



**COMMUNITY LETTER: Community  
News, Updates and Reminders  
November 20, 2025.**



**Principal:** Kwame Djan

**Vice-principal:** Lynda Southon

**Email:** [helendetwiler@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto: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 20, 2025.

Have a great long weekend!

Regards,  
Kwame Djan & Lynda Southon

**Helen Detwiler School Spirit Wear Online Store !**

We're excited to announce that the **Helen Detwiler School Spirit Wear Online Store is open!** Families will be able to shop for a variety of fun and stylish spirit wear to show their school pride.

**Store 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!

**Link to online store:** <https://helendetwiler.buyproforma.com/#/>

**Detwiler School Spirit Wristbands**

Our next round of school spirit wristbands will be sold from November 14-December 12.

All purchases will be distributed to students the week of December 15.

**Photo retake day**

January 15, 2026

**Pizza lunches**

Our next pizza day is Wednesday, November 26th. **All orders must be submitted by**



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**Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> through School Cash Online only.**

**Popcorn Days**

Our next Popcorn Day is **Friday, November 28th**. Popcorn is available for \$2.00 and **must be ordered by Tuesday, November 26th 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**

**Character education assembly**

November 28, we recognize the character trait of **Empathy**. We will be having a school-wide assembly at 9:00. Parents/guardians of students who will be recognized are encouraged to attend the assembly. Our school spirit theme will be Helen Detwiler School colours (red/navy blue)/spirit wear.

**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 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.



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## **At-Home Writing Activity**

### **“Describe Our Favorite Place”**

#### **Curriculum Connections:**

- **Writing:** Use descriptive language to convey ideas clearly for a specific purpose and audience.
- **Oral Communication:** Discuss and brainstorm descriptive words with family members.
- **Reading:** Explore descriptive texts or examples for inspiration.

#### **Learning Goals:**

- Students will write a descriptive paragraph or short piece about a place that is meaningful to their family.
- Students will use sensory details (sight, sound, smell, touch, taste) and vivid adjectives to create imagery.
- Students will organize ideas logically and revise for clarity.

#### **Instructions for Students and Families:**

##### **1. Pick a Place Together:**

- a. It could be your kitchen, backyard, a park, or even an imaginary dream location.

##### **2. Brainstorm Sensory Details:**

- a. Ask: *What do we see? hear? smell? feel? taste?*
- b. Write down words and phrases for each sense.
- c. Example: *“The park smells like fresh grass and sounds like birds singing.”*

##### **3. Create a Word Bank:**

- a. Include adjectives, similes, and interesting verbs.
- b. Example: *sparkling, cozy, smells like cinnamon, sounds like laughter.*



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**4. Write Your Description:**

- a. **Grades 1–3:** Write 4–6 sentences using at least 3 senses.
- b. **Grades 4–6:** Write a paragraph with a strong opening sentence and vivid details.
- c. **Grades 7–8:** Write a multi-paragraph description with figurative language (similes, metaphors) and a clear mood.

**5. Add an Illustration or Photo:**

- a. Draw the place or take a picture to go with your writing.

**6. Share and Reflect:**

- a. Read your description aloud to your family.
- b. Ask: *Does this make you feel like you're there?*

**Extension Ideas:**

- **Challenge:** Add a short poem about the place using descriptive words.
- **Digital Option:** Create a slideshow with photos and captions describing the place.
- **Family Twist:** Each family member adds one sentence to make a collaborative description.