



Earl Kitchener Elementary School

Earl Kitchener Families!

March 2020

Hello all!

Please take a few moments to read through the information in our March 'newsletter'. Additional information regarding events and/or dates is available here online as well ...

Some upcoming dates to remember;

- **Home and School (7:00 – 8:00) and School Council (8:00 – 9:00) meetings** ... all are welcome on Tuesday, March 10th.
- **PD Day** ... Friday, March 6th (no school for students).

Also;

Gym shoes ... just another reminder that with the arrival of winter, it is important to note that that wet shoes and boots cannot be worn in the gym (safety). Please remember to send your child to school with running shoes in order to ensure that they are able to actively participate in Phys-Ed class and/or DPA each day. If possible, students are also welcome to leave an 'extra pair' at school.

LOST AND FOUND ... it is incredible how many items are added to our 'lost and found' daily! If you are able to add your child's name to any garments, we will always do our best to make sure that any items are returned.

(From Public Health) Encourage Your Children to Use Active Travel to Get to School! Walking and wheeling are healthy ways to get to and from school. Replacing car travel for more ACTIVE TRAVEL (bike/walk) can help children meet the recommended minimum of 60 minutes of daily physical activity. Trips powered by ACTIVE TRAVEL, rather than vehicles, can help to improve air quality, reduce your carbon footprint, and make neighbourhoods friendlier places. Commit to walking or wheeling to or from school even once, then build from there. Cars idling around schools are a risk to your child's health. Car exhaust is especially harmful to children's lungs because they are still developing. Children's height puts them closer to the height of car exhaust pipes. The City of Hamilton has an anti-idling by-law. Cars are not permitted to idle for more than 3 minutes per hour when the temperature is between 5°C and 27°C. Please do your part to keep our children safe and don't idle your car around the school, or even better, fight climate change and walk or wheel to school!

Also with respect to drop-off / pick-up ... if you are dropping off and/or picking up students in front of the school, please mind the street signs. **There are 'no parking' and 'no stopping' areas on Dundurn in front of the school and they are intended to help keep kids safe.** If you drop off or pick up your child from the school, and for any reason have need to enter in, **please note that you must check in at the office.** Caregivers are not permitted to simply walk in and through the school during the day. Remember, you are quite likely a 'stranger' to many children (and possibly even to staff) in the building.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to email me or call the school directly to make arrangements to come in and talk ... thank you for the continued help and support in making Earl Kitchener School a safe and great place to be!

Mme. Kucic, Mr. Thorne and the staff of Earl Kitchener School.