

The Paradise Chronicle

September 2018 Edition



Welcome back! We hope that you have had a fantastic summer break and you are eager to get the year at Cootes School underway.

This year, we will continue to foster your child's strengths through their curiosity, creativity and possibility. We have an amazing staff that will help make that all happen. Through our morning announcements, students will learn more about how they can get involved in the many fun things that Cootes offers. Parents and guardians – check out our monthly newsletters and our school website for important information and upcoming school events.

Here at Cootes, we are proud of our parent and guardian volunteers for their involvement and encourage those interested to view our website and contact the school.

Please remember you are welcome to come and see us if you have any questions, concerns or simply would like to chat!

Welcome back to the 2018-19 school year – let's make it our best yet!

Mr. D. Fede & Ms. L. van derPut



Dates to Remember:

- Sept. 20 – Terry Fox Day (Wear Red and White)
- Sept. 21 – P.A. Day (No School)
- Sept. 25 – Parent Council Meeting @ 6:00pm
- Sept. 26 – Home & School Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Sept. 28 – Orange Shirt Day
- Oct. 9 – Cross Country
- Oct. 10 – Bus Safety Presentation
- Oct. 10 – Meet the Teacher
- Oct. 15 – Picture Day



On behalf of all our Cootes Paradise staff we would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new families. We look forward to working together as team with all of you!

L. VANZWOL & T. DEBOER
 L. TIRINGER & B. RAJSIC
 S. KING-RANKIN & C. PATTERSON
 N. KARGAS & A. TUTTOLOMONDO
 K. GARDNER & L. ASCENCIO
 L. FEIL, I. JOHNSTON & H. PENROD
 L. HENKEL
 S. PERSAUD
 J. MCDONALD-SULYMKA
 C. EDGAR
 S. DUMITRU
 S. HOUSTON
 A. MASTROLUISI
 S. O'BREZA
 B. ROBINSON
 W. REESON
 I. FOX
 K. LEDLIE & B. HOWELL
 K. TIRINGER
 S. FRANCIS
 C. RODRIGUE
 S. TREPANIER
 S. GALLI-LAMARCHE
 A. TITIAN
 J-M. BARRAY
 K. CAMPANELLA
 L. WANG & L. TANG
 L. DING
 N. ZHANG
 I. JOHNSTON
 K. MACKENZIE
 H. LY
 L. BOOTH & L. PURIC
 H. RUDZROGA
 S. Suzanne
 C. MORGAN & V. HEYDRICH-SWAN
 S. CARTER & A. LEDONNE
 K. CORNETT
 K. BROEMSER
 H. HARPER
 V. KEITH (LTO S. BRADT)
 T. BLONSKI
 J. VANBLARICUM
 L. DECOSTE
 G. HATHAWAY
 L. REGLISZYN
 C. MYKE
 T. GUITARD, P. FERLEYKO, N. MINIGAN
 M. TAYLOR
 M. BAINES
 L. VANDERPUT
 D. FEDE

FDK
 FDK
 FDK
 FDK
 FDK
 FDK
 Grade 1
 Grade 1
 Grade 1/2
 Grade 2
 Grade 2/3
 Grade 3
 Grade 3/4
 Grade 4
 Grade 4/5
 Grade 5
 Grade 5
 Grade 1 FI
 Grade 1 FI
 Grade 2 FI
 Grade 2 FI
 Grade 2/3 FI
 Grade 3 FI
 Grade 3/4 FI
 Grade 4/5 FI
 Grade 4/5 FI
 FDK Mandarin
 Grade 1/2 Mandarin
 Grades 3/4/5 Mandarin
 Phys Ed / Core English / FDK
 Phys Ed & Dance
 Core French & Core English
 ESL
 Music
 Library/Health/Media
 LRT
 Core English
 Reading Specialist
 Educational Assistant
 Educational Assistant
 Educational Assistant
 Educational Assistant
 Educational Assistant
 Educational Assistant
 Educational Assistant
 Educational Assistant
 Educational Assistant
 Head Caretaker
 Caretaker
 Office Administrator
 Office Administrator
 Vice-Principal
 Principal

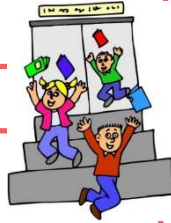


**Please note that all class
 placements are tentative
 until the end of September.**

HERE'S THE NEWS

Kindergarten Information!

Kindergarten parents please note that all JK and SK students are to go into the Kindergarten Pen during morning entry. Please do not leave them in the main playground. The Staff will be in the K pen to supervise your children every morning.



Volunteers!

Please be sure to read the Volunteer Handbook published on our website. A reminder that new volunteers must provide a Vulnerable Sector Screening Criminal Reference Check (CRC) for review, and that documentation must be completed for each volunteer as outlined in the Policy Directive. Also, all returning volunteers must sign an annual offence declaration and should begin updating their Criminal Reference Check if the three-year window is coming up.

Parent Parking

Just a friendly reminder that when you are dropping off or picking up your child at school, please do not use the Cootes Paradise Parking Lot. To ensure the safety of all our students we are asking for your cooperation in this matter.



FORMS...FORMS...FORMS

You have received and will be receiving many **"very important"** forms from the office. Please take the time to fill them out and return them to the school with your child ASAP. The first class with all their forms back will win a pizza party!

Medical Information

Based on need, your child will soon be coming home with medical forms that need to be completed i.e. asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes etc. This information will be posted in your child's classroom, the office and in the staff room so that all staff is aware. Just a reminder about **Ryan's Law** – All students who require inhalers are always able to carry them with them.

Visitors Please Report to the Office

All visitors must first check in at the office. If you need to see or pick up your child, Mrs. Taylor or Mrs. Baines will page the classroom and have the student meet you at the office. If you are dropping something off, please label the item and leave it with our office staff to avoid disruptions in the classrooms. For safety reasons, we are asking that parents do not visit classrooms on their own during the instructional day.

Student Fees

School Fees this year will include Gr. 5 Yearbook, School Lunch Days (pizza days, sub day, Lunch Lady etc.) and Picture Day Pictures, These opportunities are voluntary for our families.

Additionally, families will be asked to pay for costs associated with class trips. Although the decision to participate lies with the parent/guardian, we believe that these excursions are valuable extensions of the learning that is happening in the classroom.

In the event of a situation where a family is experiencing a hardship related to a school expense (e.g., a class trip), please contact Mr. Fede to confidentially work out a plan for participation.

DISMISSAL POLICY

All bus students will gather in the gym at 3:15 pm for dismissal.

- Students attending After School Care will continue with their regular routine.
- Bus students will line up in the gym in their respective bus line and attendance will be taken. They will then be dismissed from the gym and escorted by the teacher on duty to their bus.
- Any student being picked up will be dismissed through the back playground. Please do not stand close to the doors as it makes it difficult for students to find their families.

Please make the office and daycare aware of changes in afterschool/dismissal plans.

Indoor Running Shoes Reminder

Running shoes/boots that are worn outside bring mud and dust into the school. For P.E. & classroom activities students need to wear INDOOR running shoes to help keep the school safe and clean.



Secure School Information

During this term, Cootes School is required to conduct at least 3 Fire Drills, 1 Lockdown Drill and 1 Evacuation Drill so that students are prepared in the event of a real emergency. Please do not be alarmed if your child tells you that the alarm went off at school. This is all part of our Emergency Plan of Action.



HWDSB NUTRITION POLICY

The HWDSB has an approved Nutrition Policy set forth by the Ministry of Education. The purpose of the policy is to guide school communities in the development of healthy school nutrition environments in which everyone is encouraged to make nutritious food choices and beverage choices.

All food and beverages fit into one of 3 categories: **serve/sell most, serve/sell less and not permitted for sale or to be served.** Currently, we are in the process of evaluating the food we serve and sell to our students to ensure we are following the guidelines set within the Policy.

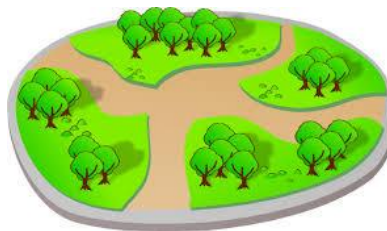
Below are **a few highlights** that reinforce the Policy & its implementation:

- Food incentives or rewards are permitted for groups, clubs or classes if it complies with the standards of the policy. For example, cakes, donuts, candy or other sweets are not permitted for classroom birthday celebrations. Instead, families are welcome to send in healthy snacks such as fruit or vegetable trays.
- Nutritional standards do not apply to food & beverages available for purchase during field trips off school premises.
- Schools are entitled to 10 Special Event Days in which food & beverages sold or served in schools are exempt from the nutrition standard outlined in the Policy. These 10 days will be planned with Staff, Parent Council and Home & School. These dates will be sent to you soon.



Churchill Park

We are excited to see that work has begun at Churchill Park! The installation of rain basins and other upgrades will make this an even better green space. Some of our activities will need to be modified during construction. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 who would like to try and qualify for the HWDSB Cross Country meet will have the opportunity to do so during DPA via a standardized process. If you have any questions, please contact your child's classroom teacher or Mrs. MacKenzie



MEDICAL ALERT

Just a reminder that Cootes Paradise is a NUT FREE School. We have both staff and students with severe life-threatening allergies to peanuts and tree nuts. Do not send any nut products to school with your child.



Bus Information

Please note: The school office is closed at 4pm and therefore there is no one to answer inquiries regarding late buses. Parents please contact Hamilton Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS) at 905-523-2318 regarding any busing issues and to check on arrival status. HWSTS regularly updates its website <https://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/index.aspx> for parents to check on the status of their child's bus. Parents can also visit the website to access the Parents Portal tool, an information tool to provide parents / guardians enhanced information and features such as email notifications for bus delays.



Hot Lunch!

Have a lot on your plate? No worries!

Let us ease up your schedule because....

The Lunch Lady is coming to Cootes in October.

Stay tuned for more information!



Parent School Council 2018-19

SCHOOL COUNCIL



As a school council member, you can help your council discover new and exciting ways to contribute to the education of students in your school. Education is a partnership and your involvement gives you the opportunity to strengthen that partnership, and to be part of a dedicated team working to ensure a high quality of education for all students. Your participation can make a difference!

Join us on Tuesday, September 25 @ 6:00 PM in our Library to vote for our Executive Council. Please see handout in our information packages that will be sent home shortly for nomination forms.

Welcome to the Cootes Paradise Home and School Association!

The Cootes Paradise Home & School Association is a volunteer run organization whose goal is to work with Cootes Paradise staff and students to provide the best for each student. We do this through raising funds and coordinating events for the school community such as our Outdoor Movie Night, Pumpkin Night Hike, Lunch Clubs, Silent Auction and Friday Lunches. This upcoming year we are funding:

- * two professional theatre productions
- * Artist in the Classroom for all grades
- * student trips
- * physical activity resources
- * a hydration station on the 3rd floor
- * fans for 3rd floor classrooms

We rely solely on volunteers to coordinate all of these activities and are always looking for people who can help out. To learn more, join our Facebook Group (Cootes Paradise H&S) or email Cootes.Paradise.HSA@gmail.com.

I want to get involved with the Cootes Paradise Home and School Association! Visit <https://goo.gl/forms/ha1x8011lwyAFMxs1> and let us know your interest or email Cootes.Paradise.HSA@gmail.com by Friday, September 21, 2018.

This year's Home & School Executive is:

President: Heather Harvey

Vice-President: Molly Griffioen

Secretary: Erin Lepischak

Treasurer: Kristin Korytkew

Class Rep Coordinator: Michelle Balcers

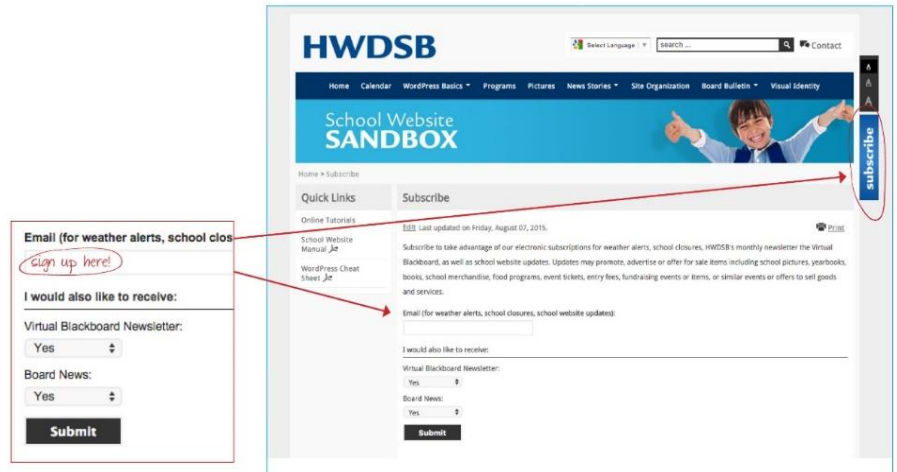


For the 2018-19 School year, Cootes Paradise will continue to communicate with families using our website.

Please subscribe to receive updates at:

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/cootesparadise/>

Subscribers receive an email notification when we post updates to our website. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of any notification emails.



Most updates are about school and/or board initiatives and activities, including newsletters. Updates may promote, advertise or offer for sale items including school pictures, yearbooks, books, food programs, event tickets, fundraising events or items, or similar events or offers to sell goods and services.

remind is a fantastic App to keep you notified of important events and reminders in our school!

Join our Cootes Paradise School Parent Community!
Download the Remind App to receive school reminders directly to your phone. To join, simply go to:

<https://www.remind.com/join/cootes>

