

# Helen Detwiler School



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

## *From the Principal & Vice-Principal's Desk*

We have had a very enjoyable fall and are heading into the winter season with many events and extracurricular activities going on at Helen Detwiler. Students are participating in volleyball, fitness club, social club and other extracurriculars to keep them engaged at school.

During our P.A. Day on November 29th, our entire school team came together for an opportunity to deepen our understanding of bullying prevention, intervention and reporting.

We had our first lockdown drill on Wednesday November 27. Our community officer was able to join us for this drill. We were proud of how all of our staff and students responded appropriately to this drill.

This month Mrs. Weaver, one of our Learning Resource Teachers, has taken on the role of Learning Consultant with the HWDSB supporting various schools across our system. We will miss Mrs. Weaver at Helen Detwiler and wish her all the best in her new role. We welcome Mr. Leanage who will be covering her role for the remainder of this school year.

With the holiday season fast approaching, we are in the spirit of giving and we will be participating in "Just Give It" to support families in our community. Thank you to all of our families for sending items in to support this cause.

We also look forward to welcoming the character trait of "Caring" during the month of December with our assembly scheduled for Monday December 2nd. Students always enjoy being "caught" in the moment showing their care in the classrooms, hallways and outside on the playground.

On behalf of the staff & administrative team, we hope you enjoy a restful & relaxing holiday valuing time with family & friends.

Sincerely,

*Mr. Azzopardi & Ms. Francis*



## DECEMBER 2019

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hwdsb.on.ca/helendetwiler  
**Mr. Azzopardi - Principal**  
**Ms. Francis - Vice-Principal**



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[twitter.com/HDHurricanes](https://twitter.com/HDHurricanes)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, December 2nd

Character Education Assembly

### Monday, December 9th

Last Day for Mad Science

### Friday, December 13th

Ugly Holiday Sweater Day

### Monday, December 16th

Choir Caroling at The Wellington

### Tuesday, December 17th

Holiday Assembly - Parent Show

**Doors open @ 1:20 p.m. in the gym.**

### Wednesday, December 18th

Movie Trip - 10:00 - 12:45

### Friday, December 20th

Red/Green/White Day

FDK Polar Express Trip to Puiddicombe Farm 9:00 a.m.- 12:45 p.m.

### Monday, Dec. 23rd - Friday, Jan. 3rd

Winter Break

## Looking Ahead

### Monday, January 6th

First Day Back

### Friday, January 24th

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 Courage. This month's Character Focus is **Caring** where we are sharing its' meaning of demonstrating a willingness to reach out and help, support & protect others.

### 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>

### Junior Swim Team

The Junior Swim Team Meet was held on the morning of Thursday, November 7, 2019. We had 16 amazing swimmers in Grades 3, 4 and 5. They swam and cheered and swam some more. Standings are available on the HWDSB Athletics website. Thank you to all the parents and family members who supported our swimmers this season. Congratulations to:

#### Grade 3:      Grade 4:      Grade 5:

Nash C.	Lauren M.	Zahin A.
Piper G.	Sierra T.	Kennedy C.
Liam K.	Madyson F.	Makayla C.
Chaya O.	Zaayan	Sattaya O.
	Hailey L.	Chloe S.
	Kaydence W.	Evan W

### Umbrella Family Child Care

Umbrella Family Before and After school has space available for part-time and full-time children in the school age group and in the kindergarten group.  
Please contact Tina the program leader at 905-317-5718 for more information.

## School Cash Online

School Cash Online is an easy to use and safe way to pay for most school items from your own home. All you have to do is register an account, attach your children and in no time you will be able to make payments online. School Cash Online is available at all HWDSB schools and transfers from school to school with your child right up to grade 12. For your convenience, we offer many payment options including prepaid Visa or Mastercard.

<https://hwdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Home/WhatIsSchoolCashOnline>

### HWDSB JOB FAIR

**HWDSB is holding two Job Fairs**

HWDSB Education Centre  
20 Education Court (Off Upper Wentworth)

Monday, December 2, 2019 for Casual Clerical Support Staff  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. & 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, December 10, 2019 Casual Caretakers  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. & 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Bring a completed application form that you can find online at [www.hwdsb.on.ca/careers](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/careers) or at the HWDSB Education Centre's reception desk.

Questions?

Call or email Lety Goddard at 905-527-5092 ext. 2255, [lgoddard@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:lgoddard@hwdsb.on.ca)

### Recreation Assistance Program

The recreation assistance program provides families living with a low income the opportunity to participate in organized sports and recreational programs.

- Free Family Participation Pass (valid for City wide drop-in recreation programs with no instructor)
- Free Family Skate Pass (valid for City wide drop-in public skates)
- 90% discount off City of Hamilton registered programs (up to \$150 per child)
- 50% discount off Affiliated Minor Sport\* league registration fees (up to a maximum of \$100 on baseball, basketball, soccer, lacrosse and football or \$150 on hockey, skating, ringette)
- 65% discount off of year round Camp Kidaca programs (up to 15 days at the base fee)

**To apply go to:**

<https://www.hamilton.ca/parks-recreation/registered-recreation-programs/recreation-assistance-program>

## December Trips

Our Grade 1-8 students are all attending a trip to the Movie Theaters on Wednesday, December 18. The Grade 1-6 students will see 'Abominable' and our Grade 7-8 students will see 'Jumanji'. Our FDK students will be going to Puddicombe Farm on Friday December 20 for a Polar Express experience. The bus costs for all of these trips is being covered through School Fundraising. Thanks for your support with our school fundraisers as it allows us to make school trips more affordable for our whole school community.

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## Roots of Empathy Program

We are pleased to announce that the Roots of Empathy Program is in Room 6. Mr. Willet is pleased to bring his wife, Stephanie Willet and their baby, Elora Willet to Helen Detwiler to teach the students in Room 6 about Empathy. We have learned that parents and caregivers need to understand that babies have different needs and temperaments, but no matter how frustrated they get, a crying baby should never be shaken. Also, a crying baby is not a bad baby; it is a baby who needs help.

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## CHOIR UPDATE



The HD Choir will be caroling at the Wellington Retirement Home on December 16<sup>th</sup> and will also be performing at the Winter Holiday Assembly on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

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## HWDSB Helps APP



If reporting bullying to staff is uncomfortable, students can use the free and anonymous HWDSB Helps service to share a tip about bullying, mental health, substance use and more. Tips are sent to school staff. This is not a crisis line or counselling service. This app has been downloaded onto all school iPads and can be found in the app store to load onto a personal device.



## Holiday Concert December 17th

- Doors Open at 1:20 p.m.
- Program begins at 1:30 p.m.
- Program ends at 2:45 p.m.
- Popcorn will be on sale for \$2 through School Council

Our Holiday Assembly will take place on Thursday, December 17th. Parents, Guardians and Community guests are invited to attend the HD Winter Holiday Assembly featuring performances from the JK - Grade 5 classes as well as from the HD Band, Choir and Art/Heritage club.

We look forward to celebrating the season with many of you at this time.

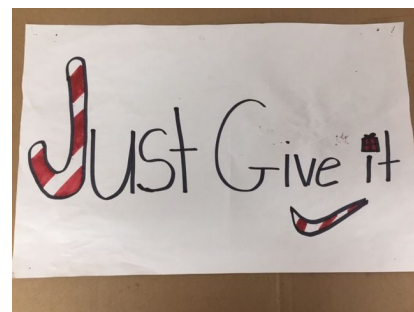
Given it is a regular instructional school day, parents we ask that students remain at school until dismissal. Thank you for your understanding and enjoy the concert!

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## JUST GIVE IT!

We are in the giving spirit at Helen Detwiler. Class 7B is launching our donation drive for this year. Please check your child's agenda early this week for a list of suggested donation items. Each class will be sponsoring a child or a community organization (i.e. Interval House). We will accept donations right up until Monday, December 16. Thank you so much for your generosity. Together, we are making a difference.

***Thank you for  
your generosity  
and good spirit!***

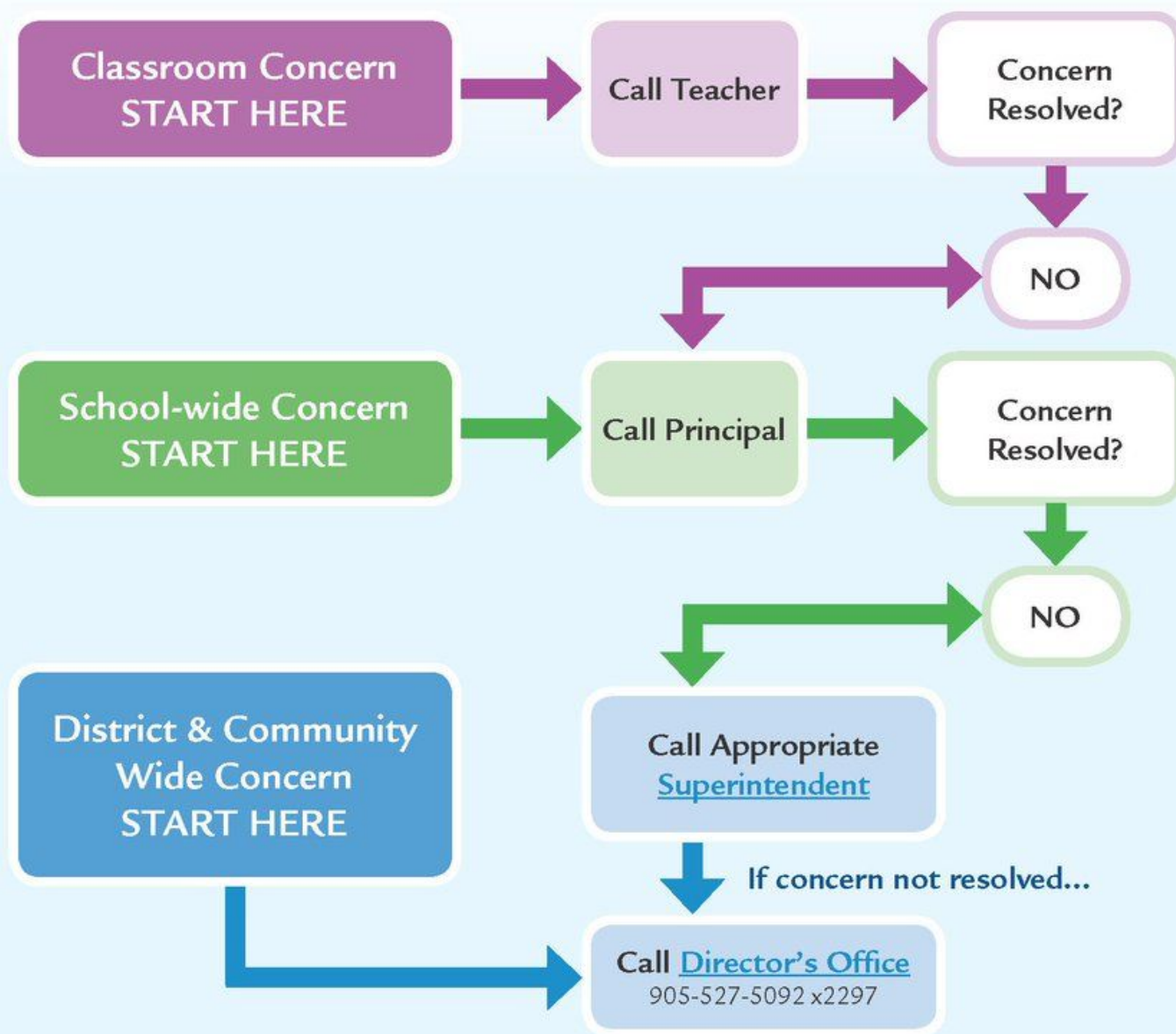


**Holiday Break is Dec. 23rd to Jan. 3rd**





# Addressing Concerns @HWDSB



Your Trustee can guide you through this process.  
Find your Trustee and/or Superintendent by calling the Officer of Trustee Services  
at 905-527-5092 x2279, or go online to your school's website:

**[www.hwdsb.on.ca/yourschoolname/contact](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/yourschoolname/contact)**