



Welcome
to
KINDERGARTEN
ORIENTATION

Land Acknowledgment

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty.

The Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt represents the treaty relationship between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and Anishinaabe with respect to sharing the land and resources thereon.

The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity.

We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.

Meeting Norms

- Microphone off
- Hand up for a question
- Use the chat for questions



Introductions

Administrative Team:

- Danny Fede – Principal
- Susanna Gojsic – Vice Principal
- Ms. Marrone – Office Administrator
- Ms. Stableford – Office Administrator

FDK Educators:

- Ms. Dymant
- Ms. Wu
- Mrs. King Rankin & Mrs. Patterson
- Mrs. Henkel & Mrs. Rajsic
- Mrs. Berdula & Mrs. Harper
- Mrs. Vanzwol & Mrs. Ristic





About Cootes Paradise

- K-5 with about 650 students
- Our Grade 5 students transition to Dalewood Middle School
- English/French Immersion/Mandarin
- 2021/22 School Year there will be 7 FDK classes

Getting to know your child is our priority

- Educators observe each child to find their interests, their strengths and their learning needs
- Observation and assessment shape the play-based learning program
- Educators plan programming to meet each child's needs based on skills and strategies demonstrated
- Educators communicate with parents in many ways



Your child's day

- Full day, every day
- Nutritious snack program
- Outdoor exploration
- Variety of activity levels
- Arrival and departure
- Transportation
- Before and after-school programs (childcare)



The Kindergarten Program

- Play based
- Child centred
- Developmentally appropriate
- Inclusive
- Provides a safe and caring environment



A look at our school day

Drop off and Pick up:

- When dropping off your child, you should proceed to the Kindergarten Pen, which will be supervised beginning at 9 a.m. When the entry bell rings all the children line up and enter the school with their class.
- Dismissal is at 3:35 p.m.

Nutrition Breaks:

- Each class may follow a different nutrition schedule, please speak to your child's educators for more information. Please note that you will receive an individualized newsletter from your child's educator(s) with any specifics related to that particular classroom at the beginning of the school year. Some classes may have 1 or 2 nutrition breaks. Please provide enough food accordingly. We recommend 1 manageable lunch pail with containers that are not too difficult to open so that your child may develop their sense of self regulation and independence.
- Please include a reusable water bottle for the school day.
- Please don't send any glass containers to school. We encourage all lunches to be as litter-less as possible. Due to food allergies that exist in our school, **please refrain from sending any nut products** to school.

A look at our school day

Backpacks:

- It is important for your child to have a large backpack so they are able to carry their communication bag, shoes and lunchbox. Please pack an extra mask in case the one they are wearing becomes wet or dirty.

Change of Clothes:

- Accidents do happen so please ensure your child has a change of clothes at school. Please put your child's name on their clothing.

Parent Volunteers:

- Any parents who wish to volunteer in the school must have a police check with a Vulnerable Sector Screening completed. We encourage all parents to have this done so they can participate in all the wonderful things that take place at Cootes Paradise. Please visit the School website for more information.

A look at our school day

Shoes:

- If your child can't tie shoelaces independently, please consider buying Velcro shoes.
- We will be having Physical Education daily so running shoes are essential for your child's safety.
- Two pairs of shoes are not required, however during inclement weather, please provide appropriate footwear. Boots can be uncomfortable and unsafe in the classroom, so in these circumstances please send indoor shoes. It is recommended that your child brings a pair of running shoes to keep at school for indoor daily use; however, this is not mandatory.

Label Everything:

- Please label everything you send to school including: (clothing, shoes, backpack, lunchbox, mittens, hats etc.)

A look at our school day

Social Media:

- Cootes Paradise School has a wonderful website that is constantly updated with all of the amazing things that are happening here! You will find general school information, our school newsletters, current events, pictures, calendars, and school council information. Best of all, you can register your e-mail address and receive alerts right to your inbox when we have updated the site!
- Each Educator team may also have their own social media account that is private to the class.

Communication of Learning

- Fall - Initial Observations report
- Winter and Spring - Communication of Learning reports

Full day Kindergarten: Understanding Your Child's Reports <http://bit.ly/2V7xqxC>

Ontario Ministry of Education Kindergarten Communication of Learning Initial Observations [Board Logo](#)

Date:

Student:	DEN:	Days Absent:	Total Days Absent:
Year 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Year 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher:		Times Late:	Total Times Late:
Early Childhood Educator:	Early Childhood Educator:		
Board:	School:		
Address:	Address:		
	Principal:	Telephone:	

Key Learning / Growth in Learning / Next Steps in Learning ESL IEP

[Comments about student learning should be entered in a font size that is clear and legible.]

ESL - English as a Second Language
IEP - Individual Education Plan

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4 Frames of Learning

The Four Frames of the Kindergarten Program



The Kindergarten
Program, 2016, p. 14

What is Kindergarten like during a pandemic?



How can you get involved?



- Attend our school events
- Volunteer
- School Council
- Attend parent/caregiver/educator conferences
- Join an HWDSB advisory committee

Roles in a school community

- Parent/caregiver
- Teachers and Early Childhood Educators
- Educational Assistants
- Learning Resource Teachers (LRT)
- Principal
- Community Partners
- Speech-Language Pathologists





YMCA Before/Aftercare Program



- Hours: 7am – Morning bell & Afternoon bell – 6pm
- Age Groups: 3.8 to 12 years old
- Ratio: Full day kindergarten 1:13, School Aged 1:15
- Email contact: hamilton.sacc@ymcahbb.ca
- Registration link: [https://www.ymcahbb.ca/Programs/YMCA-Child-Care/School-Age-Child-Care-\(SACC\)](https://www.ymcahbb.ca/Programs/YMCA-Child-Care/School-Age-Child-Care-(SACC))
- Subsidy link: [Apply for Financial Support for Child Care | City of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada](#)

Preparing for September

1. Read with your child.
2. Talk about school and about your child's teacher's name.
3. If your child is ready, and you are beginning to write with them, please ensure you teach your child to print their name correctly (All lower case letters, except the first).
4. Allow your child to experiment with crayons, scissors, glue etc.
5. Practice packing and unpacking their lunchbox and backpack.
6. Practice dressing independently.
7. Help your child develop independence when using the toilet, washing their hands, and coughing into their upper arm.
8. Bus Travel: if your child will be taking the bus, introduce them to the stop and try to attend the Bus Safety Session that is usually offered in the summer.
9. Practice proper hand hygiene and how to put on and take off a mask.
10. Be excited with them!!!



The **COUNTDOWN** to the **first day** of school!

- Visit your family doctor – immunizations
- Get a vision test – free eyeglasses in JK year: hwdsb.info/2PRmreS
- Address speech concerns – Early Words: hwdsb.info/2Rszrlo
 - *(Referrals only possible up to August 31 of a child's first year in kindergarten).*



Resources:

- Attend a Check It Out Clinic: hwdsb.info/2SrbfXe
- Review the FREE LookSee Developmental Screen: www.lookseechecklist.com
- Summer – play groups, sleep routines, independent skills
- Find resources at www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/

We look forward to meeting you and your child!

