



Helen Detwiler School



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

From the Principal & Vice-Principal's Desk

Welcome to the month of February! As you may be aware, official report cards for Term 1 will not be distributed this year. That being said, please contact your child's classroom teacher if you wish to find out how your child is progressing.

We wanted to take this opportunity to let you know that Mrs. Feere has accepted a position as a System Learning Resource Teacher with Specialized Services in the HWDSB. Ms. A. Campanella has taken over her position as of January 31, 2020. We also wanted to let you know that Mrs. Weaver's position as a System Learning Consultant has moved from a temporary position to a permanent position. This means that Mr. Leanage who has been covering her leave finished at Helen Detwiler on Thursday, January 30, 2020. Ms. C. Bishop has taken over this position as of January 31, 2020. We wish Mrs. Feere and Mrs. Weaver all the best as they move into their permanent system support positions. We thank them for the service they have provided to our students and families over the past few years. We also thank Mr. Leanage for his work at Helen Detwiler over the past few months.

In January, Ms. Leonetti and the students with the Heritage Arts Club have officially launched the Helen Detwiler Land acknowledgement. The land acknowledgement is read on the announcements each morning and posted in classrooms. The land acknowledgement reads,

"The Helen Detwiler community, respectfully acknowledges, that the ancestral land and territory upon which we live and work, is that of the Anishinaabe, Mississauga, and Haudenosaunee peoples.

This territory is the subject of the "Dish with One Spoon" wampum belt treaty. We at Helen Detwiler intend to uphold this treaty agreement, by sharing this territory responsibly, respectfully, and sustainably".

On January 23, Madame Payant helped connect our Grade 5-8 students with the GetREAL organization. The students learned about inclusive language while challenging ourselves on how to respond when we see or witness behaviour of bullying. One main focus of the workshop was to remember that everyone faces challenges in their lives. A student stated.."I learned that people can be going through things that you don't know about so always be nice." This presentation was paid for by our Student Council funds and was very well received by all in attendance.

Sincerely, Mr. Azzopardi & Ms. Francis

FEBRUARY 2020

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Follow us on Twitter! -
twitter.com/HDHurricanes

Mr. Azzopardi - Principal
Ms. Francis - Vice-Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, February 3rd

Kindergarten Registration Begins

Friday, February 14th

*Special Event Day - Valentine's Day
Sweet Treats are welcome!

Monday, February 17th

Family Day - No School - Enjoy the day!

Monday, February 24th

FDK & Grade 2 Dental Screening

Looking Ahead

Friday, March 6th

P A Day - No School

Monday, March 16 -Friday, March 20

March Break - No School



Inclement Weather

The decision to cancel School and Board Administrative Operations is often a difficult call to make. Please be assured that the decision to remain open or to close is always made with the safety and security of our students and staff in mind. Please check the Board's Website (www.hwdsb.on.ca) or listen to local media (CHML900/K-Lite/CHCHTV) for notice of school closure. **School Closure Hotline # 905.521.2535.** The board's commitment is to have families informed as early as possible on the days that school will be closed.

Ukulele Kids



Our Ukulele Kids club will be starting next week. Students who sign up will receive a ukulele (the colour of their choice, 10 lessons and a songbook, for a one-time fee. Fun songs, with chords and strumming patterns will be taught, with lessons taking place on nutrition breaks. The term will end with an assembly, where the students will perform what they've learned. The club is open to students from Grades 1-5.

The ukulele is a fun and easy instrument for children to learn, and it's a great introduction to instrumental music for our younger students.

Please register online at ukulelekids.org

Staff Parking Lot

For the safety of our students, please remember that the Helen Detwiler Employee Parking Lot is closed for student drop off. If you have any questions, please contact the main office.



Kindergarten Registration



If you have a child who is eligible for Kindergarten in September, please check out the Kindergarten registration website or come into the school to register in person.

Our program helps students get off to the best possible start. Your child will be challenged and encouraged to do his or her very best. Our caring educators are with them every step of the way!

Please share this website with friends/neighbours with children who will be eligible for Kindergarten in September. Thanks!

Growing Together - Workshops

Growing Together is a community education guide for parents, children and youth listing courses, groups and workshops available in Hamilton from January to August 2020. Check out the link below to access the guide. A hard copy of this guide was sent home with all students



Offered by a variety of local community agencies, the programs and services published in this guide are designed to help parents, children, youth and others learn new skills to better meet the challenges facing today's families.

<http://www.mchcommunityed.ca/files/GT-Guide-Jan-August-2020.pdf>

Umbrella Family Child Care

The Umbrella Family Before and After School Program has space available for part-time and full-time children. Please contact Tina the program leader at 905-317-5718 for more information.