



Buchanan Park Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

30 Laurier Avenue
Hamilton, Ontario L9C 3R9
Phone: 905.387.5212
Fax: 905.387.5268

EMAIL: buchananpark@hwdsb.on.ca

www.hwdsb.on.ca/buchanan

August 29, 2025

Dear Buchanan Park families,

We are excited to welcome students back to class for the 2025-26-school year.

We are thrilled to see students, staff and families again. Each new year is a new opportunity for students to reach their full potential, make new connections and learn and grow with their school community.

A friendly reminder that the first day of school will be **Tuesday September 2, 2025**. Supervision on the playground behind the school will begin at 8:25-8:40 am. Students will enter the school from the back playground after lining up in their new classes. Staff will be outside to help anyone who had difficulty finding class information on the parent portal.

We also invite families to keep up with communications from HWDSB by [subscribing to email updates](#) or following HWDSB [on social media](#).

If you have school-specific questions, please reach out via email at buchananpark@hwdsb.on.ca or by phone at 905 387 5212.

Here are some important points to remember as students prepare for the start of the school year:

2025-2026 Buchanan Park Staff List:

Caretaking:

Mr. Wardell Head Caretaker

Ms. Lewis Afternoon Caretaker

Office:

Principal, Room 132A Ms. McLaughlin

Office Administrator Room 132 Mrs. Shapardanis

Classroom Educators:

JSA Room 131 Miss Smith DECE-Ms Demmery

JSB Room 101 Mrs. Barry-McLean & DECE- Ms Munroe

1A Room 129 Ms. Welsh



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1/2A Room 125 Mrs. Trotti

2A Room 127 Ms. Neil

3/4 Remote Room 130 Mrs. Coleman

3/4A Room 113 Ms. Kellam

3/4B Room 128 Mr. Blunsdon

4/5A Room 110 Mr. Giordano

5/6A Room 112 Mrs. Ireland

French/Prep Coverage (various rooms) Mr. Zorzetto

Prep Coverage/Library (various rooms) Mr. Calabrese

Learning Resource Teacher Room 107 Ms. Hammell

EA Staff:

Ms. Scott

Mr. Williamson (Ms. Cass LTO)

2025-2026 Bell Times

8:25-8:40 Morning supervision

Period 1 8:40-9:20 am

Period 2 9:20-10:20 am

Nutrition Break #1 10:20-10:40 (Inside) 10:40-11:00 am (Outside)

Period 3 11:00-11:40 am

Period 4 11:40-12:20 pm

Period 5 12:20-1:00 pm

Nutrition Break #2 1:00 pm-1:20 pm (Inside) 1:20-1:40 pm (Outside)

Period 6 1:40-2:20 pm

Period 7 2:20-3:00 pm



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Dismissal 3:00 pm (Back Playground and FDK Pen)

3:00-3:15 pm After school supervision

Kindergarten

Kindergarten families should have received an email once their Parent Portal account was created. If you have not received your email, please check your spam/junk folders. or contact your child's school.

Before the start of school, every new Kindergarten family (JK students only) will be notified by their school team when their child's Kindergarten orientation visit is scheduled on Tuesday, September 2. All JK and SK students will begin their first full day on Wednesday, September 3. <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/>

Nut Safe School:

Buchanan Park is a nut safe school. We want all children and staff, including those with a life-threatening allergy, to feel safe, supported, and accepted. Please be aware that there are staff and students at school who have a severe life-threatening food allergy to any food containing: ALL nuts, including peanuts, tree nuts, cashews, pistachios, hazelnuts, Brazil nuts etc. as well as egg, pineapple, and sesame.

These are life-threatening allergies that are likely to result in anaphylaxis, a sudden and severe allergic reaction that can be fatal.

We can all help foster a safe and inclusive environment by preventing such a dangerous and frightening situation at our school.

To help reduce risk, please help your child(ren) understand the seriousness of this allergy. Some children need reminders on why we do not share food with others. Please make every effort to avoid sending lunches or snacks containing exposure to ALL nuts including any that say "May Contain".

Birthday celebrations:

Please do not send food for special events such as cupcakes to celebrate your child's birthday, as this practice does not adhere to our Nutrition Policy. A book to read together in the classroom is preferred if you wish the students to celebrate along with your child.

Thank you for your support and understanding. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. McLaughlin at tamclaug@hwdsb.on.ca.

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Construction Update:

We have exciting renovations happening this year at Buchanan Park. I am thrilled to announce that we were approved for a capital project for student washroom and gym renovations and plans are also underway to create a accessible front door entrance to the school. Our student washrooms are now brand new and ready for student use next week and a new universal washroom has also been created in our junior hallway. Our gym is also being updated. A new floor, sports flooring, an electronic scoreboard, line painting, and a wall paint upgrade is underway, and a stage lift is being installed. They are installing a new projector screen for the stage refinishing the existing stage floor and replacing the light fixtures too. We are receiving washroom upgrades in our gym as well. Construction is still underway and as a result we will be using an alternate entrance from the door closest to the parking lot for entry/exit throughout the school day for a few weeks until all the work is completed. We will be using outdoor spaces for dpa and gym classes until our gym construction is complete. There will be two bins on the playground and a locked porta potty holding gym and stage equipment. Please remind your children before the first day that this is not an area for playing until they are removed. Staff will go over this with students as well on Tuesday. Please note there will not be any interaction between construction workers and students throughout the school day.

For information about **HWDSB Code of Conduct** and **Reducing Distractions in classrooms**, please click here: [Reducing Distractions in Classrooms and Schools | Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board](#)

To see the **2025-2026 school year calendar**, please visit [School Year Calendar | Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board](#)

Please find **2025-2026 Transportation information** here: [Hamilton Wentworth Student Transportation Services](#)

We know students can feel a range of feelings leading up to the start of the school year, but we are here to support their back-to-school experience. If you would like to connect with me in more detail to discuss your child(ren)'s return to classrooms and learning spaces, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Ms. Tammy McLaughlin

Principal

Buchanan Park