



Cootes Paradise Elementary School

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Principal: Denise Minardi
Vice-Principal: Terri Trimble

Welcome to **Terri Trimble**, the new, permanent, CP Vice-Principal. We would like to thank Sue Fox and Laurie Behr for their work with students here at CP this winter. Thank you to Mlle Pattinson, grade 2/3 FI and Ms. Schinkel, FDK, for their commitment to student learning and well-being.

The **Dalewood Post-transition meeting** will be on Tuesday, March 29 at 5:00 p.m. All Cootes Paradise and Dalewood community members are welcome to attend. Babysitting is available. Please RSVP tmovre@hwdsb.on.ca or 905-527-5092 x 2673 if you plan to attend this meeting.

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

Thank you to the Cootes Paradise community for fundraising to benefit our **new families** and students. We welcomed families from Syria, Brazil, China and Somalia in the last few weeks.

The next **Home & School / School Council** meeting will be on Wednesday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. All Cootes Paradise community members are welcome to attend. Babysitting is available at no cost. Please review the attached agenda for details. We hope to see 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 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.

Farm to School Fundraiser - Support Local Farms, Eat More Veggies & Fruit, & Raise Funds for Cootes Paradise School as a portion of all sales are donated to the school!

Certified Organic Fruit & Vegetable Boxes - Small \$30 or Large \$45 - Order Weekly or Biweekly Pick Up at Cootes School, Tuesdays Starting March 22nd.

1. Go to our website www.planborganicfarms.ca
2. Click on "ORDER – SIGN UP"
3. Choose "Hamilton – Cootes Paradise Depot"
4. Build Your Veggie Box
5. Choose Payment by cheque, interac e-transfer, or Paypal

Home delivery & alternate pick-up locations available, contact the farm to make sure your order is designated to the fundraiser.

For more information or to order by phone call 905-659-2572 or email info@planborganicfarms.ca

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

The **French Language Support** (FLS) program continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please contact Anabela at anabela@centrefrancais.ca or 905-547-5702 for more information about the after-school program or upcoming summer programs.

Kindergarten registration continues for students born in 2012 (JK) or 2011 (SK) with an orientation event in early June for new families. Please spread the word so that students are registered in advance and receive FDK information in June and early September for the 2016-2017 school year.

April 13, 2016 marks the International **Day of Pink**. It is a day where communities across the country, and across the world, can unite in celebrating diversity and raising awareness to stop all forms of bullying. Students are encouraged to wear something pink on this day

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the celebration of **Earth Day**. CP encourages students to bring a litterless lunch every day and reduce, reuse and recycle. The week of April 18 to April 22, student council will organize events to help students raise their environmental awareness.

Jump Rope for Heart will take place April 29. Supporting kids' health for more than 30 years, Heart & Stroke Jump Rope for Heart encourages kids to get active by skipping rope while they collect pledges for heart disease and stroke research. The program gives children the chance to learn about healthy eating, the importance of physical activity, and the benefits of giving back to their community.

Cootes Paradise students will participate in **Music Monday** on May 2. This year features the song *We Are One* by Connor Ross. For more information check out <http://www.musicmonday.ca/>.

Cootes Paradise open house will take place on May 4. Please check the CP website for details closer to the date. There will be a barbecue on the front lawn prior to opening the classroom doors.

The **Cootes Paradise Outdoor Dream Committee** is planning the official opening for our outdoor space on May 4. We would like to thank all of the committee members for their commitment to this multi-year project. This is a special space that has transformed our school playground and the activities that take place both during and after school hours.

EQAO takes place between May 25 and June 8 for students in grade 3. Please notify the school if your child will be absent during this time so that alternate arrangements for writing can be made.

Grade 5 farewell will take place on Tuesday, June 28. Please note that with 92 grade 5 students moving to middle school next year, there will be 2 tickets issued per family. Please contact the school if you do not need both tickets or will require more than 2 tickets to help make this event run smoothly.

Wesley Ontario Early Years Centres are located at 1900 Main St W and St. Cuthbert's - 2 Bond St N. Please check the website <http://wesley.ca/children-youth-and-family/wesley-ontario-early-years-centres/> for program schedules.

Congratulations to the Cootes Paradise **swim team, checkers team and concours oratoire participants**. Cootes Paradise is proud of your outstanding performance at all of these events. We would like to thank the staff and parent volunteers who commit to supervising and driving students so that they can participate in these school board activities and competitions. We are always looking for parent volunteers to help out with the many activities here at the school, including healthy snack on Wednesdays, lunch clubs, field trips and special one-day events. Please contact the school office for more information on how to volunteer at Cootes Paradise.

Ongoing **student activities** at CP include grade 4/5 math league, Handbells, Yoga Club, Forest of Reading in French, Art club and Student Council activities. Please check the **online school calendar** for upcoming events and updates on the Cootes Paradise website - <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/cootesparadise/>. We encourage you to subscribe to the school site so that you receive regular email updates. You can unsubscribe yourself at any time.