

FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER



Bennetto
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Safe **T**rustworthy **R**espectful **O**ptimistic **N**eighbourly **G**racious

A Message from Mrs. Rowell and Mrs. Macnab

We are one month in and everyone is hard at work. Teachers have been busy getting to know their students; students have been busy reviewing from last year and adjusting to their new grade; and our first Parent Council meeting was a great success as we welcomed some new members and elected the new council positions. This Fall is shaping up to be a busy time! I encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher with any classroom concerns, or to the office with any larger school concerns. Together, we will make this a great year for everyone at Bennetto!

We are STRONG!



- ◆ Progress Reports Sent Home - **Tuesday October 29th**
- ◆ Halloween Parade and Dance - **Thursday October 31st**
- ◆ Grade 7 Immunization - **Tuesday November 6th**
- ◆ Scholastic Book Order Due - **Wednesday November 7th**
- ◆ PA Day (No School) - **Friday November 8th**
- ◆ Siblings Picture Day - **Monday November 11th**
- ◆ Picture Retake Day - **Tuesday November 19th**
- ◆ Parent Council Meeting - **Thursday November 21st at 6:30 in the Staff Room**
- ◆ Dental Screening (JK, SK, Gr. 2, Gr. 7) - **Monday November 25th and Tuesday November 26th**
- ◆ PA Day (No School) - **Friday November 29th**



School Phone Number: 905-528-6341



Email: bennetto@hwdsb.on.ca



Twitter: @bennettostrong

Bennetto Bell Times

Entry Bell: 8:50

1st Nutrition Break: 10:30 - 11:10

2nd Nutrition Break: 12:50 - 1:30

Dismissal Bell: 3:10

SafeArrival - Reporting Student Absences

At HWDSB, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all students safely arrive at school every day.

SafeArrival, a student absence reporting system, makes it very easy for families to report student absences. It also allows school staff to respond quickly and thoroughly to all unexplained absences. Our goal is to continue to have all absences explained and all student accounted for each day, knowing that they are all safe.

With SafeArrival, families report a child's absence in one of three ways:

1. Use the SafeArrival website, go.schoolmessenger.ca. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
2. Using your mobile device, download and install the **SchoolMessenger app** from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store (or from links at go.schoolmessenger.ca). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number **1-844-506-4350** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, seven days a week. You can report a future absence any time.

In addition, we will use the SchoolMessenger Communicate automated notification system to contact parents whose elementary school child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents multiple times until parents confirm and explain the absence. If this system cannot reach the designated contacts, elementary school office staff will follow up.

If you try to explain an absence using SafeArrival, but are then told that it is past the cut-off time, please contact the school directly.

If you report your child's absence in advance using either the SafeArrival toll-free number, the website or the mobile app, you will NOT receive these notifications.

Please report absences in advance using SafeArrival instead of sending notes or calling/emailing the school. Office staff will begin using the SafeArrival notifications to let you know if your student is absent (when you haven't reported the absence in advance).

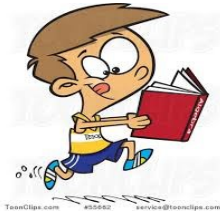
If you have questions, please speak with your school office or principal.

Book Donations

We are looking for donations of children's books that are in good condition. We have many classrooms that would like some "new to us" books for students to read while at school. If you have any books to donate that are appropriate for kindergarten to grade 8 students, please consider donating them to our school.



Running and Reading Club



Running and Reading has been postponed until further notice. We apologize for the inconvenience. We will send an update home when they become available. Thank you for your patience.

Wellness Wednesday

Wellness Wednesday will be a day of activities and games during the first nutrition break (10:30-10:50am) to promote physical activity for students in grades 1-3. There will be stations of different active games during the nutrition break, with guidance and leadership from grade 6 students. Wellness Wednesday will provide an interactive and positive play environment for kids and give grade 6 students a leadership opportunity. The program will be implemented by 4 third year nursing students who have been studying within the school community. The first day of the program will be on Wednesday November 6th. Contact Ms. Włodarczyk if you have any questions.



Halloween

Our Halloween Parade will take place on Thursday, October 31st at 1:45 pm. Students are welcome to wear costumes or dress in Orange and Black. Please note that students cannot wear their costumes to school but may change into their costumes during Period 5 (1:30 pm). Costumes should be fun, lighthearted and not too scary. To ensure the safety of all students and staff, the following items will not be permitted for this event: No replicas of weapons, swords, knives, etc., no violent or graphic costumes. Items may be worn on student's heads as long as they do not block vision.

Halloween Dance for Grade 6, 7 and 8

There will be a Halloween dance held on Thursday, October 31st for grade 6, 7 and 8 students during the third block (period 5 and 6). The cost of the dance is \$2 or a donation of 2 non-perishable food items.

