

# **LISGAR NEWS**

## February 2024

Principal: Marco Lutterotti mluttero@hwdsb.on.ca

Lisgar Elementary School 110 Anson Avenue, (905) 389-1309

### Principal's Message

One month in and things are going very well at Lisgar! I am starting to get to know more and more students and families, and we are all settling in to school routines and expectations. Our Chocolate Fundraiser is starting soon and proceeds will benefit our students in many ways. Thank you for supporting our efforts to improve opportunities for all.

As I get to know the school, there are a few items which I would like to remind parents and students about.

Phones and Devices: Provincial guidelines state that devices are not to be used during class time. The only exception to this rule is with explicit teacher permission. Teachers will remind students to put their phones away if it is becoming a distraction from learning. However, students who are continually distracted will be asked to leave their device at home or locked in their lockers. Our preference is that devices stay at home, and I remind parents and students that devices are brought to school at your own risk. We cannot be held responsible for loss, damage, or theft.

**Going out at Lunch Time:** If your child has permission to leave the property at 2<sup>nd</sup> Nutrition Break to buy food, please remind them that they must finish their food during the 40 minutes of break, and to not bring it back to class to eat during instructional time.

Parents entering the building: If you need to enter the school building, please sign in at the office before walking through the hallways. This is a safety concern as we need to have a record of any non-staff who have come through the doors. Visits to classrooms during instructional time are discouraged because it takes the teacher's attention away from supervising the students. If you need to speak to a teacher, please email, write a note, or call, and they will be happy to chat at a mutually convenient time.

**Spectators at extracurricular events:** Students who wish to watch after school games need to be accompanied by an adult after school hours. A Reminder to everyone of HWDSB's Respectful Play Policy:

- Cheer as much as you want, but cheer in a positive manner.
- Verbal or physical abuse of coaches, players, or other spectators will not be tolerated.
- The main goal is to have fun and develop skills, NOT to win.

Coaches are volunteers and deserve thanks for donating their time for your child –without staff volunteering, there would be no teams. Thank you Lisgar Staff!

#### **School Council**

All parents/caregivers are welcome. Contact the office if you are interested in participating. Our next School Council Meeting takes place Wednesday, February 21 @ 6:00pm

#### **Volunteers**

If you are interested in volunteering at school, contact the office or Brittany Ritchie, a School Council co-chair. There are a variety of roles available for those who can volunteer.

#### **Cold Weather at School**

During winter, it's important that children come to school prepared for the cold. Students should wear boots, mittens/gloves and hats and it's a good idea to pack extra mittens, socks, etc. in case they are needed.

Principals decide whether to send students outside for recess. HWDSB asks Principals to follow the City of Hamilton guideline that people stay inside when it's at or below -5C, or -20C with the wind chill.

## What about playgrounds?

Contractors will plow or clear up to half of the asphalt play area at schools. Head Caretakers also inspect playgrounds and spot sand and/or salt areas made slippery by changing temperatures. Students should take extra caution when walking or playing on school property that may be slippery. Principals concerned about weather or playground conditions may hold indoor recesses and lunch/nutrition breaks.