



Janet Lee Update

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Principal: Mrs. S. Costa-Popovich Office Administrator: Mrs. C. Harte

Monday Oct. 5, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

COMMUNICATION AT JANET LEE SCHOOL

All communication will continue to be on-line this year. New subscribers can sign up by going to www.hwdsb.on.ca/janetlee/ and follow the instructions. There is a great deal of information shared regularly at Janet Lee and HWDSB. Receiving an email is a very convenient way to ensure that you stay up to date on all that is happening.

VISITORS TO THE OFFICE

All HWDSB schools will be limiting traffic to school offices. To help with this, we are asking that no drop off of student materials is done during the school day unless it is an emergency. Please call us at the school or email the school's email at janetlee@hwdsb.on.ca for general school inquiries. Please email or call your child's teacher for any classroom or program related questions. We ask that you always contact your child's teacher about any concerns as the initial step to problem resolution.

SAFE ARRIVAL/MESSENGER CALL OUT SYSTEM

Safety is our number one priority. Please report all student absences on a daily basis. This year, students arriving late proceed directly to their classroom.

DAILY SELF SCREENING

Please ensure that you are reviewing the self screening checklist daily with your child(ren). A revised screening tool has been issued by the Ministry. (Sent home) If children come down with Covid related symptoms during school, we must follow Public Health protocols. The first step to this process is that parents pick up immediately. If a student has a symptom that is normal for them related to a known cause or condition, parents, guardian/caregivers are encouraged to provide this information as early as possible, before symptoms display themselves. A Dr.'s note is not required for this purpose. Please take a reasonable approach to these situations considering your child's history and symptoms presenting themselves. If your child feels sick or feels they may have the cold or flu, because the symptoms are similar to COVID-19, you are advised to speak with a Dr. and contact public health to arrange a COVID19 test.

PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION

The back playground is supervised by a teacher from 7:55 to 8:10 am. and 2:30 to 2:45 pm.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES & FIRE DRILLS

As you may recall from your own days in school, **FIRE DRILLS** are conducted regularly throughout the year to help ensure that students and staff understand clearly how to respond in the event of a real fire. In addition to these practices, we also practice Emergency Procedures (i.e., shelter in place, hold and secure, and lockdown). **SHELTER IN PLACE** is used when there is a potential environmental or weather related hazard outside of the school. **HOLD AND SECURE** is used when the school is secured due to an ongoing situation outside, not related to the school, that requires all persons to remain in the building (e.g., bank robbery near a school). In these instances the school continues to function normally, with the exterior doors locked until the situation is resolved. **LOCKDOWN** procedures are used when there is a violent incident or threat of serious violence within the school, or in relation to the school, and poses an immediate threat to the students and staff. In these instances all movement within the school and in and out of the school is restricted. We continue to practice these procedures this year with Covid guidelines. Should your child have any questions or concerns, please reassure them that these practices are intended to help keep everyone safe, and we hope to never need them.

LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES

While many of us have an allergy of some sort, a significant number of people have severe reactions to food, insect stings or products such as latex that can cause anaphylaxis—a life threatening swelling of the airways. While there is a large range of foods that can cause allergic reactions, peanuts, nuts and dairy products often pose the most significant risk of causing anaphylaxis. Please check with your child's teacher to see if there are significant allergies in the class.

OCTOBER CHARACTER TRAIT

Although for now we are not able to hold school wide assemblies, we will continue our long standing tradition of learning how to be good citizens. The character trait for the month of October will be Compassion—"We are each made for goodness, love and compassion. When we live these truths, our lives are transformed as much as the world is."

PICTURE DAY

Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 restrictions, Picture Day will be postponed for the time being.

Education plays a vital role in each child's development and a strong partnership between home and school is essential. High expectations in the areas of homework completion, goal setting, attendance, academic achievement, the arts, athletics and citizenship continue to be a focus here at Janet Lee. We encourage each child to be the best that they can be as we support them on this very important journey. We value the strong relationships with our amazing families and community. We know that when a school works together, students benefit greatly. Thank you for partnering with us to support our children.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. S. Costa-Popovich
Principal*