

❖ Queen Mary Cardinal ❖

From the Office

December 2018

Winter Conditions: Playground salting and shoveling: Our caretakers will keep a clear path to our main entrance when there is snow or ice. Our playground is not cleared which can lead to slippery conditions. The gate at the corner of Roxborough and Province will be locked in the winter for safety reasons. When our playground is very icy, we may have nutrition breaks inside for safety. Canadian winters mean that at times there may be small patches of ice, please encourage your children to stay off the ice to avoid slips and falls.

Snowballs: Throwing and kicking snow is not permitted at school. Although this starts out as fun, it is often quickly escalated to fights and injuries.

Holiday Concert: We will be holding our winter concert featuring our band, choir, and some classrooms on December 19th and 20th beginning at 1:45 p.m.. Please choose only one of these days if you would like to join us so that we can accommodate all guests.

Holiday Dinner: All students need to have their walking trip forms signed to attend the Christmas dinner on December 11th. We will not be able to take verbal permission for trips.

Lates: We know that sometimes things don't go as planned, but lately we've seen an increase in students arriving late. When a child arrives late they have often missed the start of the lesson in class and can feel disconnected to the rest of the class. Please help us avoid unnecessary disruptions by arriving on time.

Community Support at Christmas

We have reached out to both Kiwanis and City Kidz regarding Christmas support. As you might know, both of these agencies support a large number of our families though their great programs all year. In addition, these agencies provide toys and other support at Christmas. With this in mind, if you would like to donate unwrapped toys, gift cards, toiletries, food etc., we will take items to these agencies to be distributed to our community. Donations can be brought to the office. Merry Christmas!

Upcoming Dates

Please cut out this calendar and attach to your refrigerator for future reference.

Dec. 6	Civvies Day — Charity of Hope
Dec. 7	PA Day - No School
Dec. 21	Spirit Day - Christmas Sweater Day
Dec. 24 -Jan. 4	Winter Break — Happy Holidays LAST DAY OF SCHOOL IS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21st!
Jan. 7	Classes Resume at 9:00 a.m.

Holiday Luncheon

On Tuesday, December 11th, the Queen Mary PAC and parent volunteers will be hosting a Holiday Luncheon for grades 1 to 6 students at the Legion on Barton street. On Wednesday, December 12th, we will be hosting a Holiday Luncheon for the kindergarten and grade 7 and 8 students at Queen Mary. There is no cost to the students. Thank you in advance to all our volunteers and donors, your help and contributions are greatly appreciated. Happy Holidays to all Queen Mary students, staff and families.

Important Message to Parents

If a student will be late or is ill, parents are asked to call the Office at 905-547-0321 before 9:00 a.m. and ensure their child has a note to support the late arrival. Timely communication, if your child is going to be late or is ill, helps us know that your child is safe.

Nut and Banana Allergies

No dogs or other pets on school property: To support the safety and well-being of all, there are no dogs allowed on school grounds between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Valuables/Lost and Found Expensive and valuable items such as electronic devices, jewellery, and large sums of money, skateboards/rollerblades and scooters are brought to school at your own risk. Valuables (i.e. jewellery and glasses) are generally turned in to school office if they are found. Clothing items are placed in the lost and found box in front foyer.

Bikes and Scooters, Boards and Blades need to be stored properly in designated areas (i.e. racks or lockers). If you choose to bring your bike, scooter, blades or board, you are responsible for the care and well-being of it. They are not allowed to be used on school property or in our building. It is strongly recommended that a proper helmet be worn for your child's safety.

Students Attending Kiwanis After School

If your child is attending Kiwanis after school, please speak to them about remaining in the Kiwanis building, not in the park. We have had some incidents happening which are not safe for kids when they are not supervised.

Milk Program

Our milk program has started again. Tickets are available in the office for \$7.00 per card for 10 tickets. Milk will be given to the students NB #2.

Nutrition Committee

The Nutrition Committee would like to send out a sincere thank you to the staff and parents who make our Nutrition Program possible. These individuals spend hours of their time ensuring that each of our students has access to a healthy and delicious snack each day. Thank you to our parent council members

Bug Busters

Need Help With Head Lice

Visit our Bug Buster Clinics to...

- Get checked for head lice
- Receive free head lice shampoo
- Speak with a Public Health Nurse about head lice

Caregivers must bring their children to be checked to receive treatment. Bus tickets available, if needed.

Locations: Hamilton East Kiwanis

Boys' and

Eva Rockwell Centre

460 Wentworth St. N.

Tues. 3:30-5:30 p.m. Thurs. 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Girls' Club

45 Ellis Ave.



Happy Holidays

HWDSB

Winter Weather

Bus cancellations and school closures

How does HWDSB decide on bus cancellations and school closures?

- When bad weather is expected, Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS) carriers check weather reports, road conditions and road clearing, starting as early as 4 a.m.
- Based on this information, the Director of Education makes the decision in conjunction with Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board.



When do we make decisions?

HWDSB will announce the cancellation of school and board operations by 6 am based on the best information at the time.

The HWDSB Rule:

Inclement weather
+ Bus cancellation
= No school

When HWDSB cancels busing due to inclement weather, we have deemed the roads unsafe and this triggers the closure of schools. Some boards have different procedures.



What's the rule for extreme cold?

In extreme cold, buses may not start or run as expected and HWDSB may need to cancel transportation. But this **does not** automatically mean that schools will close. In 2014, Trustees gave the Director (or designate) the discretion to keep schools open when busing is cancelled due to extreme cold.



Where do I find cancellation information?

We will share this announcement in a variety of ways:

- The HWDSB website www.hwdsb.on.ca
- HWDSB's Twitter account www.twitter.com/HWDSB
- HWSTS website www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca
- Local media outlets: CBC Hamilton, CHCI TV, CHML, CKPK Brantford, Hamilton Community News, Hamilton Spectator.



Families always have a choice

A school cancellation is a tough decision - and some families may disagree with HWDSB's call. Families can always make the choice they feel is best when it comes to sending their child to school.