



# Dundana Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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## November Dundana Newsletter

### **Principal Message**

A year like no other: we've all heard that statement repeatedly the last several months. Our school year has also been anything but typical. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we have worked through all of the new protocols and procedures, as well as two re-organizations of classes, students and educators this year. We are pleased to welcome a number of students back from remote learning this month. Welcome back! We've missed you.

You've recently received a progress report on your child's learning thus far and families will have an opportunity to more formally discuss your child's progress with educators at the end of this month. It is exciting to see how, despite everything, students are still engaged in so much learning and that our educators are finding new ways to teach students.

Trying out innovative ways to connect, learn and engage is keeping all of us at the school busy this year. We'll continue to adjust practices as we gain new insight into what works, and as we balance with constantly evolving direction from Public Health and our Ministry and School Board. If you have any questions about your child's programming or how he/she is doing, please reach out to the educator for more information. If you have any questions about current school protocols and procedures, please reach out to Mrs Keery Bishop.

### **School Council Update**

Our school council volunteers met in October to form our council for this year and to set meeting dates for the year. Your Council executive is: Chair – Simon Carroll, Treasurer: Gillian Petersen, The Members At Large are: Jessie Blake, Sara Brown, Lauren Dukas, Salma Elmansy, Naomi Foster, Heather McCully, Rebecca Pallister and Leora Sas Van Der Linden. Meetings this year will be conducted online using MS Teams. Any parent/guardian is welcome to attend any meeting. You would just need to email Mrs. Keery Bishop at [kkeerybi@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:kkeerybi@hwdsb.on.ca) to have your electronic invitation sent to the upcoming meeting. Our meetings are set for: December 2, February 3, April 7 and June 2 at 6:30 p.m. At our first meeting, the new council voted to approve sharing the cost of a second, much-needed bike rack for our Dundana playground. We are eagerly awaiting the bike rack's arrival. Thank you, council, for your continued support of our students!

### **Remembrance Day**

This year, our students will be participating in our Remembrance day assembly virtually from their classrooms. The Royal Canadian Legion has again supplied poppy stickers and pins for us to distribute to students, with some safety procedures in place. Unfortunately, we aren't able to accept money donations for the poppies within the school this year, but should you wish to make a donation to support this organization, please consider donating online at: <https://www.legion.ca/donations>



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## School Spirit Day

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, we are hosting our latest School Spirit day. On this day, we invite students (and staff) to dress as their favourite superhero. It could be a typical superhero or it could be someone you admire and think of as a superhero. We can't wait to see all of our heroes here at school.

## Procedure Reminders

Dundana educators begin supervision duty on the playgrounds at 8:40 a.m. Prior to that time, only students enrolled in, and being supervised by, Umbrella Before and After Care personnel are permitted on the playgrounds. At the end of the day, supervision ends at 3:30. Please make arrangements to ensure your child is picked up by that time.

With heightened restrictions to the building and increased workloads on office staff, please remember to try to minimize the number of entries and exits your child has at school that fall outside of our regular entry time of 8:55 and exit time of 3:15. Please also note that as only office staff are available to supervise the entrance and release of students coming and going at atypical times, you may need to wait for some time for your child to be dismissed to you. The frequent disruptions to our classrooms are impacting the instruction and learning for all of the students in our classes.

As the weather turns, don't forget to send appropriate gear for the weather! Our students will be going outside frequently this year to provide mask breaks and to increase programming opportunities in some subjects, such as physical education and music. All students need to have clothing that can keep them warm and dry. Students will not be able to stay inside while their class is outside for instruction or recess. If your child is prone to landing in puddles frequently, please feel free to send in a ziplock bag of extra clothes labelled with your child's name to the classroom teacher for safe keeping.

## Calendar of Events

November 9, 10	Onkwehonwe Games workshops for classes F5A, F45A and 45A
November 9-13	Bus Safety Presentations (virtually, in class) for all classes this week
November 11	Remembrance Day Assembly (virtually, in class)
November 20	Spirit Day – Superhero Day
November 20	Monthly Awards Assembly (virtually, in class)
November 27	PA Day. No School for Students