

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Spring is in the air! Staff and students at Helen Detwiler School continue to work hard every day!

My sincere gratitude to our HD community for such a warm welcome and working in partnership with us as we continue to prioritize student learning and wellbeing. A huge thank you to the school team for all their efforts in helping me transition as the Temporary Principal at Helen Detwiler. I'm really enjoying getting to know your amazing children! I hope this update finds you all well! Please see the information below.

OPEN HOUSE

We are very excited this year to be able to welcome families into the school for our Open House on Thursday May 4th from 4:30 to 6:00. Classrooms will be open, and you will have an opportunity to see where your child learns and some of the great work they are doing. As you visit, our staff will be available, but keep in mind this is not interview time but a chance to interact with your child in their learning space.

BOOK FAIR

In addition to our Open House, we will also have a Book Fair in the Learning Commons. Please see the attached flyer with more information.

UPCOMING FRENCH CAFE: THURSDAY MAY 4 FROM 4:00-5:30pm in the HD GYMNASIUM

HD students are busy preparing for our upcoming French Café on Thursday May 4th from 4-5:30pm. We will be selling hot beverages, cheese plates and French dessert treats including a limited number of custom-made Eiffel Tower cookies that you will not want to miss. All students must be accompanied by their guardians to attend this event! Draw tickets will also be sold for a chance to win some special 'French' prizes! Don't forget to drop by after you visit your child's classroom for a special 'French' treat and a chance to see some of our HD artist works on display while our "Petite Chorale" serenades you in French! Hope to see you there! **Bon appétit tout le monde!**

UPCOMING TALENT SHOW IN JUNE

Helen Detwiler is getting ready to shine the spotlight on its most talented students in Grades 1-8 once again! All those students who are interested in auditioning for this fabulous year-end event are asked to start polishing up their repertoire now as auditions will be held from May 15th to May 26th during nutrition breaks and after school. We are looking for singers, dancers, lip syncers, magicians, comedians, actors, musicians and any other talent that we haven't thought of in this list! Get ready to show us your best and be presented on Detwiler's big stage in mid June! Listen to announcements for further details or ask Mrs. Walsh, Mr. Willett or Mme Payant if you have any questions or concerns.

STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

A special thanks to D. Arif, the Student Council and all those in the Detwiler community who helped us donate over 1100 books to Hamilton's Juravinski Hospital and to the Kingston General Hospital. Future patients will be able to pass the time a little easier because of our efforts to provide them with reading material while in care. Well done HD!

EQAO DATES

As in previous years, EQAO will be taking place in May and June for our Gr. 3 and 6 students. The dates for the now on-line assessment will be **May 15, 16, 17, 18 for Gr. 6** and **May 29, 30, 31, June 1 for Gr. 3.**



KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Experiencing school for the first time is exciting for our youngest learners! Kindergarten Orientation for new registrants will take place on **Thursday May 25 at 4:45 to 5:30**. More information will be sent directly to those families.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next School Council meeting is **Thursday May 25 at 6:30pm** in the school Library. School Council is a great way to learn about all the initiatives happening at the school. All parents and guardians are welcome. We are always looking for new people with fresh ideas to add to our team, that works at enriching the school experience for our students. You do not need to be a member of the School Council Executive to attend meetings. We recognize that life can be very busy. You can attend any meeting anytime and participate as much or as little as you want. Big thanks to the small but mighty team that currently attends meetings regularly and supports the school. If you would like more information about School Council, check our website and/or call the school.

VOLUNTEERING AT HD

While some of our staff may be planning school trips and activities that require assistance from parents, please be aware that volunteers must have a *Vulnerable Screening Check*. In addition, volunteers that may be employed by HWDSB or another board of education also require a VSC. The Declaration Offence for internal purposes is not applicable. If you are thinking you may want to volunteer at the school, please be sure to apply for this sooner than later as sometimes it may take up to 30 days.

GRADUATION

Save the Date! Grade 8 Graduation will take place on **Tuesday June 20, 4:30pm to 8:00pm at Carmen's**. More details will be shared with our Grade 8 students and their families.

As we head into the Spring season, please ensure that students are dressed for the weather. The sun may be shining some days, but it can still be cool, so a light jacket is appropriate. Indoor shoes are very important at this time of year as the field can be muddy. In addition, providing your child with sunscreen and a water bottle to stay hydrated is a must.

Thank you all for your ongoing support!

Mrs. S. Costa-Popovich and Mrs. Laws
Temp. Principal Vice-Principal