

# Dalewood Golden Hawks

Jan/Feb 2018

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. The extremely cold weather remains with us, and while there is no sign of a change any time soon I'm crossing my fingers for an early spring.

Thank you to all those who contributed to our very successful **food and clothing drives**. Your donations were much appreciated.

The first **report card** will be sent home on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

The **School Council meeting** scheduled for Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> has been rescheduled for Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m..

Our **school improvement** focus is on types of formative assessment and their impact on student learning. Formative assessment is on-going feedback given to students as they work their way through an assignment. This type of assessment has been demonstrated to have significant impact on student learning. It contrasts with summative assessment which occurs at the end of a task or assignment. By providing feedback as students work their way through

an assignment, teachers are able to more clearly understand student thinking and therefore anticipate student responses and provide more timely and specific interventions.

Eddie Grattan

### Free Academic Tutoring

Offered by McMaster University Students

Smart Steps is a tutoring organization aimed to assist students grades 1-8 in the Hamilton community.

As a McMaster University student run organization, we aspire to provide children with more opportunities to advance their academics.

Contact: 647-867-7345 or smartstepsmcmaster@gmail.com

More info on Facebook Page  
@smartstepmcmaster



### \*\*\*\*\*Inclement Weather\*\*\*\*\*

#### Rapid Phone Messaging for Snow Days/School Cancellation!

HWDSB is pleased to announce that it is now able to use an automated phone messaging system (called Synrevoice) to contact all parents/guardians in the event of a school cancellation due to inclement weather. HWDSB will continue to make cancellation decisions by 6 a.m. However, the Board now has the ability to quickly call every parent immediately after a cancellation is required.

Please do not call the school.



## Snow and Cold Weather

Let it snow. Let it snow, Let it snow.....

Students are reminded to dress for the cold weather. Hats, gloves, and winter coats are necessary clothing. If the weather is extremely cold (-15 Celsius without wind chill), students will be kept inside. Our policy at Dalewood School is snow stays on the ground. Students can roll the snow, make snow angles, etc.. But picking up the snow leads to throwing snow. We enforce this rule because the safety of our students comes first. We do not want anyone to be hurt from a flying snowball.

Staff from the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board will clear, salt and or sand an area outside of entrances and Fire Exit Doors. When there is an accumulation of 5cm of snow, parking lots and sidewalks are plowed by approved contractors arranged through Facilities Management. General salting and sanding of the parking lot is also done by contracted staff prior to commencement of the school day when deemed necessary by the Facility Management staff. Head Caretakers may salt or sand isolated areas on the parking lot on an as needed basis. Playgrounds will not be plowed or otherwise cleared. Head Caretakers will check the conditions of the grounds early in the morning and during the school day



## DALEWOOD SCIENCE FAIR

Dalewood Science Fair is quickly approaching; it will be held at Dalewood, on Thursday February 8th, 2018, from 3pm to 7pm. Several grade 7 and 8 students are in the midst of preparations for the Science Fair. Students are encouraged to discuss their projects with their Science teachers, and to share with them their project Journals and Notebooks. Please remember that the journals and notebooks contribute 20% to the projects evaluation.

For further details of the project evaluation and other key information please see the Dalewood Science Fair Website at: [www.sites.google.com/site/mrsdiaconswebpage/dalewood-science-fair](http://www.sites.google.com/site/mrsdiaconswebpage/dalewood-science-fair).

Dalewood Science Fair participants are asked to make transportation arrangements for their return home after the fair; in the past the fair ended at 6:30pm/ Science Fair is a wonderful opportunity for students to expand their Science horizons. Have fun and best of luck.

Mrs. Diacon and Mme. McAuslan



## **THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP**

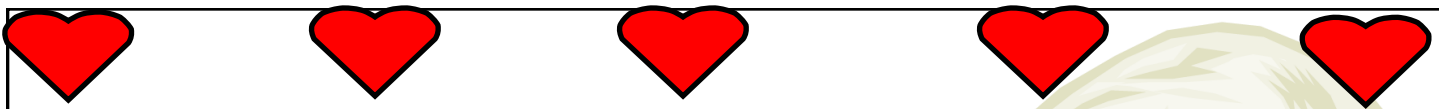


**The IEC of Hamilton is excited to have teamed up with CAPE (McMaster Community Advocacy through Partnership in Education), as this is yet another fantastic reach ahead opportunity, allowing our ABACUS students a platform to continue to explore educational and career pathways. We are pleased to announce that an exclusive opportunity to participate in a new pilot initiative has been offered to our Dalewood school community.**

**This student group from IEC/McMaster works with community partners to listen and understand the needs of Hamilton students in order to create, build and implement engaging educational programming.**

**The goal is for McMaster students to share their academic and personal aspirations, with your students, in hopes of further sparking interest in post-secondary education. This as a fantastic opportunity to create linkages and further insights into our students "All About Me" or "Individual Pathways Plan" portfolios.**

**Further details to come in March 2018.**



Valentine's Dance - February 14th in the afternoon.  
Swimming is available for those who do not wish to dance the afternoon away.

### **SCHOOL TRIPS**

#### **OTTAWA**

We are still finalizing numbers for the grade 8 trip to Ottawa June 12-14, 2018. It is not too late to sign-up! Please contact Mr. Martindale (pmartind@hwdsb.on.ca) for more information. Once we have final numbers, we will be able to finalize the cost. The cost will be \$500 or just a bit less. More information will be sent home early in February and check the Dalewood website for updates.

#### **SECOND CITY**

Second City Trip for 8A, 8B, F78 & F8 on February 21st - all day

### **THE FOREST OF READING PROGRAM**

Dalewood Community,

'Forest of Reading – The Forest of Reading program has been licensed for students at Dalewood.

This is the largest recreational reading program where readers select the winners. We have the books we purchased for the Forest of Reading 2018 for Grade 6 Silver Birch and Grade 7 & 8 Red Maple. The vote is in April. All votes by our students need to be entered by April 30th via online.

Students are welcome in our Learning Commons at lunch to read the books or sign them out via Ms. Coburn. Please visit the official website for student activities at <http://forestfestivaloftrees.ca/>

Linda Coburn

### **GRADE 8 OPTION SHEET NIGHT**

Parent Option Sheet Information evening at Westdale Secondary School on Wednesday, January 17 from 7-8:30pm. Parents will receive information about their child's course selections for next year.

Westdale Guidance Teachers will be at Dalewood on January 25 to discuss course selection with students.

### **Investigate! Invent! Innovate!**

It is with great excitement that we announce Dalewood's involvement in I3 – Investigate! Invent! Innovate for a 2nd year!

I3 is an integrated science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) program for students in Grades 7 and 8. The goal of I3 – Investigate! Invent! Innovate! is to instill a passion for science, technology and mathematics to foster innovative thinking. Students identify problems in their daily lives and invent products or processes to solve those problems based on concepts they learn in class. The program culminates with annual Invention Conventions held in various cities across Canada. We are also building our community relationships by working with Learning Partnership: advancing public education in Canada @TLPCanada

Note: all students at Dalewood in grade 7 & 8 can participate. Regular meetings will take place at lunch in the Learning Commons and some classes will be given time in class to work on this project. (If you are in grade 6 and are interested, see Ms. Coburn to be granted the privilege of participating.)

Please join us via Twitter @Dalewood\_HWDSB, the HUB (with a student login) or on our school website <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/dalewood/> in the News section to follow our journey.



## Sport Shorts

### Curricular...

Our students have started their basketball unit and later in January will begin their Substance Use and Addiction and Related Behaviours unit. The next units are dance and gymnastics.

### Extracurricular...

Boys and girls Senior Basketball will begin in early January. Please listen to the announcements as to when your practices and games will be.

### Intramural Basketball...

Any students who would like to participate in Intramural basketball are asked to listen to the announcements for information on the league. The season will start in early January run until the end of January.

### Reminder for Bad Weather for gym classes...

With the changing weather, we are asking students to please bring an indoor pair of running shoes to participate in Physical Education class. As we share our facilities with the Recreation Centre and for the safety of our Dalewood students, we must take pride to keep our area safe and tidy for all.

**Wash your hands!**  
**Sneeze/Cough into your elbow!**

This time of year we see an increase in illness with our students. Students are encouraged to wash their hands frequently at school. Most illness is avoided with proper hand washing technique and proper cough/sneezing protocol (sneeze and cough into your elbow). Please remind your child(ren) about these important prevention practices.



## Boyhood (2014)

Boyhood is a one-of-a-kind movie. Made over twelve years (yes, twelve!) it focuses on the childhood and adolescence of Mason (a six-year old boy when the movie starts and a college freshman when it ends). The story is told from Mason's point-of-view, and while ostensibly a fictional account of his life, it assumes a certain real-life realism, not a realism of documentaries (this really happened) or a realism mediated through pure acting (I'm pretending this did happen) but a realism of actors acting out in a modified way what they have experienced in their own lives.

Each year, prior to filming, the director, Richard Linklater, would meet with the main actors individually to discuss what was happening in their lives and how they were coping. These personal stories would then be woven into that year's storyline. Through this technique the movie manages to convey an authenticity lacking in a purely fictionalised account.

The film follows the lives of Mason, Samantha (his sister, played by Lorelei Linklater, Richard Linklater's daughter), and their mother (played by Patricia Arquette, who won an Oscar for her performance). As the movie opens mum is on her own raising the children. Dad (played superbly by Ethan Hawke) has left as he is unable to handle the strictures of domesticity and so "fathers" from a distance, seeing his children on occasional weekends and holidays. Over the course of the movie mum works, gains an education, and remarries (twice), in both cases to men with serious personal issues. Mason, while obviously an integral part of these events, also at times appears to be a disinterested observer, ruminating philosophically on what he's witnessing. In this sense he contrasts with his father, whose more pragmatic philosophy of life often serves to bring Mason and his sister back to earth. As the father provides the intermittent philosophical sound bites, mum soldiers on, struggling to keep the family together while trying to develop her own career, in the process demonstrating the struggles and successes that come with being a single parent.

## Exciting Science and Engineering Opportunity for Middle School Students:

STEM Hacks 2018.

About STEM Hacks 2018

STEM Hacks is a one-day hackathon competition in which teams of middle school students are challenged to complete a science or engineering project for a chance to win prizes. STEM Hacks takes place at McMaster University and is open to middle school students from all over the Golden Horseshoe. It is the only event of its kind that gives young people (ages 10-14; grades 5 - 8) a chance to perform, compete and excel in a hackathon styled environment with their peers, and brings many students, their parents and educators together to celebrate science, engineering and innovation. At STEM Hacks, participants first learn all the content and skills they will need to solve their challenge, and are paired with a McMaster University (or equivalent) mentor who assists in their design process. Upon developing their "hacks", students present to a panel of judges and at a grand closing ceremony, their projects are demonstrated and prizes are awarded to the best designs! Participants are graded on the breadth of their knowledge, their level of technical understanding .

### **Event Details**

Date: **January 27, 2018**

Time: **9:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

Cost: **\$25.00 per student**

What's covered: **Cost of buffet breakfast, buffet lunch, unlimited snacks and access to ALL equipment, supplies and technology required.**

Teams: **Students can register individually OR as part of a team**

Location: **McMaster University, Burke Science Building**

Website: [www.stemhacks.net](http://www.stemhacks.net)

Deadline to Register: **January 19, 2018**