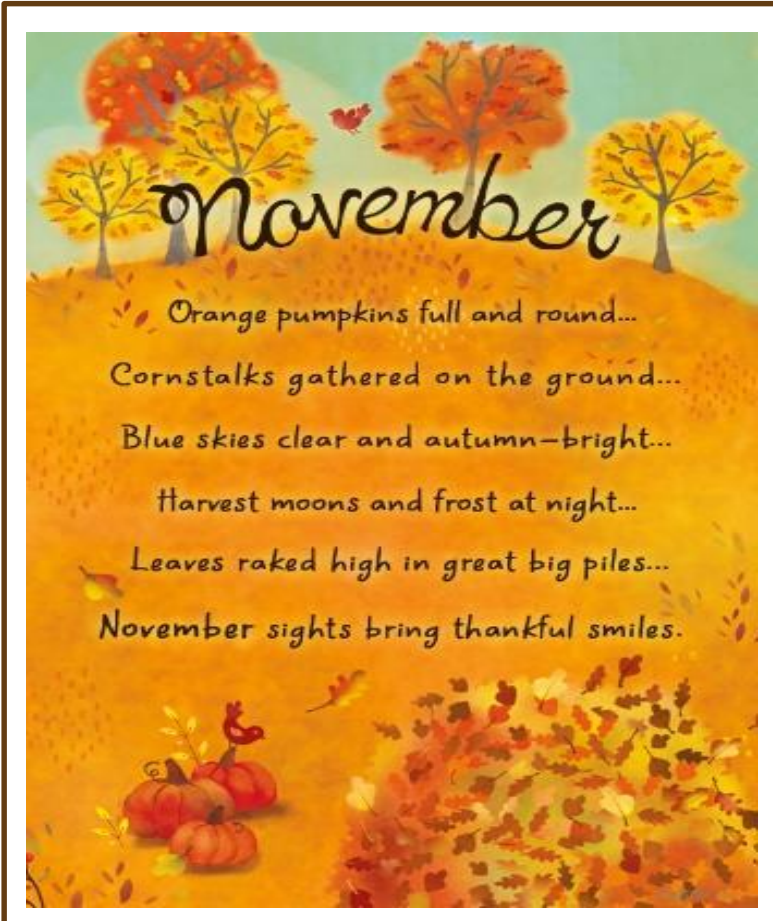




The Cootes Chronicle



Progress Report Cards

Progress Reports were sent home on Oct. 29th! This is a great opportunity for you and your child to celebrate their accomplishments, and review some next steps and to set some goals. Thank you to everyone who took time to meet with teachers on Nov. 7th & 8th for parent/teacher conferences!



Dates to Remember:

- Every Wednesday – Lunch Lady
- November 1 – Pizza Day
- November 7 – Aboriginal Veteran's Day
- November 7 – Interviews
- November 8 – PA Day / Interviews
- November 11 – Remembrance Day
- November 12 – Picture Re-Take Day
- November 13 – French Immersion Information Night @ 7PM @ Cootes Paradise
- November 15 – Subway and FDK Pizza Day
- November 18-22 – Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week
- November 20 – Home & School Meeting 6:30-8:00 Child Care provided
- November 29 – PD Day

Mark your Calendars!

Winter Concert on December 5th @ 6:30 pm in our school gym!



Every year, Canadians pause on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month to honour and remember the thousands of men and women who have sacrificed their lives in military duty.

On Remembrance Day, we take the time to think about all of the men and women who have served and continue to serve during times of war, conflict and peace.

Cootes Paradise School will be honouring our Canadian Forces by holding a ceremony at 9:30 a.m. on November 11th.

CCAT Testing

Each November, Grade 4 students across HWDSB complete the Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (CCAT 7). The CCAT 7 is administered by LRTs and grade 4 teachers, in the classroom. The CCAT 7 was designed to provide an accurate and efficient measure of the abilities needed to acquire the desired outcomes of formal education. The test measures verbal, nonverbal, and quantitative skills in a multiple choice format. Test results will be used to assist with program planning for individual students and as part of the board-wide gifted screening process. No advance preparation on the part of students is necessary.

Halloween at Cootes!

It was great to see so many parents and caregivers come out and help us celebrate Halloween!

The students had an amazing time during their classroom activities and during our Halloween Parade!



Swim Team

The Cootes swim team is made up of students in Grades 3, 4 and 5. On November 5th, the team participated in the HWDSB swim meet. Our students did a fantastic job!! In both individual events and relays we were very well represented. Thank you to M. Barry for organizing this team and to all of the staff and parent volunteers for your assistance. We will have a celebration assembly in the near future.



MEDICAL ALERT

Just a reminder that Cootes 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. Thank you!

Tastebuds Snack Program

The Tastebuds Snack Program is up and running again at Cootes! Thank you to our parent volunteers Mrs. Parlar and Mrs. Steele who ensure healthy snacks are ordered and delivered to classrooms every Monday and Wednesday. Thank you also to our student volunteers Anna, Asna, Peyton and Michael who help deliver the snack bins to classes throughout our large school.

Also to our parent community: please keep bringing in your Fortinos grocery receipts from purchases made at the **1579 Main Street West location**. Parent volunteer Mrs. Oleksiak spends times adding up the amounts on the donated receipts and any funds raised from these receipts goes directly to supporting our Tastebuds Snack Program at Cootes. Last year new, sturdy bins were purchased and are now used in classrooms every Monday and Wednesday. A special thank you to Receipt Courier, Kalina who ensures the receipt envelope on our 'Parent News' bulletin board is emptied on a regular basis.



Art Gallery



Thank you to the following classes for featuring their art work on our Gallery Wall: Mrs. Ding, Mme Galli Lamarche, Mr. Hatem, Mme Ledlie & Mr. Persaud. A special thank you to our parent volunteers who set up our Gallery Wall each month!

The HWDSB Rule:

Inclement weather
+ Bus cancellation
= No school

When HWDSB cancels busing due to inclement weather, we have deemed the roads unsafe and this triggers the closure of schools. Some boards have different procedures.



Dressing for the Cold Weather

A reminder that with winter upon us, please make sure students are dressed appropriately for outdoor activities. On days where cold weather and snow are in the forecast, boots, mittens or gloves, a warm hat and a winter jacket should be worn. Snow pants may also be needed for children who often play in the snow. Let's have a warm winter!



Hello Parents, Guardians and Caregivers!

My name is Christine Bingham and I am your School Board Trustee representative for Wards 1 and 2.

As a school board trustee, my role is to maintain a focus on student achievement, well-being and equity and to participate in making decisions that benefit our board's entire jurisdiction while representing the interest of my constituents. I look forward to visiting our schools and seeing all of the hard work that is taking place by students and staff.

I'd invite you to reach out to me to introduce yourself and share any positive feedback or concerns you might have about the schools in our wards. I can be reached by email at cbingham@hwdsb.on.ca or by phone at 289-339-6902.



Lost and Found

Thank you to all parents who picked up items from the Lost and Found during Parent / Teacher conferences. All items will be donated on Friday, November 15th. If you would like to have another look, all items are in bags in our Community Kitchen.





Important Information

Student Verification Forms

Student verification forms will be sent home shortly for all students. Please correct any information directly on the form and add any additional information as necessary. **Forms are due back to the school as soon as completed.**



Try This at Home!

Are you having a hard time getting information from your child about their school day? Instead of asking "How was your day?" consider one of the following:

- Tell me about the best part of your day.
- What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
- Tell me about what you read in class.
- Do you think math [or any subject] is too easy or too hard?
- What's the biggest difference between this year and last year?
- Who made you smile today?
- What new fact did you learn today?
- Who brought the best food in their lunch today? What was it?
- What challenged you today?
- If school were a ride at the fair, which ride would it be? Why?
- If one of your classmates could be the teacher for the day who would you want it to be? Why?
- If you had the chance to be the teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class?
- What is your teacher's most important rule?
- What is the most popular thing to do at recess?
- Does your teacher remind you of anyone else you know? How?



CAA School Bus Safety Patrollers at Cootes Paradise

On October 5th Ms. van der Put and Mrs. Booth accompanied sixteen Grades 4 & 5 Cootes Paradise students to the Ancaster Fairgrounds where they received training to ensure a safe ride for all our bus students to and from school every day. The “Student Safety Patrol” program is developed by CAA and is run by the Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services, in conjunction with some of their operators and the Hamilton Police Service.



Here the students pose with Sergeant Jon Curtis, Hamilton Police Service Crime Prevention/Community Services Coordinator after completing their training and receiving their Bus Safety Patroller vests. Students are:

Front Row (L-R): Mikalyn, Joyce, Gabriel, Moataz, Yehya, Emily, Ghania, (Ms. van der Put)

Back Row (L-R): (Mrs. Booth), Ferooz, Annabelle, Tomas, Nina, Chace, Nicholas, (Sergeant Curtis), Ari, Jeremy, Tanisha

To all student bus riders: please continue to cooperate with the bus driver and our bus patrollers to ensure we all have an enjoyable, safe ride to and from school!

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 involving parents, students, teachers, principals, school boards, government, and the community. Your involvement in the council gives you the opportunity to strengthen that partnership, and to be part of a dedicated team working to support a high quality of education and an accountable education system for the children of Ontario. Your participation makes a difference!

We are pleased to announce our School Council executive members for the 2019-2020 School Year!

Co-Chairs – Isabelle DeFaria & Ahmed Abdelrahman
Secretary – Rosalee van Staalduinen
Teacher rep – Mrs. Dumitru

To prepare for our new Council, a group of parents from Cootes Paradise attended the School Council Start-Up Training held at the Hamilton Education Center. School Council Start-Up not only provided us with the opportunity to learn more about our roles and responsibilities, but also discuss with other Councils what they were experiencing. Parents described the training as very informative and eye opening.

See you at our next School Council meeting on December 18th. All meetings will begin at 6:30pm and will end at 8:00pm and will take place in the school library! Child care will be provided.

Home and School Update

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Pumpkin Night Hike last Friday! Despite a bit of rain earlier on in the afternoon, it cleared up and turned out to be a great night! The pumpkins were fabulous and the forest looked magical. Thanks to your donations, over \$2000 was raised! A portion of the funds will be donated to RBG for the use of the trail, and to the Smiling Over Sickness Foundation.

Home & School is running our Poinsettia Holiday Fundraiser - forms were sent home last week. You can order until November 22nd - order forms must be submitted on this date with payment - which can be cash, cheque or e-transfer (e-transfer preferred). Pick up date is Monday December 9 between 3-6pm in the portable. You must be able to pick up on this date, unfortunately we can not accommodate any other time.

We are looking for volunteers to BAKE for our Holiday Concert Bake Sale which will be on Thursday December 5th after the holiday concert. If you can bake please head over to our bake sale page on Facebook --- Cootes Paradise Bake Sale Bakers -- to sign up!

The next Home & School Meeting will be on November 20th at 6:30 p.m.



Is My Child Ready to Walk to School Without Me?

This is a question that crosses the mind of many parents when it comes to active school travel. Remember, all children are unique, so we must consider their individual developmental and maturity level when deciding if it is safe for them to walk to school without an adult. Children usually aren't ready to start walking to school without an adult until about fifth grade, or around age 10. Younger children are more impulsive and less cautious around traffic, they may not be able to judge the distance and speed of cars, and they often don't fully understand other potential dangers they could come across.



Until your children are ready to walk independently, continue to walk with them to and from school. Familiarize them with the neighborhood, teach them about traffic signs, street signs and directions, and model correct behaviors when crossing streets. It's also a great opportunity for some chat time with your children.

You are your child's best teacher, so keep these tips in mind when walking with your child to and from school:

- Children should walk in groups to make them more visible. If that's not possible, they should walk with at least one sibling or neighbourhood friend.
- When crossing streets, hold your child's hand and always observe the traffic safety laws.
- Observe all traffic signals and let the school crossing guard help you when possible.
- Be sure to look all ways before crossing the street and continue to watch for vehicles. Remind children to make eye contact with drivers as drivers may not always see them.
- When they start walking independently, make sure they stick to a safe route to school.
- If they need to cross any streets on the way to school, practice safe street crossing with them before they do it without you.
- Make sure they know how to say "no" if someone they don't know offers a ride, and that they yell and run for help if needed.
- Explain to them that it is not safe to use a cell phone or text while walking, which makes them less aware of traffic.
- Choose brightly colored backpacks, jackets and other accessories, ideally with reflective materials for days when it begins to get dark earlier.

Sometimes as parents, we need to take baby steps until we feel comfortable with the changes as our children grow up. Transition to this new independence at your child's own pace. Talk about the experience, and address things that didn't work. Once you feel comfortable, your children will be well on their way to developing excellent life-long habits!

Join the
MOVEMENT
ActiveSchoolTravelHamilton.ca 