



Helen Detwiler School



Hamilton Wentworth District School Board - Respect, Creativity, Excellence, Citizenship

From the Principal & Vice-Principal's Desk



We would like to welcome everyone back to the start of 2019! We hope the holidays provided you with time to enjoy family and recharge for the start of the New Year. Coming back to school, gets us all back into routine. We have reminded our students to place an emphasis on the use of their agenda to focus on getting back into a schedule focusing on school work and extracurriculars.

Our Character Education focus coming back in January is "Responsibility". We look forward to recognizing our students who showed their heart through caring in December and look forward to welcoming our new trait at our assembly this Thursday at 11:15 a.m.

Given the colder temperatures approaching this winter season, we recognize the importance of student safety during snow and ice conditions. We continue to monitor the weather conditions and will ensure safety measures are in place within the school surroundings upon entry and exit of the school. We strongly encourage that families listen to the weather forecast to ensure students are dressed appropriately for the cold temperature.

Students are reminded to arrive to school no earlier than 8:20 a.m. to ensure supervision by staff. We also would like to remind all of our families that the **parking lot is reserved for entry and exit for staff members only** and is not to be used as a drop off or pick up area for students. The parking lot is out of bounds to students to ensure student safety. We thank you for ensuring our safe schools procedures are being followed to ensure the safety of our students at all times.

On behalf of the staff and the administrative team at Helen Detwiler, we wish you & your families all the best in 2019. We look forward to a smooth start to the New Year focusing on our year long initiatives to support our students' success & achievement.

Sincerely, Ms. Radojevic & Ms. Francis

JANUARY 2019

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Follow us on Twitter! -
twitter.com/HDHurricanes
Ms. Radojevic - Principal
Ms. Francis - Vice-Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, January 10th

Character Education Assembly
11:15

Wednesday, January 16th

Henderson Option Sheet Night

Friday, January 25th

Professional Activity Day
No School

Wednesday, January 30th

Pita Pit Lunch

Thursday, January 31st

School Council Meeting - 6 p.m.

Looking Ahead...

Friday, February 1st

Character Education Assembly at
11:15 a.m.

Monday, February 4th

Full Day Kindergarten Registration
begins!

Monday, February 18th

Family Day - No School



Character Builds - THE WORD ON THE STREET!



In order to build upon our students Character development, at Helen Detwiler we are focusing on educating our school community on the Character Traits that will support our students success in life and build upon a positive school culture.

Last month our Character focus was **Caring**. This month's Character Focus is **Responsibility** where we are sharing its' meaning of having rights and privileges to be responsible and active members in our community.

Monthly Focus

September - Respect & Belonging	February - Empathy
October - Self Regulation	March - Honesty
November - Courage	April - Acceptance
December - Caring	May - Integrity
January - Responsibility	June - Citizenship

Sharing our Work on Caring

Over the month of December our students worked together to create a caring tree. Staff gave out caring hands for acts of caring that students demonstrated. These caring hands formed together to create a caring tree. Students learned the importance of caring for one another.



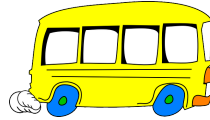
Expansion of our Child Care Program

Our Early ON Centre will be expanding with two additional child care rooms. Construction will take place in the Spring/Summer with the goal of completion by December 2019.

Middle School Fitness

Our fitness club resumes in February. Any of our middle school students who would like a little extra exercise, are welcome to join us Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 3:00 p.m. until approximately 3:45 p.m. Be ready to sweat and remember, no pain no gain.

Email Notification For Late Bus Service



If you would like to sign up for email notification of late bus service, visit the website: hamiltonschoolbus.ca. Once on the website, click onto the **Parent's Portal** and follow the instructions on setting up an account. You will need an ID number for your child. All eligible riders in the transportation database receive this number on their busing letter that was mailed in August. However, parents and caregivers can call Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (905.523.2318) to receive the ID number as well.



Tired of struggling with your son or daughter over their math homework?

Are you the parent of a student in grades 7-10?

Why not get your child to access a free on-line tutoring service staffed by qualified math teachers?

Go to <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/elearning/homework.html>

To register you will need your child's 9-digit OEN number. This number is found at the top of your report cards.

The service is available Sun-Thurs from 5:30pm-9:00pm

Memory Book

Our middle school's Memory Book is in progress and will be on sale for Grade 8 students starting Monday January 14, 2019 and for grade 7 students starting Monday January 21, 2019 at the cost of \$25.00. There is a limited number of books so get your copy now before it is too late! It is a great way for grade 7 and grade 8 students to keep the memories of their friends, teachers and their time at Helen Detwiler. Memory book forms and money can be brought to Mrs. Dietrich. If you have your own business and would like to advertise in our memory book, sponsor forms can also be picked up from Mrs. Dietrich. The cost for a business card size advertisement is \$25.00. Thanks for your support!

Clothing Donations

If you have any gently used pants in sizes that would fit Kindergarten to Grade 2 students we would appreciate if you could donate them to the school. You can send them in to your child's teacher at anytime. Thanks!



Kiss N' Ride Lane at Helen Detwiler

The safety of all students at Helen Detwiler continues to be a priority. Our Kiss N' Ride lane on the south side of the school can be a safe way for parents to drop off their children in the morning and pick up at the end of the day.

If everyone follows these basic safety rules, the Kiss N' Ride Lane will be a success.

1. Signs reading Kiss N' Ride Zone, NO Parking and One Way are clearly marked in the loop at the south end of the school. There is NO PARKING anywhere inside the Kiss N' Ride loop. Following these signs is key to everyone's safety.
2. There are 2 lanes in the Kiss N' Ride loop. The right lane is used for drop off/pick up. The left lane is used for entrance, exit.
3. Proceed as far into the loop as possible and pull into the right lane to stop.
4. **Encourage your child to exit the vehicle on their own so you do not have to leave your car. Please find an alternate space to park if your child needs assistance exiting the car.**
5. **All children exit/enter via the passenger side doors and go directly to/from the sidewalk.**
6. When your drop off/pick up is complete, proceed slowly ahead into the left lane to exit the loop.

Tips for Safety and Success

1. Your children must be ready to exit your vehicle ASAP when the vehicle stops for drop off.
2. At pick up at the end of the day, instruct your children to meet at a specific spot in the loop for quicker connection.
3. Exit the loop via the left lane as soon as possible to make room for other vehicles.

**KISS AND RIDE
ZONES** Understanding
the rules

Dental Programs and Services in Hamilton



Healthy Smiles Ontario

Your child may be eligible for free dental care. The Healthy Smiles Ontario program pays the cost of regular dental services. This program is for children & youth under 18 years of age from lower-income families in need of support. Even if you have dental insurance you may be eligible for Healthy Smiles Ontario. Call us at 905-546-2424 ext. 5369 or visit www.hamilton.ca/dental for more information.

Grade 8 Option Sheet Nights

Option Sheet Information Nights are welcoming and practical sessions that help Grade 8 students and their parents select courses for the 2018-19 school year. Nora Henderson Grade 8 Option Sheet night will take place January 16, 2019. We encourage you to view the complete list of high school option sheet nights at

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/elementary/plan-for-school/grade-7-8-information-nights/>

Understand pathways

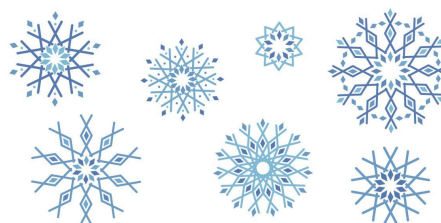
- Learn about elective courses
- Understand the differences among the types of courses you can take

Cold Weather and Outdoor Play

Time spent outdoors is an integral part of the school day. There are great benefits when children experience fresh air, exercise and time spent outside. Outdoor play is also a break from the structure of the classroom.

Depending on the season, preparing for outdoor play in Canada can mean anything from applying sunscreen to wearing mittens and a hat. During winter, it's important that children come to school prepared for the cold. Students should wear boots, mittens/gloves and hats and it's a good idea to pack extra mittens, socks, etc. in case they are needed.

HWDSB follows the City of Hamilton recommendation that individuals stay inside when the temperature is at or below minus 15 degrees Celsius or minus 20 with wind chill.



HWDSB Weather Related Information

Winter Recess

Please be sure your child is dressed for the weather. We will be going outside for recess throughout the winter unless it is less than -15C or -20C with the windchill. Please remind your child that snow must stay on the ground.



Bus Cancellation and School Closures

The HWDSB Rule:
Inclement weather
+ Bus cancellation
= No school

When HWDSB cancels busing due to inclement weather, we have deemed the roads unsafe and this triggers the closure of schools. Some boards have different procedures.

Where do I find cancellation information?

We will share this announcement in a variety of ways:

- The HWDSB website www.hwdsb.on.ca
- HWDSB's Twitter account www.twitter.com/HWDSB
- HWSTS website www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca
- Local media outlets:
CBC Hamilton, CHCH TV, CHML, CKPC Brantford, Hamilton Community News, Hamilton Spectator.

THANK YOU!!

Sincere thanks for supporting all of our Detwiler caring initiatives. The toonie toss showed our support for students right here at school by enhancing our nutrition program. Families in our community and right across the city benefited from your generosity in our Just Give It drive. Now our students have expressed a strong desire to reach out on a more global level. Canada's involvement in such issues across the globe is something to be proud of and is also a large part of our middle school Social Studies/Geography curriculum.

Plumpy Nut is a life saving product for many malnourished children across the globe. Shortly we will begin activities to promote this cause and literally save lives across the world. Our students are very excited to contribute to this incredible cause and will soon be rolling out various fundraising initiatives. Stay tuned for details. In the meantime, we encourage you to take a few moments and investigate **Plumpy Nut** if you are so inclined. A simple way to do this is type in a Google search: **Plumpy Nut 60 Minutes**. Here you can see a very informative and eye opening piece on the wonderful work being done with this revolutionary product. Happy New Year everyone, and thanks in advance for any support you can offer.

Class 7 $\frac{1}{2}$



Council Corner

School Council will meet on Thursday January 31st at 6 p.m. in the library.

