



**COMMUNITY LETTER: Community
News, Updates and Reminders
November 7, 2025.**



Principal: Kwame Djan

Vice-principal: Lynda Southon

Email: helendetwiler@hwdsb.on.ca

Parent council co-chairs: Lora Wall and Candice Perez

SAFE ARRIVAL LINE: 1-844-506-4350

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,
Below are the updates for November 7, 2025.

Have a great weekend!

Regards,
Kwame Djan & Lynda Southon

Helen Detwiler School Spirit Wear Online Store – Opening Soon!

We're excited to announce that the **Helen Detwiler School Spirit Wear Online Store** is opening soon! Starting **Monday, November 10th**, families will be able to shop a variety of fun and stylish spirit wear to show their school pride.

Store Dates:

Opens: Monday, November 10, 2025

Closes: Sunday, November 23, 2025

Support Our School:

All proceeds from spirit wear sales will go directly towards funding important school initiatives that benefit our students and school community.

Thank You to Parent Council:

A special thank you to our amazing **Parent Council** for their support in bringing this initiative to life! Stay tuned for the store link on Monday—and thank you for your continued support!

Remembrance Day assembly

We will be having our Remembrance Day assembly on November 11 from **11:00AM-12:00 PM**. All families are welcome to attend. Across the HWDSB, flags were flown at half-mast today to commemorate tomorrow's **Indigenous Veterans Day**.



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Detwiler School Spirit Bands

All Helen Detwiler spirit wristbands that were purchased before October 20th, were handed out to families if they were able to attend meet the staff night on October 22. The rest will be handed out to students this week. We are reopening School Cash Online for families who missed out on the initial purchase window. Pick up for new orders will be on November 11, for families who are planning on attending the Remembrance Day assembly, by parent council representatives. If you are not able to attend the assembly, it will be sent home with your child/ren. Get yours while they last! All proceeds go to our school library.

Pizza lunches

Our next pizza day is Wednesday, November 12th. **All orders must be submitted by Sunday, November 9th through School Cash Online only.**

Popcorn Days

Our next Popcorn Day is **Friday, November 14th**. Popcorn is available for \$2.00 and **must be ordered by Wednesday, November 12th through School Cash Online only.**

Parent council meeting

Date: November 25, 2025

Time: 6:30-7:30 (library)

Access to school: Front entrance

Format: Hybrid (see below for MS Teams link)

- [Join the meeting now](#)
- **Meeting ID: 224 108 463 878 2**
- **Passcode: Fe39nr9D**

Parking By-Laws

This is a reminder that there is no stopping from 6am-7pm on the school side of Brigade Dr., from Bonaparte Way to Bastille St. These by-laws are in place to keep pedestrians and drivers safe. By-law officers will be on-site throughout the year to ensure compliance. **Additionally, the staff parking lot is for staff only – this is not a space for student drop off or pick up.** We appreciate your support in this as we prioritize the



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safety of our students on a daily basis.

Volunteering in 2025-2026 school year

All applicants looking to volunteer are now required to present a Vulnerable Sector Screening **specific to HWDSB** before they will be able to begin their volunteer activities. An offence Declaration is required for the subsequent years until a new Vulnerable Sector is required (after 3 years). The Vulnerable Sector Screening is the property of the volunteer. A letter to be presented to the respective police department can be obtained through the office.

At-Home Reading Activity

Purpose:

To develop reading comprehension, vocabulary, and oral communication skills while fostering family engagement in literacy.

Ontario Curriculum Links:

- **Reading:**
 - K–3: Demonstrate understanding of texts by retelling, making predictions, and connecting ideas to personal experiences.
 - 4–8: Identify main ideas, supporting details, and make inferences using evidence from the text.
- **Oral Communication:**
 - Share ideas clearly and listen actively during discussions.
- **Media Literacy:**
 - Recognize different text forms and purposes.

Materials Needed:

- A book, magazine, or digital text appropriate for the student's grade level.
- Paper or a notebook for responses.



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- Optional: markers, sticky notes.

Instructions:

Step 1: Choose a Text Together

- Younger students: Picture books or short stories.
- Older students: Chapter books, articles, or informational texts.

Step 2: Shared Reading

- **K–3:** Parent reads aloud; child follows along and looks at pictures.
- **4–8:** Take turns reading paragraphs or pages aloud.

Step 3: Discussion Prompts

After reading, choose **2–3 questions** to discuss:

- **K–3:**
 - What was your favourite part?
 - Who was your favourite character and why?
 - Can you draw a picture of what happened?
- **4–8:**
 - What is the main idea of the text?
 - What connections can you make to your life or other books?
 - What do you think will happen next? Why?

Step 4: Creative Response

- **K–3:** Draw a scene or create a mini-book retelling the story.
- **4–8:** Write a short paragraph summarizing the text or create a comic strip showing key events.



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Step 5: Family Extension

- Share your response with another family member.
- Optional: Record a short video of the discussion or creative piece to share with the teacher.