



## Cootes Paradise Elementary School

900 KING ST. W.  
HAMILTON, ON L8S 1K6  
TEL: 905.522.0601  
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EMAIL: [cootesparadise@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:cootesparadise@hwdsb.on.ca)  
[www.hwdsb.on.ca/cootesparadise](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/cootesparadise)  
Principal: Denise Minardi  
Vice-Principal: Sue Fox / Laurie Behr

Welcome to Sue Fox and Laurie Behr, the new CP Vice-Principals. We would like to thank Mr. Gould for all of his work with students here at CP in the fall.

Please note that the City of Hamilton has updated the **Cootes Paradise bus loading zone**. The bus loading zone extends West along Glen Road to allow for the 7 morning buses and 5 afternoon buses to safely stop for students to unload and load. We remind parents that the staff parking lot is for school and Board staff use only. Students who are eligible for busing live between 1.0 kms (JK-SK) and more than 1.6 kms (1-8) from the school. More information is available at the transportation website [http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/public\\_v2/index.aspx](http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/public_v2/index.aspx)

The **Cootes Paradise playground** is open! We encourage community use of the playground after hours and on the weekends. Please bring your children to the school and enjoy the amazing natural playground that is here at CP.

**Wesley Ontario Early Years Centres** are located at 1900 Main St W and St. Cuthbert's - 2 Bond St N. Please check the attached flyer for program schedules.  
[Calendar OEYC St Cuthberts and 1900 January 2016](#)

Parents of children in SK are invited to learn more about French Immersion as an option for their child entering Grade 1. The **Information Session for Cootes Paradise parents** is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 24 at Dundana School (23 Dundana Ave., Dundas).

The Cootes Paradise community raised about \$500 to purchase gifts and games for students and provided enough food to supply the **North Hamilton Community Health Centre** breakfast program for several months. Thank you to our parent volunteers, Lori and Nancy, for all of their work and thank you to the Cootes Paradise Student Council and students for their help organizing the food donation.

**Progress reports** will be distributed on Thursday, February 18 for all students. Parents / guardians should contact their child's teacher if they have any questions about their child's progress.

The next **Home & School / School Council** meeting will be on Wednesday, January 27 at 7:00 p.m. All Cootes Paradise community members are welcome to attend. Babysitting is available at no cost. We look forward to seeing you at this parent meeting.

Please check the **online school calendar** for upcoming events and remember to look for updates on the Cootes Paradise website - <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/cootesparadise/>. Please check your child's agenda regularly for notes and updates from his/her teacher.

Please inform us if your child will be absent due to illness, an appointment, vacation plans, etc. **Our phone lines are open 24-hours a day**, and you can leave a detailed voicemail message by calling (905) 522-0601. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

For safety and efficiency, HWDSB would like to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into schools. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying online! If you need assistance to register, the Parent Help Desk is available to solve any puzzles that parents may have when using **School Cash Online**, or to answer questions regarding online security. Please contact 1-866-961-1803 or email [parenthelp@schoolcashionline.com](mailto:parenthelp@schoolcashionline.com). Kindergarten students and students who arrived at Cootes Paradise after January 2015 will receive a custom PIN in the new year.



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Ongoing **student activities** at CP include grade 4/5 choir, grade 5 boys volleyball, grade 5 girls volleyball, Handbells, Yoga Club, Forest of Reading and Student Council activities (lunch monitors, eco-team, spirit committee), including Pyjama Day on January 28. Lunch Clubs will begin in February. Please volunteer to run or help to run one of these fun student activities.

**Snuggle Up and Read** – Celebrate Family Literacy <http://abclifeliteracy.ca/family-literacy-fun>  
Cootes Paradise invites parents of students in grades 1-3 to join us from 9-9:30 a.m. and parents of students in grades 4-5 to join us from 9:30-10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 28 to read with us. Students can wear pyjamas (as it is Pyjama Day) and bring a favourite story to read in the gym. Kindergarten students will have their own reading activity at a later date.

**Pizza and pita** forms will be sent out next month. Please note that a payment confirmation line has been added for parents who pay using School Cash Online. A separate pita topping selection form must be completed to submit to the Pita Pit for students who order a pita.

The Cootes Paradise **Arts Council** meets monthly. Please email [laura.cleghorn@gmail.com](mailto:laura.cleghorn@gmail.com) to help with one-time events, or to join the council.

The **French Language Support** (FLS) program has begun. Please contact Anabela at [anabela@centrefrancais.ca](mailto:anabela@centrefrancais.ca) or 905-547-5702 for more information. The program is open to students in French Immersion from grades 1-7 to help with homework and oral language.

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Trustees heard frank and challenging feedback from the community about how the Board can find a new direction. Now they want Hamilton to weigh in on the result. The new Board of Trustees launched a sweeping review of HWDSB's vision and focus. The [Reimagine HWDSB](#) campaign has three stages: Explore, Imagine and Launch. In the second stage titled Imagine, HWDSB invites the public to review and refine the new vision. This can be done through an online survey found at [www.hwdsb.on.ca/reimagine](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/reimagine)  
By winter 2016, our communities will assist with the third and final stage by launching a fresh new vision for HWDSB. [Find more details and have your say.](#)

Please remember that **snow stays on the ground** to build forts, snow creatures, or to make snow people shapes. This rule has been communicated clearly to students through P.A. announcements and in discussion with classroom teachers. It is routinely reinforced by staff members while on duty.

### Lunch Club Volunteers

Our winter session is about to start. We are looking for volunteers to run a lunch club once a week for any age group of students. Lunch clubs are activities the kids can do over one nutrition break, e.g.... indoor sports, chess, checkers, science, arts & crafts, lego, book clubs, etc... Volunteers will require police checks. Email Haley at [shaunandhaley@yahoo.com](mailto:shaunandhaley@yahoo.com) for more information or sign up!

### Dance-a-thon - March 11

We are looking for volunteers to sell glowsticks for the upcoming Dance-a-thon. Please email Kristen West at [kristenboulard@yahoo.com](mailto:kristenboulard@yahoo.com) to help out.

### Staff Appreciation Luncheon Mid-February

We will be hosting a potluck luncheon for the school staff. Please consider contributing a nut free and pork free dish. Contact Andrea at [andrea.rheinstadter@googlemail.com](mailto:andrea.rheinstadter@googlemail.com) for details.