



# Helen Detwiler School



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

## *From the Principal and Vice Principal's Desks*

We would like to thank staff, students and community for a great start up in September. It's hard to believe the first month of school is behind us. We had a great first month of school focusing on building a culture where everyone belongs and is respected.

At Helen Detwiler we have had our school numbers change slightly from what we had expected in June due to new registrations and students moving. This had led to some students moving to new classes as of September 30. Our staff has worked hard to support students during these transitions. Thanks for your understanding.



Extracurriculars got off to a great start in the month of September with two baseball teams competing at our system 3-Pitch tournaments. We received positive feedback from our coaches and volunteers on how well Helen Detwiler was represented by our students. We are very proud of our student athletes and their accomplishments. Our cross-country and volleyball teams are also busy practising. Go Hurricanes! Thank you to our coaches for dedicating their time to our teams.

This month we see some changes in our school administration. We will say goodbye to Mrs. Boshier on Friday October 11 and welcome Mr. Azzopardi on Tuesday October 15.

Our school wide Terry Fox run took place on September 26. We were able to raise over \$1000 dollars for Cancer Research. Thanks to all students for participating in this fundraiser.

Wishing you and your families a lovely long Thanksgiving weekend honouring the importance of being thankful & appreciative for all that life has to offer. Monday Oct. 8th is a holiday and our school will be closed to honour Thanksgiving Day.

Sincerely,  
*Mrs. Boshier & Ms. Francis*

## **Verification Forms**

Your child will be bringing home a Student Information Verification Form in a sealed envelope on Tuesday October 8. Please check the form carefully to ensure we have the most up to date information for your child. Please correct any changes that are necessary, and add any information that may be missing.

Sign and return the form to your child's teacher/advisor by Friday October 11th.



## **OCTOBER 2019**

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hwdsb.on.ca/helendetwiler  
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**Mrs. Boshier - Principal**  
**Ms. Francis - Vice-Principal**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Monday, October 7th**

Cross Country Meet (Gr. 3-8) - Christie Conservation Area

### **Monday, October 14th**

Thanksgiving Day - No School

### **Wednesday, October 16th**

Photo Day

### **Tuesday, October 29th**

School Council Meeting  
6:00- 7:30 p.m. in the Library

### **Thursday, October 31st**

Special Event Day - Halloween  
K-5 - Halloween Parade 9:00-10:00 a.m.

## **Looking Ahead**

### **Friday, November 1st**

Character Ed. Assembly @11:15 a.m.

### **Friday, November 8th**

P.A. Day - Parent Interview Day

### **Friday, November 29th**

P.A. Day - No School for Students

## 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 Respect & Belonging. This month's Character Focus is Self Regulation.

### Monthly Focus

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

### Lost and Found

Parents, if your child is missing an article of clothing, please have them check the Lost and Found located at the back of the school by the gymnasium.

We would encourage you to label all your child's belongings. If an item makes its' way to the Lost and Found it could easily be identified and returned.

### EQAO Update

Every year, students in Grades 3 and 6 write the provincial EQAO test which assesses their skills in Reading, Writing and Math. The results of these tests will be sent home along with a Guide for Parents of students in Grade 3 & 6. If you have a child who attended our school and was in Grade 3 or 6 last year, your child will receive their results from their classroom teacher/advisor.

If your child wrote the test but did not attend Helen Detwiler School last year, their results will be forwarded to us by the previous school and we will send them to you. If you have not received them by the end of October, you can contact the previous school or let us know and we will follow up for you. Remember that the EQAO test is only written by students who attended school in Ontario. Additional information and a detailed report can be found at [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)

## Transportation Parent Portal



The Parent's Portal tool on the HWSTS website ([www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca](http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca)) allows parents/guardians to create a secure online account where they can access transportation details for their

child(ren). Parents with accounts can choose to receive email notification when their bus is delayed by more than 10 minutes.

As part of the Parent's Portal Tool, parents/guardians of JK & SK students can provide names of individuals (including siblings 12yrs+) whom they wish to designate as authorized to receive their child. This list of authorized individuals is made available to the appropriate bus operator to assist with allowing the kindergarten students to leave the bus.

### Citizenship Awards for Grade 6 and 7 Students

This year the grade 6 and 7 students will have a chance to receive a citizenship award at the end of the year in June.

There are three different levels that a student could earn (bronze, silver, and gold) depending on the number of points that they accumulate. 50-74 points are needed to earn the bronze level, 75-99 points are needed to earn the silver level, and 100 or more points are needed to earn the gold level. Points can be earned by students for their learning skills on their report card, for each month that they are not in the tracking book (a tool used by rotary teachers to track behaviour, homework, and preparedness), and the activities that they participate in around the school. Students will fill out a point form throughout the year and submit it to the teacher in early June to be able to receive this award at an assembly in late June. Please ask your child at the end of term one how they are doing with their points and we look forward to seeing all of our citizenship award winners in June!

### Junior Swim Team

Many students have expressed an interest in trying out for the Junior Swim Team. Students must be in Grades 3, 4 or 5. In order to tryout, students need to fill out the Student Athletic Information and Permission form, available from Mrs. Walsh or Mrs. Evelyn. Tryouts for the Junior Swim Team are on Thursday, October 3 from 3:30 to 4:30 at Hillpark Recreation Center. Transportation to the tryout and practices are the responsibility of the student and their parent/guardian. The Junior Swim Meet will take place at the beginning of November. Go Hurricanes!



## **School Cash Online**

Let us take the worry out of sending money to school for pizza, school trips, and just about everything else! To securely register your child(ren) please go to the School Cash Online home page <https://hwdsb.schoolcashionline.com> and select the "Get Started Today" option.

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## **The HD Gym is starting a Shoe Bin!**

Wondering what to do with the running shoes your child has outgrown?

Why not donate them to our Shoe Bin?

Running shoes in the shoe bin are available to any student who has forgotten, allowing them to participate in Phys-Ed class.

If interested, please place your gently used shoes into a plastic bag with the note "SHOE BIN" inside. Donations can be made at any time during the school year.

Thank you for your support!

Ms. Kawamoto



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## **Fundraising – Mabel's Labels**

Mabel's Labels is the best-known brand of durable labels for families, and our growing line of products features baby labels, child safety products, sports labels, household organizational labels and seasonal items. They're extremely durable, they're laundry, dishwasher and microwave safe – and they're 100% guaranteed.

Visit [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](http://campaigns.mabelslabels.com) to place your order and support the campaign! No deadline. Order them when you need them.

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## **My Path My Way**

"My Path My Way" is an information night for students in Grade 7-12 and their parents/guardians. It is an opportunity to hear about the many program options available to students as they move into high school. This year the event will take place at Liuna Station on October 22 from 5:30-8:30 p.m..

## **Religious and Creed-based Accommodations**

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) is committed to working with students and families to create inclusive classroom and school environments. As we begin the new school year, we would like to remind families that schools are committed to work with you to provide appropriate and reasonable religious accommodations as per your requests.

The Ontario Human Rights Code provides the right for individuals to be free from discrimination. To protect this right, schools may make accommodations when issues or concerns with school practices relate to a student's religious or creed-based beliefs.

HWDSB is committed to working with families to determine appropriate and reasonable accommodations for students. Some examples of religious accommodations are: absence from class for a holiday observation, following a specific dress code, temporary absence from class to observe daily prayers, fasting or breaking a fast.

If you require religious accommodation for your child(ren), you are advised to contact your child's school at the beginning of the year. Call the teacher or the principal to discuss any religious accommodations your child may need. You can also provide specific dates and the type of accommodation required so that the school can plan in a timely manner.

Family requests for religious or creed-based accommodation should be made annually, as they are unique and considered on an individual, case-by-case basis. If you have arranged for religious accommodation for the last school year, you still need to make a new request for the new school year by contacting your child's teacher or principal. You may receive a letter or a phone call from the school to update your child's accommodation needs for the new school year.

For more information about religious or creed-based accommodations, please see the following resources:  
HWDSB Parent Guide: Religious and Creed-based Accommodations (available in the school office)  
Found at <http://bit.ly/30zOwHm>  
HWDSB Religious or Creed-based Accommodation Procedure  
Found at <http://bit.ly/2XQ6Zh5>