



# Adelaide Hoodless

October 2017

## From the Principal's Desk

**Principal:**

Nanci-Jane Simpson

**Vice Principal:**

Scott MacLeod

**Superintendent:**

Michael Prendergast

**Trustee:**

Larry Pattison



Happy October Adelaide Family,

Our first 6 weeks of school have sped by quickly. We have had a fabulous start to the school year. The students transitioned well, and have been actively engaged in their learning.

We did reorganize at the end of September. This reorganization did not result in the addition or deletion of any classes. Rather, it allowed us to remove any combined classes in the primary division to create straight grade class. This required some students to change teachers and classrooms at the end of September.

We are happy our new sign is finally in working order. This sign will allow us to share information quickly with you. We will endeavour to post all upcoming events and special days in a timely fashion.

Our depave event on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> was a resounding success! It was the largest depave every undertaken by Green Ventures in Hamilton and we are also able to boast we had the largest turnout of volunteers. We removed 2,250 square feet of asphalt in under three hours! The area has been excavated and armour stones have been set. The permeable pathway (made from recycled plastic bags) will be installed next week. Planting day is Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-3:00 pm. We will need all the volunteers we can get, so please come out and help if you are able!

If students wish to come without a parent accompanying them, they require a waiver signed by parents. Waivers are available on the Adelaide Hoodless School website or by calling the school office.

Please be advised progress reports are going home on October 30<sup>th</sup>. You will be invited to attend an interview by your child's homeroom teacher. Most interviews will take place on Thursday, November 2 in the evening and on Friday, November 3. Please note, some teachers may schedule interviews at other times to allow for longer interview sessions.

We will continue to use our school website and twitter as our main communication platforms. Our information can be found at the top of the newsletter.

Thank you for all your ongoing support and involvement. Together, we can make Adelaide the best school in the HWDSB.

Yours in education,

Nanci Simpson

**Important Dates**

October 28th—De-Pave Project Part 2

October 30—Report cards go home

Photo Re-take Day—November 2

November 2, evening—Parent Teacher Interviews

November 3—Parent Teacher Interviews

January 25 – Grad 8 grad photos

March 1 – SK grad photos

June 20th - Graduation

June 28th—Last day of School

**PA Day Dates**

Friday, December 1

Friday, January 26

Friday, March 2

Friday, June 8

Friday, June 29

**School Holidays**

October 9th

December 25th-June 5th

February 19th

March 12th-16th

March 30th-April 2nd

May 21st

## DEPAVE PARADISE PART 2

Our planting day is scheduled for Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. We will need volunteers to help us move dirt and mulch. We will also need donations of beverages and snacks to help sustain our volunteers. Any support you can provide (physical labour, snack, or financial) would be greatly appreciated.

### CREATIVE PLAYGROUND

Our creative playground is open to children in grades FDK-5 during nutrition breaks. All students in the school have received safety training and are expected to follow the rules.

Staff supervise the playground during both nutrition breaks and reserve the right to ask children to leave the area if they are not playing safely. Students are not allowed on the creative before (8:35-8:50) and after school (3:10-3:25).

We also will close the creative during wet weather or when the temperature drops below freezing. We reserve the right to limit use to the playground if we feel conditions are unsafe.

In compliance with HWDSB policy, all volunteers, including volunteers for trips and volunteer drivers, must have a current Vulnerable Sector Check to be permitted to volunteer. We recognize this can be difficult. We are including the link that provides you the information required as well as an option to complete the form electronically. You also require a letter from the school. Please contact your child's teacher if you wish to receive a letter. If the cost of VSC is problematic, please speak to your child's teacher. We never want finances to be a barrier to parent participation.

<https://hamiltonpolice.on.ca/how-to/obtain-criminal-records-check>

Cold and flu season is upon us. Please review proper hand washing procedure with your child. If your child is very ill (fever, vomiting, diarrhea) please keep them home from school.

### FOOD FOR KIDS

Adelaide Hoodless is in the second year of partnership with Food for Kids. Food for Kids provides many of our students with nutritious food to help them over the weekend and holidays.

Kindergarten parents are reminded to bring their children in through the kindergarten doors. Please do not accompany your children into the school. This makes the halls too crowded and makes it difficult for us to monitor who is in the building. We have over 125 FDK students at Adelaide. The halls are crowded and we need to ensure everyone is safe. Please work hard to be on time so you do not need to enter through the front doors. We need to maximize every minute of instructional time!

## NUTRITION BREAK PROCEDURES

All students are required to stay in their home classes during Nutrition Break #1 (10:30am-11:10). Students in grades 5-8 are permitted to go out for Nutrition Break #2 (12:50pm-1:30), however, the following restrictions apply:

- Students who go HOME for lunch may have a blanket permission form signed and on file with the classroom teacher.
- Students who want to go out to a store or area business MUST have a written, dated and signed note for each day they go out. The note must clearly identify the lunch destination (for example Subway, KFC, the Fry Truck). We will not take phone call permission. This is for student safety in the event they do not return back to school or if the school is evacuated during nutrition break. We need to know where our kids are to ensure their safety.
- Students who leave for nutrition break must leave for the entire 40 minutes. Students must re-enter through the front door. Students will not be allowed back onto the school playground with food or beverages.
- All food and beverage must be consumed prior to re-entering the school.

If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact the school.

**Important Information:****School Entry Protocol**

Student learning and student safety are two priorities here at Adelaide Hoodless. We need to ensure all protocols and processes we put in place support these priorities.

Adelaide is a large school with a growing population. The staff has spent many hours monitoring hallway and entry door activity. It is very important that everyone is aware of and follows our entry policy.

Our front doors (on Maplewood) should **only** be used if your child is arriving **after 9:00 am** or during the school day. From 9:00am-3:10pm, these doors are locked and you must ring the buzzer to gain admittance. We thank you in advance for your patience if the door is not opened immediately. Adelaide is a busy school and we are often supporting students and parents in the office, thus preventing us from answering the doors immediately. Students who travel to school via HWDSB transportation are permitted to enter through the front doors. All other students should enter through their assigned door.

The following section outlines the entry doors and protocol for each division. It is important this is followed as it allows the hallways to flow in a safe manner and allows staff to ensure all adults in the building are not posing a safety risk to our community.

**Students in FDK:**

Please enter through the FDK doors at the northwest end of the school only. It is important we adhere to this process as it keeps our FDK students safe. Entering through the playground doors poses a potential risk to our youngest students as our junior and intermediate teachers enter through these doors. Entry in FDK begins at 8:50. The doors remain open until well past 9:00 to facilitate entry.

Please note, it is very important that caregivers do not accompany their child to their classroom at entry time. This adds to the congestion in the hallway. It also makes it very difficult for staff to identify unwelcome guests. At this point in the school year, your children (our students) have the skills necessary to independently enter school and begin their day.

**Students in grades 1-3:**

Students in grades 1-3 enter through the south playground doors by the new gym. This entry allows the primary students to enter safely and travel through the halls without having to interact with our older (and much bigger students).

**Students in grades 4-8:**

Students in the junior and intermediate grades enter through the main playground doors. They have free entry and do not need to line up. Staff stays on the playground until 8:55 and the doors are locked at 9:00. If students arrive after this time they must go back around to the front of the school and enter via the front doors.

**Important:** All students who are arriving late must sign in at the office. This allows us to keep accurate attendance records and prevents you from getting unnecessary absence calls.

We understand many of you want to support your child's entry into the school. However, we need to keep our hallways safe to allow students and staff to travel through the hallways in an efficient manner. Please leave your child at the door and meet your child at the designated place on the playground at the end of the day.

We thank you in advance for your understanding, cooperation, and support in following these important protocols.

**Fundraising:**

Many of our non-academic school initiatives rely on grant funding to sustain them. Our food sales (pizza, popcorn, yoghurt, subs) go to specific purposes such as grade 8 graduation, athletics, and nutrition. Even with these fundraisers, we require additional funds to support initiatives.

We recognize that fundraisers requiring selling/purchasing of goods such as chocolate, wrapping paper, and other items poses a huge barrier for many parents.

It is our hope at Adelaide to not have to require you to engage in a formal fundraising event. We have purchased a movie license which will allow us to run movie nights (separate from the Home and School movie nights) where funds can be raised for specific purposes. Additionally, we would like to make you aware of your ability to directly donate to Adelaide Hoodless to support our programming. Many families prefer to make a one-time donation, rather than sell items.

If you wish to donate to Adelaide Hoodless School, you may do so. Cheque donations are required over cash donations for accountability reasons. We will be setting up a school cash online account for donations.

If you wish to receive a tax receipt for your donation of \$20 or more, you must make your cheque out to "The HWDSB Foundation – Adelaide Hoodless." You may specify in the memo line where you wish your donation to be directed (athletics, nutrition, student trips, playground green space). If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**ADELAIDE CLOTHING CLOSET**

Please be advised the Adelaide Clothing Closet is currently closed as the space is required for storage during construction. We are presently in consultation with HWDSB staff to explore the feasibility of maintaining the closet for Health and Safety and Fire Code reasons. Please do not leave donations as they will not be processed. Access to the closet is now restricted to HWDSB staff only.

**How do I find out what is going on at Adelaide?**

Adelaide is a big and busy school with lots of things happening. We have multiple ways to share information.

Newsletters will be sent out as needed. We try for once a month but sometimes this isn't feasible. Newsletters will be posted online and not sent home as a paper copy. This reduces paper waste and save energy on photocopying costs.

We are on social media. Please follow us on twitter Adelaide Hoodless PS @adelaidehwdsb .

Our school website is <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/adelaidehoodless/>. If you subscribe to the website, you will receive automatic messages when anything is added to the website.

Our new electronic sign is now operating! Information will be posted as required.

You may occasionally receive a synervoice (automatic phone call) to update you regarding important school events.

Ask your child's teacher! This is the best way to find out what is going on in your child's classroom.

If you still can't find what you are looking for, please call the school office at 905-549-1339.