

École Élémentaire Michaëlle Jean

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

2121 Highway # 56
Binbrook, Ontario L0R 1C0
Phone: 905.692.5436 Fax: 905.692.5430

EMAIL: michaellejean@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: Mme. S. Constable
www.hwdsb.on.ca/michaellejean



September 2022

Dear MJ families,

We are excited to welcome students back to class – in person and remote learning – for the 2022-23 school year.

We know that the past two years have been challenging, and we are thrilled to see students, staff and families again. Each new year is a great new opportunity.

A friendly reminder that the first day of school will be **Tuesday, September 6, 2022**.

We know that many families remain concerned about safety, and we are too. We continue to take COVID-19 precautions, such as doing daily [COVID-19 school and child care screening](#) and staying home when sick or instructed within the screening tool.

As we move through the pandemic, we will continue to update families on important developments. We know that families may have a lot of questions.

Here at Michaëlle Jean, we will communicate with families via School Messenger Email and our Michaëlle Jean website. Please make sure we have your most current up to date email address.

Subscribe to the MJ website: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/michaellejean/subscribe/>. You will then receive a notification via e-mail with a link that a news item has been posted.

We also invite families to keep up with communications from HWDSB by [subscribing to email updates](#) or following HWDSB on social media or follow us on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mjeanlions/>

Reporting an Absence:

- Use the SafeArrival website <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home> The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
- Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store (or from links at go.schoolmessenger.ca). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
- Call the toll-free number 844-506-4350 to report an absence using the automated phone system.

Busing: <https://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/> - Transportation 905-523-2318

Here are some important points to remember as students prepare for the start of the school year:

Supporting a Positive Return to School

Across HWDSB, we are also reintroducing a welcoming, inclusive initiative to help students as they return to school. Reimagining Wellness 2.0 is a series of activities and lessons which focus on student well being and creating inclusive and welcoming classrooms.

COVID-19

Most health and safety guidance from the province is unchanged from the end of the 2021-22 school year, but here are some items we want to bring to your attention:

- It is still recommended that staff, students and visitors continue to self-screen every day before attending school using the [COVID-19 school and childcare screening tool](#). We no longer verify student screening results in schools. Please stay home if you have COVID-19 symptoms or are waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms.
- HWDSB is a mask-friendly environment. We continue to support the wearing of masks in schools, administrative buildings and buses, as an effective public health measure. We will continue to offer free masks for students and visitors to our schools. Although masks are not required, our schools, offices and buses are respectful, welcoming and inclusive environments where individuals can choose to wear or not to wear a mask.
- HEPA filter units are installed in every occupied kindergarten class, in all occupied learning spaces without mechanical ventilation, and in mechanically ventilated learning spaces without MERV-13 level filters. HWDSB will continue to deploy HEPA filter units in learning spaces in a manner that maximizes their benefit. We will continue to publicly communicate ventilation measures on our [website](#).

Transportation

We have been supporting HWSTS, our local transportation consortium, as they adopt a new platform for their Parent Portal. If your child qualifies for transportation, **please follow the steps listed to access your child(ren)'s information via the online portal**. Please keep in mind that last minute changes sometimes do occur and that it is important to re-check the information prior to sending your child(ren) to their assigned pickup location on September 6, 2022. Go to www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca and click on the "Parent's Portal" on the Home page, OR "Bus Stop Finder" on the landing page. [Learn more](#).

Bus contactors will continue with regular cleaning routines, to ensure that students and drivers have a sanitary environment. Masks are optional but encouraged while riding the bus.

Being on Time for School

Although we encourage all families to utilize transportation provided by the board, we do have families that choose to drive their children to school. Our school day begins at 8:50 a.m. Arriving on time for school ensures that your child doesn't miss out on the important learning activities that happen early in the day when they are most alert. Students arriving to class late miss out on the natural transition period and may lose ever more the lesson as they scurry to settle in an academic focus.

Addressing a Concern

Students and families with classroom concerns are encouraged to contact their student's classroom teacher. School-wide concerns can be addressed by the principal. [Addressing a Concern \(PDF\)](#).

Right to Disconnect

Healthy work-life boundaries, including the ability for all employees to disconnect from work after hours, is an important part of maintaining one's health and well-being. HWDSB has implemented a [Right to Disconnect Procedure](#) to support educators, administrators and other HWDSB staff. While all urgent communication will continue to be shared after hours, please note that families communicating with educators and administrators may receive a delay in response to all non-emergency inquiries received after hours.

Bell Schedule

Time	Period
8:50	Entry
8:50-9:50	Period 1
9:50-10:30	Period 2
10:30-11:10	Nutrition Break #1 (Out 20 minutes/ Eat 20 minutes)
11:10-12:00	Period 3
12:00-12:50	Period 4
12:50-1:30	Nutrition Break #2 (Out 20 minutes/ Eat 20 minutes)
1:30-2:10	Period 5
2:10-3:10	Period 6
3:10	Dismissal

Sincerely,

Mme Constable
Principal