



Prince of Wales Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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January 24, 2020

Dear Families,

On January 23, 2020, we learned that an incident took place in our community involving gun violence. We were saddened to find out that a 7-year-old child was seriously harmed as a result of the tragic situation.

As a school community, we extend our prayers to the family and wish them strength at this difficult time. We also offer intentions of hope and healing for the child during this stage of recovery.

Incidents in the community such as this are very distressing. These rare events can impact each of us differently and may result in feelings of sadness, grief, helplessness, anxiety or anger.

If you require support, the following organizations offer crisis support:

- COAST Hamilton, 905-972-8338, for crisis outreach and support for all ages
- Kids Help Phone, 1-800-668-6868, for counselling and information service for young people

Parents are encouraged to reference our tips sheet on how to support children and youth in these situations: <https://bit.ly/2LTQBcn>

Social workers will be available at the school on Monday to provide support to students who may be struggling. The Board's manager of employee support and wellness has also met with our staff to ensure their care and well-being is considered at this time.

As always, please call the school to speak with Ms. Panju or me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Michael Castellani
Principal