



Dundana Elementary School

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PRINCIPAL: S. JOHNSTON

September 2015 Newsletter

September has been a busy month at Dundana with student making new friends, getting to know new teachers and of course learning. Our school numbers have increase slightly which has required some of our students to move classes, thank you to all of the families who assisted their children in this transition. We will be welcoming a new ECE (Early Childhood Educator) to Dundana as Ms. Sklarchuk's class moves from a class with a cap of 15 to a cap of 30. As well, Mme Harper's class has become a grade 2/3 from a straight grade 3 class. Our computer room has now become a classroom and this has allowed more technology to be placed in each classroom which support our students as we move to inquiry based learning promoting higher order thinking skills and problem solving.

School Safety – Office Check-In

Just a reminder that all caregivers must check in at the office when entering the school. Please do not enter the school to drop off your child or to pick up your child without checking in at the office.
Thank you in keeping all of our student's safe at Dundana.

We are a Nut Sensitive School

Parent and/or students are asked to carefully read labels of all food items that are brought to school to ensure that they **have no traces of nuts or nut products**. Many products now carry a clearly marked "Nut Free" logo.

Dressing for the Weather

Just a reminder that students will be going outside unless there is extreme cold or rain. Students may go outside during these days for a shortened period of time. Please remember to send your child with appropriate clothing:
-hat, gloves, boots, snow pants, winter coat, raincoat etc.

Cars Idling

Please help out with the air quality around Dundana, if you have stopped at the school please remember to turn off your vehicle.

Communication with Your Child's Teachers

If you have questions in regards to your child please don't hesitate to write a note in their agenda.

Temporary Excusal from School

Just a reminder that if you will be on an extended holiday and your child will be off for an extended time, please come into the office to complete a Temporary Excusal from School form.

Pets on School Grounds

Please do not bring any pets onto school grounds. We need to ensure the safety of all of our students, staff and community. Thank you for your cooperation.

Anaphylactic Management Plan

If you have not completed the appropriate paper work to ensure the safe administration of epinephrine please pick up a form from your child's teacher or the office. Once your Dr. has completed this form your son/daughter's Anaphylactic Management Plan will be completed. **These plans must be updated each school year.**

Parking Lot

Just a reminder to all parents, if you are dropping your child off at school we ask that you do not park in the parking lot or stop in the emergency stopping zone. This is becoming a safety issue for our students. All students should be picked up and dropped off on the playground where students are supervised with staff members. Thank you for your continued support.

Attendance

Regular attendance and punctuality are very important habits and routines for all students. There is a direct correlation between regular school attendance, positive work habits and enhanced student achievement. Consistent with the Safe Arrival Check Policy of the HWDSB, it is the parent's responsibility to inform the school when a child is going to be late or absent. Please call and leave a message at any time (905-628-2622) with your child's name, teacher, grade and the reason for their absence.

Agendas

All students in grades 1-5 will receive a Dundana Agenda. This is a great tool to help keep the communication between home and school open. Agendas should be taken home and returned to school every day. Included in the start of the agenda are a number of important pieces of information. Please take a few minutes to review these pages with your child(ren).

Milk Sales

White and Chocolate Milk is for sale every day during second break in the gym.

Cost \$0.65 each or student can purchase tokens for:

5 for 3.25, 10 for 6.50, 15 for 9.75, 20 for 13.00, 30 for 19.50

Personal Electronic Devices

Students may use their personal electronic devices outdoors during nutrition breaks. At all other times, these must be turned off and put away. **Taking pictures or video using any electronic device is strictly prohibited, unless part of instructional program under the guidance of a staff member.**

Students may only use these devices outside, or if a teacher asks students to use them for instructional purposes only.

Please note: The school is not responsible for loss or damage to any personal electronic devices.

It is a parental choice to allow their child to bring an electronic device to school.

School Council News

School Council meeting dates for the 2015-2016 School Year:

Oct. 14th

Nov. 11th

Dec. 9th

Jan. 13th

Feb. 10th

March 9th

April 13th

May 11th

June 8th

Dundana's School Council has started up a Face book page and Twitter account. Please take a moment to visit both areas.

<https://www.facebook.com/DundanaSchoolCommunity>

<https://twitter.com/dundana4ourkids>

Canadian Parents for French

CPF is volunteer-run, non-profit organization advocating for and promoting French language education, and supporting French-language cultural events. **Follow our Hamilton-Wentworth chapter on Facebook or Twitter** for helpful language learning information, videos, and for news about what CPF is doing to promote French learning opportunities. Also visit: cpfhamilton.ca
Next meeting of CPF: Thursday, October 13th, Hamilton Public Library, Terryberry branch (Mohawk & West 5th), 7–9 pm. The Hamilton-Wentworth chapter meets every second Tuesday of the month. Join us, everyone welcome!

Volunteer opportunities! We are also looking for volunteers to organize and run local events — we have great ideas yet need a bigger crew! hamiltonCPF@gmail.com

Story Time in French, for children 2-7. FREE, Saturdays 11–12 at the Hamilton Public Library, Westdale & Locke St. branches. No knowledge of French is required. Organized by HPL and Le Centre Français Hamilton. For more information, visit centrefrancais.ca

On the radio: FRENCH TOAST for all things French in Hamilton, connecting McMaster's French Department and the Hamilton French-speaking community. Mondays 4–5pm, on CFMU 93.3 (<http://cfmu.msumcmaster.ca>).

French-language movies (with English subtitles):

World Film Festival, Art Gallery of Hamilton, October 16–25: aghfilmfest.com

Looking for more events and activities in French?

Le Centre Français Hamilton just released their upcoming schedule of concerts and events for 2015–2016. Follow them on Facebook or visit centrefrancais.ca

The Alliance Française in Toronto offers a wide variety of cultural events: www.alliance-francaise.ca/en/

Bell Times 2014-2015

Dundana's bell times will remain the same for the 2014-2015 school year

Start time: 8:55 AM

End time: 3:15 PM

**please note that supervision on the playground begins at 8:40 am until the entry bell and ends at 3:30 pm after dismissal.

Violin & Cello Lessons

Registration forms for the Strings program are available in your school office or on HWDSB website.

The strings program is only available in selected schools for students enrolled in grades 4 to 8. The lessons take place at school and instruments will be provided for the time students are enrolled in the program. Please check the registration form and the website for more information. Information and registration forms are available at the school office.

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/cce/youth-programs/strings/>

Piano Instruction

We've had a wonderful response to the piano instruction program offered at Dundana this year! Small amount of space is available for beginner students from grades 2 to 5 who might want to join in. This will be offered on a first come first served basis, with other interested students placed on a waiting list. Please call Mrs. Janssen at 905-627-8075 or email miriamrjanssen@gmail.com for more information. This is not a board supervised program.

**Dundas Public Library "Homework Help Club"**

The public library offers free homework help Tuesdays at 4:00 and Sundays at 1:30 starting Oct 13th.

Children are matched with volunteers who assist with their homework needs. Students can bring their homework or practice their reading skills with a volunteer. Literacy and numeracy related activities and games for fun learning are also available.

Drop-in participation are welcome. Homework Help Club is open to children who are in Grade 1 to 6. For more information please contact the Public Library.

Mabel's Labels

Just a reminder if you are ordering Mabel's Labels for your child(ren), please indicate that you are associated with Dundana School.

Busing

If you have a question if a bus is running late please contact the carrier listed below for your child's bus.

Routes 6102 and 6157 (Bus 1) - Attridge-905-690-2632

Routes 6219 and 6166 (Bus 2) - Attridge-905-690-26323

Route 6132 (Bus 3) - Attridge-905-690-2632

Route 6017(Bus 4) – Sharpes - 905-679-0001

Route 5006(Bus 5) – Sharpes - 905-679-0001

Lunch Wizards

Once again Dundana students will have an opportunity to order Lunch Wizards. Order forms will be sent home in the coming week for October's dates. Please note we cannot accept late orders.

October 14th and 21st

March 23rd and 30th

November 4th and 25th

April 20th and 27th

December 2nd and 9th

May 11th and 18th

January 20th and 27th

June 8th and 15th

February 17th and 24th

Pizza Days for 2015-2016

Sept 25

Feb 5, 19

Oct 9, 23

Mar 4, 24

Nov 6, 20

Apr 8, 22

Dec 4, 18

May 13, 27

Jan 8, 22

June 9, 24

HWDSB 2014-2015 School Calendar

The 2014-2015 school year calendar is available at: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/schools/calendar/>

Upcoming Dates for 2015-2016

Oct. 8th – School Photos	March 14-18th – March Break
Oct. 12th – Holiday – no school	March 25 th & 28th – Holiday – no school
Nov. 10th – Photo Retake day	May 3rd – Open House 5:30-7:00
Nov. 27th – PA Day – no classes	May 5th – FDK (SK) Grad Photos
Dec 15th – Holiday Lunch	May 13th – Volunteer Tea
Dec 17th – Holiday Concert	May 23rd – Holiday – no school
Dec. 21st – Jan. 1 – Holiday Break	June 10th – PA Day – no school
Jan. 4th – Classes Resume	June 24th – Play Day
Jan. 29 – PA day	June 27th – G5 Celebration
Feb. 15th – Family Day – no school	June 29th – Last day of Classes
Feb. 26th – PA day	June 30th – PA day

Please see Dundana's Web site <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/dundana/> for additional dates throughout the school year.

Nutrition Policy Non-Compliance Days for 2014-2015

Oct. 31st, Dec. 19th, Feb. 12th, April 2nd, June 19th, 22nd, 24th, 25th

Spirit Days for 2015-2016

October 23rd – Jersey Day or your Favourite Team

Colour

November 26th – Hat Day

December – 11th – PJ Day

January 8th – Beach Day

February 12th – Red and Pink Day

March 11th – Crazy Hair Day

April 13th - Day of Pink – Anti Bullying Day

May 20th – Mismatch Day/Wacky Outfit Day

June 17th – Canadian Colours or Canadian Clothes Day

***PLEASE NOTE THAT MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEB SITE AND HARD COPIES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE IF NEEDED. TO REDUCE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT NO HARD COPIES WILL BE SENT HOME. YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES FROM THE SCHOOL'S WEB SITE IF YOU WISH.