our school need to report to the office immediately upon arrival to sign in.

The safety of all the students in our school is a concern for all of us, so your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Parents are also asked not to enter a classroom unless they have made an appointment, in advance with the classroom teacher.

When an appointment is needed to speak with a staff member, it should be requested for before or after school, not during classroom time. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.



CROWDED HALLWAYS

Our hallway traffic has increased significantly to the point where it has become a safety concern.

- ⇒ **We are requesting that parents NOT accompany their students into the school at entry or dismissal times as the increased congestion in the hallways makes it unsafe for our children.**
- ⇒ The school grounds are supervised 15 minutes before school begins and 15 minutes after school ends.
- ⇒ As there is no scheduled supervision in the hallways before the 8:15 am start of the school day bell, students should not be at their lockers prior to this time.
- ⇒ Our staff escort the children into the building at entry time and out of the building at dismissal and will assist them with their clothing if needed.

Your co-operation with this concern is appreciated.

WINTER IS COLD AND FLU SEASON

If your child comes to school with cold or flu systems, please send them with a box of Kleenex.

Donations of Kleenex, to your child's classroom, are greatly appreciated all through the year!

Don't forget to share your email address with us to ensure that you get important Pauline Johnson information as it happens. Send email to chazell@hwdsb.on.ca including your name and the full name of your child(ren). Be sure to visit our school website regularly ... www.hwdsb.on.ca/paulinejohnson/ ... to view our Calendar pages, the current Newsletter and the numerous other important tidbits of information about what is happening in and around Pauline Johnson School. If you subscribe to our website you will automatically be sent an email to let you know when new information is added to the site.



NEWS FROM OUR PJ LIBRARY / LEARNING COMMONS

Lost books must be replaced. Generally, the fees for lost books are:

Fiction \$15

Non-Fiction ... \$30



If you are unable to pay the lost book fees, you can replace the book with any book from the same collection.

For instance, a fiction book can be replaced with a fiction book, a non-fiction book with a non-fiction book and a graphic novel with a graphic novel.

Additionally, if a hard cover is lost, it must be replaced with another hard cover and soft cover with a soft cover.

NO NUT SCHOOL!

There are students and staff in our building who have allergies to nuts and nut products.

It is important that you avoid sending peanut butter or any foods that contain nut products in your child's lunch. This includes **Nutella**, and other similar spreads. Although WOW Butter is acceptable, unless you have a sticker on their lunch, please do not send it as we have no way to ensure it is not a nut product.

Please remind your child to wash their hands carefully before school and after lunch and to make sure they put all their lunch garbage and food waste in the garbage containers provided in the lunch rooms. This will help prevent accidental contact with these products by those with Nut allergies.



EPI PENS AND INHALERS

Does your student have allergies that require them to carry an Epi-pen, or do they carry a puffer for asthma.

If so, please make sure that you complete a new set of forms every year to ensure that we have the most up to date information, so that we are able to effectively help your child should they require adult assistance.

KISS AND DROP AREA:

Just a reminder to drivers that our "Kiss and Drop" area is supervised between 8:00 am - 8:15 am every morning.

- ⇒ The Kiss and Drop area is located on the North side of the school.
- ⇒ Our Kiss and Drop area can be used by parents to drop off students from JK to Grade 8.
- ⇒ JK/SK parents may also use this "valet" lane to drop off their child(ren).
- ⇒ A staff member (wearing an orange vest) will greet you at your car and will escort your child to the designated kindergarten staff to ensure safety. This means that you do not have to park and escort your child.

Please obey staff who are directing the flow of traffic and do not leave your vehicle in the Kiss and Drop lane.

PARKING SAFETY



We would like to remind our parents not to drop off or pick up students directly in front of our school.

This is a no parking / no stopping zone that is enforced regularly by the By-Law Officers with the City of Hamilton-Wentworth.

We appreciate the concerted effort of some parents to park away from the school when dropping off and picking up students. However, there are still a number of cars entering and backing up in this area.

This congestion is not only against the law, but it is very dangerous to both students and drivers.

Due to the serious nature of this situation, the City of Hamilton By-Law Officers will continue to monitor the situation and enforce the By-Law.

We have a serious concern for the safety of all our students and having your assistance in this important safety issue will help to eliminate the chance of a serious accident.

Students are not to walk / run through the staff parking lot at any time. This is a serious safety concern, and we ask that parents reinforce with their child(ren) that the parking lots are for staff use only. We would also like to ask parents not to use the staff parking lots to drop off or pick up students and to not block the entrance to the staff parking lots or to block our neighbours' driveways. Thank you.



DOGS ON THE PLAYGROUND

We appreciate the fact that some parents have made a conscious effort to walk their dogs at a time other than when escorting their children to and from school, especially since time is tight for all of us these days.

We realize that the dogs being brought onto our playground are on a leash and that all of our parents are responsible people. However, children and animals, are both unpredictable and excitable.

Some children are afraid of dogs even when the dogs are on a leash. Some children have allergies to dogs.

Therefore, in an attempt to keep our playground safe and enjoyable for all children, we are asking you to

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM BRINGING DOGS ONTO OUR PLAYGROUND DURING SCHOOL HOURS.



REMINDER — "NO SMOKING POLICY"

Just a reminder to parents and guardians that it is illegal to smoke anywhere on school property.

REMINDER TO REPORT VACCINES TO PUBLIC HEALTH

This is a reminder for parents and guardians to review their child's vaccines with their doctor.

This fall, Public Health will begin to screen records to ensure children are up to date.

Please report all vaccines and vaccination dates to **Public Health at 905-540-5250**.

Visit hamilton.ca/vaccines for more information.



HEAT ADVISORY

It may be fall, but the temperature can still reach that uncomfortable range. When ever the temperature does rise to those levels, please make sure that you send your child to school with a hat and sunscreen. Also ensure that they have sufficient water or a refillable water bottle so that they can stay adequately hydrated.



LEAVING SCHOOL FOR LUNCH

A reminder to our **Grade 8** students that to ensure student safety, the school requires a signed and dated note from one of their parents giving them permission to leave the school grounds on a specific day.

- ⇒ Dated and signed notes are to be **handed in to the office, 1st thing in the morning.**
- ⇒ Students with a note may leave the school during **2nd nutrition break only**
- ⇒ Students must be **back on time ... before 1:15 pm.**
- ⇒ Students must be finished eating when they return as food is not to be brought into the classrooms.
- ⇒ Parents please talk to your child about planning these outings ahead as **they must bring a note** from you on the day to be able to leave our school grounds ... please no phone messages or text messages.

SPORTS TEAMS / PE PROGRAM NEWS ... Mrs C Wilson / Mr S Begley

CROSS COUNTRY

The meet is planned for Friday, October 13th ... 9 am - 1 pm ... at Christie Conservation Area

The coaches are: Ms Diana Wilson and Mrs Lara Sousa

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL ... Gr's 4 - 6

Coach: Andrew Downey

Wed, Oct 18th ... Pauline Johnson **at Lincoln Alexander** ... 3:15 pm

Wed, Oct 25th ... Pauline Johnson **at Rousseau** ... 3:45 p.m.

Thurs, Nov 2nd ... Sir William Osler **at Pauline Johnson** ... 3:45 pm

Thurs, Nov 9th ... Fessendon **at Pauline Johnson** ... 3:15 pm

SR VOLLEYBALL

Sr Girls Volleyball Tournament ... **Thur, Oct 19th** from 9 am - 4 pm ... Dofasco Park ... Coach Mrs C Wilson

Sr Girls & Boys Volleyball Tournament ... **Wed, Nov 15th** all day ... Westdale Secondary ... Coach Mrs C Wilson

PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

Pauline Johnson's current Physical Education teachers are Steve Begley and Connie Wilson.

They ask that parents help their students to be successful by making every effort to ensure they have gym clothing available in their lockers ready for their scheduled gym classes.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please call the school and one of our PE Teachers will be happy to get back to you at their earliest convenience.

The **ANNUAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK** is occurring across Canada this year from **Oct 16th - 20th**.

School Bus Driver Appreciation Day is Thursday, **October 19th**.

Please be sure to thank our School Bus Drivers for ensuring that your children arrive safely every day.



DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2017 - 2018

Wed, Oct 4th ... Yellow Day ... International Walk / Wheel to school Day

Mon, Oct 9th ... Thanksgiving Day

Wed, Oct 11th ... PICTURE DAY ... please be on time and give your order form to photographer

Wed, Oct 11th ... School Council Meeting ... in PJ Learning Commons at 4:30 pm

Fri, Oct 13th ... Cross Country event at Christie Conservation Area

Thur, Oct 19th ... Sr Girls Volleyball Tournament ... 9 am—4 pm at Dofasco Sports Park ... Coach: Connie Wilson

Tue, Oct 31st ... Halloween ... Gr 6 - 8 Dance ... 1:15 pm - 2:30 pm

Tue, Oct 31st ... Progress Report cards go home today



Fri, Nov 3rd ... PA Day ... Parent - Teacher Interviews today and Thursday night

Mon, Nov 13th - Fri, Nov 17th ... Anti-Bullying Awareness week

Tue, Nov 14th ... PHOTO RETAKES ... please be on time and give your order form to photographer

Wed, Nov 15th ... Sr Girls & Boys Volleyball ... All day at Westdale Secondary ... Coach: Connie Wilson

Mon, Nov 20th - Wed, Nov 29th ... Gr 7 & 8 Parent Information nights at various schools

Wed, Nov 29th ... Gr 7 Immunizations ... and Gr 8 Catch-up immunizations

Fri, Dec 1st ... PA Day

Thu, Dec 7th ... School Council Meeting ... in PJ Learning Commons

Fri, Dec 22nd ... Last Day before WINTER Break

Sat, Dec 23rd - Sun, Jan 7th ... WINTER Break ... Mon, Jan 8th ... Return after Winter Break

Mon, Jan 15th - Tues, Jan 23rd ... Secondary Option Sheet process

Fri, Jan 26th ... PA Day

Mon, Feb 5th ... KINDERGARTEN Registrations begin for September 2018

Thu, Feb 8th ... Gr 8 GRAD PHOTOS ...

Wed, Feb 14th ... Happy Valentines Day ...

Mon, Feb 19th ... Family Day ... No school

Wed, Feb 28th ... Secondary School Course selections due ...

Thu, Mar 1st ... School Council Meeting ... in PJ Learning Commons

Fri, Mar 2nd ... PA Day

Sat, Mar 10th - Sun, Mar 18th ... SPRING Break (Inclusive) ... Mon, Mar 19th ... Return after Spring Break

Fri, Mar 30th ... Good Friday ... Sun, Apr 1st ... Easter Sunday ... Mon, Apr 2nd ... Easter Monday ... No school

Tue, Apr 11th ... International Day of Pink

Sun, Apr 22nd ... Earth Day

Wed, Apr 25th ... Gr 8 Orienteering ... Christie Conservation Area

Mon, May 7th - Fri, May 11th ... Education Week

Thu, May 17th ... Open House ... 5 pm - 6:30 pm

Mon, May 21st ... Victoria Day

Tues, May 22nd ... Mon, Jun 4th ... EQAO Grades 3 & 6

Wed, May 31st ... Gr 7 Immunizations ... and Gr 8 Catch-up immunizations

Fri, Jun 8th ... PA Day

Wed, Jun 20th ... Grade 8 Graduation

Thu, Jun 21st ... National Aboriginal Day

Sat, Jun 23rd ... National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism

Thu, Jun 28th ... Last Day of School

Fri, Jun 29th ... PA Day



SCHOOL CASH ON-LINE

For safety and efficiency reasons, HWDSB would like to reduce the amount of cash and checks received by our schools. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying online. It takes less than five minutes to register.

Please follow the step-by-step instructions to begin receiving email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

NOTE: *If you require assistance, select the "SUPPORT" option at the top right hand corner of the screen.*

STEP 1: Register

- ⇒ If you have not registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page <https://hwdsb.schoolcashonline.com> and select the "Get Started Today" option.
- ⇒ Complete each of the 3 Registration Steps
- ⇒ **For security reasons your **password** requires eight characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.*

STEP 2: Confirmation Email

- ⇒ A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you.
- ⇒ Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account.
- ⇒ The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.

STEP 3: Find Student

This step will connect your children to your account.

- ⇒ Verify the **School Board Name** ... Select the **School Name** ... Enter Your **Child's First Name, Last Name** and **Date of Birth**.
 - ⇒ Select "**Continue**" ... On the next page **confirm that you are related** to the child ... check in the **Agree** box and select "**Continue**"
- Your child has been added to your account.

STEP 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have **more children**,

- ⇒ Select "**Add Another Student**" and ... **repeat the steps above**.
- ⇒ Eight (8) children can be added to one parent account.

If you **do not wish to add additional children** ... select "**View Items For Students**" option for a list of available items for purchase.

Payment Methods: Three (3) Online Options

Option 1: myWallet

An online wallet that can be loaded to hold funds and pay for items on School Cash Online.

- * myWallet eliminates the need to enter payment information multiple times.
- * Simply sign into your account ... and select the myWallet tab.
- * Click Add Funds to myWallet ... and use an eCheque to load funds into your account.
- * Once the funds are available ... add all items into your shopping cart and
- * Select the myWallet payment method in your checkout options.

Option 2: eCheque

- ◇ This is an electronic version of a paper cheque used to make payments online.
- ◇ Anyone with a chequing/ savings account can pay by eCheque through School Cash Online.
- ◇ To pay with an eCheque, simply enter your routing and account number on the payment screen and click Submit.
- ◇ This option is best suited to families who do not incur bank transaction fees for each cheque/ withdrawal.

Option 3: Credit Cards

- ◆ Due to parent demand, we now accept payment by VISA or Mastercard.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

Families will still have the option to send cash or cheque for school-related expenses. However, we encourage you to get on board with our new service.

School Cash Online's top priority is keeping your personal information safe.

School Cash Online adheres to the highest industry standards of security.

School Cash Online will never contact you to obtain confidential information by phone, email or mail. Need Assistance?

Need Assistance?

If at any time during the registration process you need help, the **Parent Help Desk is available** to solve any puzzles that parents may have when using School Cash Online, or to answer questions regarding online security. Our friendly staff are available **24/7 (365 days)**. They can assist parents with:

- Registering ... Password recoveries ... Finding their children in the system ...or any checkout or payment issues.

Please contact (toll-free): **Parent Help Desk: 1-866-961-1803** or email: parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com