



Helen Detwiler School



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

From the Principal & Vice-Principal's Desk



Happy New Year and welcome back to Helen Detwiler. We hope that you have had a chance to reconnect, relax and recharge over the holidays, spending quality time with your family.

Our Character Education focus for the month of January is Responsibility. Our assembly for January will be on Monday, January 13th @ 11:15 am. Mr. Whitehorn and Madame Payant's classrooms will be presenting and introducing 'Responsibility'

As the weather continues to be a puzzle, it is important that students come prepared to school for all weather conditions. Please check the daily forecast to ensure that children come to school with the items that are needed to keep them dry and warm. Also, please send in a pair of indoor shoes for students to have while indoors at the school. This will help keep our classroom and gym floors dry.

On behalf of the Helen Detwiler team, we wish you and your family all the best in 2020. We look forward to a wonderful year ahead.

Sincerely,

Mr. Azzopardi and Ms. Francis



JANUARY 2020

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, January 13th

Character Education Assembly
11:15am.

Wednesday, January 15th

Henderson Option Sheet Night

Thursday, January 23rd

GetREAL Workshop - Gr. 5-8

Friday, January 24th

Professional Activity Day
No School

Tuesday, January 28th

School Council Meeting - 6 p.m.

Looking Ahead...

Tuesday, February 4th

Character Education Assembly at
11:15 a.m.

Monday, February 3rd

Full Day Kindergarten Registration
begins!

Monday, February 17th

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

Pizza and Popcorn on Hold

Please note that Pizza and Popcorn days for 2020 will be on hold until further notice.

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.



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

School Council Meeting

Our next school council meeting will take place on **Tuesday January 28 at 6:00 p.m.** in our library. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.



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](https://twitter.com/HWDSB)
- HWSTS website www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca
- Local media outlets:
CBC Hamilton, CHCH TV, CHML, CKPC Brantford, Hamilton Community News, Hamilton Spectator.

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 2020-21 school year. Nora Henderson Grade 8 Option Sheet night will take place January 15, 2020. We encourage you to view the complete list of high school option sheet nights at

<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/secondary/plan-for-high-school/grade-7-8-information-nights-2/>

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.

