
Early Edition - Week of November 3, 2025

From Buchanan Park Administrator <buchananpark@hwdsb.on.ca>

Date Wed 2025-10-29 11:01 AM

To Bonnie Shapardanis [Staff] <bshapard@hwdsb.on.ca>

Tomorrow's Achievement Assembly is postponed. More info to follow next week

Welcome to an early edition of our weekly Buchanan Bees' Business. We are dropping the newsletter early as a number of families will be busy celebrating October 31st and the World Series and we didn't want you to miss the newsletter!

Some Fun Seasonal Family Ideas and Projects To Do Together

*[24 Halloween Science Projects and Experiments! - Halloween STEM | Science Buddies Blog](#)

*Halloween Movie Marathon

*DIY Indoor Candy Hunt

*Costume Fashion Show

*Halloween Baking Night:

*[Healthy Halloween Food for Kids - Happy Kids Kitchen by Heather Wish Staller](#)

*[15 Halloween Party Games for Kids | Clif Bar | Journal](#)

FRIDAY OCTOBER 31

October 31 is quickly approaching. Being mindful that Halloween may not be celebrated and/or align with some of our beliefs. We encourage students to dress in orange and black, Fall colours or costumes (**NO face masks or paint, props (swords, knives, axes, guns etc.)**). We want this to be inclusive for all students.

We will be maintaining the tradition of the parade starting at 9 am. Our hope is the parade starts promptly and we are resuming regular instruction by 9:30 am. Parents, guardians, and family members will be welcome to attend in person and line the perimeter of the playground on the grass.

We ask that no photos be taken for the safety of all students. Photos may be taken of your own child(ren) only. Classroom celebrations will be in the afternoon. Students who are comfortable taking part in the Halloween celebrations need to come to school in full costume with any makeup etc. already applied and students need to stay in costume for the duration of the day including outdoor play during nutrition breaks.

We want to ensure proper hygiene and safety with class snacks. Please ensure ALL TREATS that come into the school for the class party are pre-packaged, do not contain any nuts or may contain nuts

warning. We are discouraging the large snack items, anything that is homemade or prepared (because of allergies) and/or involve students sharing and passing around due to Covid, colds and flu season.

BIG BOX OF CARDS FUNDRAISER

Big Box of Cards will be ready for pickup on Wednesday November 5th from 10 am to 2:45 pm. Please come to the school and ring the bell. SC will be distributing your orders. If you are unable to make it that day or would like your order send home in your child's backpack, please email bshapard@hwdsb.on.ca. Thank you for supporting our fundraiser for our Student Advancement Fund from big box of cards Special thank you to SC Mom, Caitlyn G for organizing this exciting initiative.

SWIM MEET TIMERS

Thank you to parents for allowing Mr. Blunsdon to take your student to the HWDSB Swim Meet as a Timer Referee, McKenzie L, Sydney G, Meadow B, Alex H, Liliana M, Beth W.

HOT LUNCH AND SUB DAYS NOW AVAILABLE ON SCHOOLCASH

Order your students a HOT LUNCH on Mondays are Pasta Days \$6.50, Marina, Alfredo, and Butter options available. The students are saying the hot pasta lunches are delicious!

Tuesdays are sub days \$7 Veggie, \$8.50 Meatball and Chicken - tons of topping options!

Fridays are pizza days - \$2.50/slice - and always delicious!

all food is delivered at 2nd Nutrition Break. Thank you to SC Mom, Yumi H for tirelessly volunteering to offer our students nutritious ordered lunches!

Available for purchase on schoolcash. HWDSB's preferred method of payment is schoolcash. Please find the link to sign up here: SchoolCashOnline.com: Welcome If you have difficulty signing up or signing in please contact Ms. Bonnie in the school office at bshapard@hwdsb.on.ca Payments on schoolcash can be made with your debit card or a credit card. If there is an unique circumstance where you need to purchase items with cash, please send your student to the office to receive a paper order form, please send in the completed form and money to the school office. All purchases are due ONE week before food day. No late orders will be accepted.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS

[**Start2Finish**](#), a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing **education equity** and **inclusive learning opportunities** for all children.

Our mission is to help students thrive by strengthening:

- **Reading Literacy**, building confidence through accessible and engaging reading experiences;
- **Health Literacy**, promoting active living and overall well-being through fun, inclusive fitness activities;
- **Cultural Literacy**, nurturing empathy and belonging by exploring diverse stories ([Mirrors and Windows](#) concept) and perspectives that reflect every child's identity and community.

At Start2Finish, we believe every child—regardless of background, ability, or location—should have access to quality learning experiences. To that end, we are pleased to invite students from your school

community to participate in one of our **free virtual afterschool programs**:

- **Brainworx** for students in grades 1-6 [Facebook](#)
- **Junior Coach** program for students in grades 7 & 8. [Facebook](#)

Each program is designed by educators and wellness experts, combining literacy development, social-emotional learning, and physical activity in a welcoming, inclusive virtual environment.

This program is **completely free** for families and led by **trained, vetted volunteers** who are committed to creating safe and supportive learning spaces.

See flyer link attached to this email.

DATE CHANGE FOR SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The school council meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday Nov 13th at 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm due to parent/teacher interviews. We thank the SC Team for all your hard work: Kristie G, Yumi H, Janet M, Stephanie M, Miriam G, Ashleigh L, Jenna D, Caitlin G, Jade N, Helen D, Tess G, and Joseline P.

GIVING TREE

SC is once again hosting a Giving Tree Glow Event. Please bring a non-perishable food item to help support Neighbour 2 Neighbour. A cup of Hot Chocolate or Apple Cider \$2, Cookies \$1 each. Proceeds to the Student Advancement Fund. More information about the event will be sent out soon.

IDEAS CONCERNS OR ACCOLADES

Please contact Ms. Bonnie at bshapard@hwdsb.on.ca or buchananpark@hwdsb.on.ca and your idea, concern and/or accolade will be sent to the appropriate staff person.

PEDICULOSIS/HEAD LICE

If you discover head lice or nits, it is important to apply treatment and remove nits to prevent spreading to others. Public Health does not require reporting of a head lice infestation. However, if you do find that your child has head lice, please inform the school. You can also consult with a health professional to find the treatment most suitable. Treatment products will kill the lice, but not all of the nits, therefore nits must be removed by hand.

Please also note that treatment for head lice is covered by OHIP+ for children and youth under 25. To obtain covered products visit your family doctor or walk-in clinic for a prescription.

Additional information can be obtained from the Caring for Kids website at
<https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/healthconditions-and-treatments/head>

NUTRITION PROGRAM

Here at Buchanan Park School we offer a daily nutrition program. We welcome food donations that are in compliance with our Nutrition Policy (nut-free). In addition to food donations, if you would like to donate a gift card for us to use for nutrition or for a family in need, we welcome these donations. Thank you for the large donation of disposable cutlery last year to the family of Ivy N, and for this year's donation of disposable cutlery to Frida and Mia A-G family. Thank you for your generosity.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would like to volunteer for reading buddies, math buddies, our hot lunch programs, volunteer for class trips/adventures, become a volunteer driver for teams_and clubs. Please complete your **Vulnerable Sector Screening** found here: [**Get a Background Check | Hamilton Police Service.**](#)

Please only select Vulnerable Sector Check. Please note: ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST GO THROUGH THE OFFICE TO CONFIRM ANY VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES. Thank you to Nathan B, Susanne B-V, Philip B, Heather B, Nathan C, Melissa C, Jenna D, Helen D, Miriam G, Kathryn G, Tess G, Caitlin G, Amanda G, Kristie G, Stephanie H, Yumi H, Shannon K-Z, Ashleigh L, Stephanie M, Jolene M, Byron M, Janet M, Melissa M, Katherine M, Angela N, Jade N, Tavia N, Ben P, Joseline P-Q, Hailey R and Jody S for volunteering to make Buchanan Bees' the place to BEE! If you have yet to hand in your OD, please do so asap!

SPEEDING AND STOP SIGNS IN SCHOOL ZONES

Thank you to those community members who continue to prioritize our student safety and drive the posted speed limit and come to a complete stop at stop signs. We appreciate your diligence in keeping our students safe.

BIKE SAFETY

Thank you to families for ensuring our students put safety first and wear a helmet when using student powered wheeled transport to school.

UPCOMING DATES

NOVEMBER 7 - SK Vision Screening 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

NOVEMBER 13 - School Council Meeting 5:30 - 6:30 in the school library

NOVEMBER 20 - PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

NOVEMBER 21 - PD day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 25 - Photo Retake Day

NOVEMBER 26 - Giving Tree Event - Purchasing options will be available on schoolcash early November

NOVEMBER 28 - Achievement Assembly 2:20 p.m.

DECEMBER 17 - Winter Concert 11:15 a.m.

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