



Weekly Update December 6 - 10, 2021



Holiday Absences

As the holiday season approaches, and more families are taking time away, please ensure that all absences are recorded in School Messenger. This includes absences, late arrivals, early departures and extended absences. With health protocols in place, it is more time consuming to have students coming and going, and we want to ensure that things run as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

Earl Kitchener / Board Updates

Please ensure that you are checking the EK, along with the Board websites on a regular basis for updates. There is often important information that gets posted throughout the week.

Playground Supervision Hours

Playground supervision begins at **8:35am**. Students are not to be on the playground prior to that time. Playground supervision ends at 3:25pm.

Clothing / Personal Items

Just a reminder that there is no Lost & Found at the school. Please ensure all items are labelled with first and last name (coats, water bottles, hats, boots etc.) so that we can return the item to the proper student.

Indoor Shoes

With the winter weather approaching, please send in a pair of indoor shoes for your child. These shoes can be left at the school if you wish.

Lockdown Drill

Our first Lockdown Drill will be held on Friday, December 10. All students will walk through the procedure for their particular class. Keeping Public Health regulations in mind, students will not be physically gathering in their safe space.

Snuggle Up and Read Day

Friday, December 17 is the last day of school before Winter Break, and this will be our “Snuggle Up and Read” Day! Students are encouraged to wear pyjamas, track suits, or anything that they feel “comfy” in. During the day, there will be a Read Aloud for all students, as well as a snack, provided by the school, for students to enjoy during the Read Aloud.



Picture Retake Day

Monday, December 13 will be school picture retake day for students that missed the original picture day. Please put a note in your student’s agenda for that day if you would like their picture taken. A general announcement will also be made that morning as a reminder for students.



Dress for the Weather

The weather is changing! Please ensure students arrive with all they will need to keep them warm for the day (hats, coats, mitts etc). It is better to have these items, and not need them, as we never know how the weather will change during the day.

After School Protocols

Just a friendly reminder that once school has been released, students and parents are asked to quickly disperse and not gather on school property. Due to safety concerns, students are not allowed to be climbing the trees on school property.



Open Gym

Next week some of our classes at Earl Kitchener will have the opportunity to participate in Open Gym during Nutrition Breaks once a week. This will run for a total of 6 weeks and then we will offer the opportunity to other classes at the school to participate. Classes will participate with their class cohort in activities such as shooting a basketball, soccer skills, scoops and balls, hula hoops, skipping etc. Running shoes are required. Open gym will be supervised by your child’s classroom teacher or another volunteer teacher on staff. (Classes participating this session are; Mrs. Smith, Mme Hanna, Mme Ditomasso, Mme Sliwinska, Mme Komazec ,Mme McCluskey, Mme Blais, Mme Chapman).

French Immersion Applications (SK students)

Please visit the HWDSB website, or the EK website for information on the application process for SK students planning on enrolling in French Immersion for Grade 1. Important information and deadline dates are posted.



Masking

All students are required to wear non-medical or cloth masks indoors in school, including in hallways and during classes, as well as on school vehicles. Where physical distancing cannot be maintained, students are required to wear masks outdoors unless within their own cohort. Masks must cover the nose, mouth and chin without gaping. Bandanas, gators and face shields are not a replacement for masks.

Dropping Items Off

At this time, we are unable to accept items being dropped off late. Please ensure that your child has everything they need prior to dropping them off at school (water bottle, lunch, backpack etc). A check list for the student is a great way to help them learn to gather their items up. Any items dropped off would result in multiple people touching the item, which increases exposure. We thank you for your assistance and understanding with this.



Parking During Drop-Off/Pick-Up

Please ensure that you are **NOT** blocking **ANY** driveways during pick-up and drop-off. Many residents have called the school complaining that they cannot get in and out of their own driveways. Several neighbours have called the city, and parking enforcement will be monitoring and ticketing as needed. Please be respectful, and if necessary, park further away, and walk to the school.