

R.L. Hyslop Elementary School



JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

- Mon Jan 7 – First day back to school
- Thurs Jan 17 – Orchard Park Gr 8 Option Sheet Information night
- Fri Jan 25 – PA Day (no school for students)
- Mon Jan 28 – Mad Science begins (3:15-4:15)
- Thurs Jan 31 – Shelter in Place drill



FROM THE DESK OF MR. HILL

Happy New Year and welcome back to all of our students and their families! I hope everyone had an enjoyable break and found time to spend with family and friends. December was another busy month at RL Hyslop with students participating in the food drive, weekly theme days, purchasing candy cane grams, shopping at the annual bazaar and joining in the sing along on the last day before the holidays.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Good Shepherd food drive. As a school, we collected a total of over 300 items, more than doubling the original goal. Congratulations to Mr. Worosz's 6/7 class on collecting the most items per student. Way to go!

A huge thank you to Adrienne Bothen, School Council members and all of the volunteers who helped to make the annual Holiday Bazaar such a success. Thanks to all those who donated gift items, wrapping paper, gifts bags, etc... It was wonderful to see students carefully selecting items to purchase for family members and our older students helping to wrap the gifts.

I would also like to thank Mr. Cameron for his assistance with the sound system and musical selections at the sing along prior to the break. It was great to head into the break with a school wide gathering to help get into the holiday spirit.

January often brings with it cooler weather and sometimes inclement weather. Please see the information found later in this newsletter regarding students coming to school prepared for the weather and staying safe in the winter months.

January also brings a new year that provides the time for new dreams and new achievements. People throughout the world anticipate this time of year to celebrate the memories they made in the past year and to welcome the new one. My hope is that our students will use this time to reflect on their past accomplishments and set goals to achieve future successes!



WEATHER

January not only brings in the New Year, but the bitter cold winter weather as well. It is time to get prepared. During cold and snowy weather please remember that students are to be at school no earlier than 8:35am. When the weather is extremely cold we will have indoor entry. Students should arrive at school as close to the entry time (8:50am) as possible. Listen to your local radio or check the HWDSB website for school closures. The automated phone messaging system will also contact parents/guardians in the event of a school closure due to inclement weather. Students will stay indoors if there is a cold weather alert (-15 degrees Celsius or colder with the wind chill).

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS DURING WINTER

A reminder to everyone about some safety precautions during winter outdoor play:

- No throwing snow. It can cause injury, as it may have ice.
- Beware of ice patches when running or playing because it is easy to slip and injure yourself.
- Dress appropriately with hats, boots, scarves, mitts, snow pants, etc.
- Always remember to bring an extra pair of indoor shoes to school so we can keep the school hallways, classrooms and carpets clean.



Follow these safety tips during winter outdoor play to have a fun and safe time!

NUTRITION BREAK CHANGES

We made a slight change to our nutrition break procedures for our grade 1/2 and 2/3 classes. These students now stay in their classrooms and eat during the first 20 minutes of each break and then head outside for the second 20 minutes, with the grade 3/4 to 8 students. This change has allowed us to have our Kindergarten students following a separate daily schedule that includes more flexible outdoor play time and longer, uninterrupted periods for exploration and learning in the classroom.

SNOW CLEARING

Staff from the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board will clear, salt and/or sand the following areas:

- The walkways from the City sidewalk to the school
- The school steps
- An area outside of entrances and Fire Exit Doors
- Fire Exit stairs and ramps



When there is an accumulation of 5 cm of snow, parking lots and sidewalks are plowed by approved contractors arranged through Facilities Management. General salting and sanding of the parking lot is also done by contracted staff prior to the commencement of the school day when deemed necessary by the Facilities Management staff. Head Caretakers may salt or sand isolated areas on the parking lot on an as needed basis.

Playgrounds will not be plowed or otherwise cleared. Head Caretakers will check the condition of the grounds early in the morning and during the school day to sand and/or salt isolated slippery areas that may occur due to changing temperatures. Students should take extra caution when walking onto or playing on the school grounds when conditions are slippery.

TERM 1 REPORT CARDS

Term 1 Report Cards will be sent home on February 12th. It is important for all students to keep up with their homework, assignments, and tests to be successful. Last minute catch-ups do not always work. If you have any questions regarding your child's progress, please connect with their teacher.

GRADE 8 GRADUATION – IMPORTANT DATES

- Graduation Pictures are Thursday February 7
- Graduation Ceremony is Thursday June 20 – more details to come!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW TRUSTEE

Hello Parents, Guardians and Caregivers!

My name is Carole Paikin Miller and I am your School Board Trustee representative for Ward 5.

As a school board trustee, my role is to maintain a focus on student achievement, well-being and equity and to participate in making decisions that benefit our board's entire jurisdiction while representing the interest of my constituents. I look forward to visiting our schools and seeing all of the hard work that is taking place by students and staff.

I'd invite you to reach out to me to introduce yourself and share any positive feedback or concerns you might have about the schools in our ward.

I can be reached by email at cpamill@hwdsb.on.ca or by phone at 365-336-4480.



For more information about the Board of Trustees, including the committees that Trustees are part of, please visit: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/trustees/>

MAD SCIENCE

We will be offering an exciting after school program operated by Mad Science for students in grades 1 to 6 beginning on Monday January 28. The program will run on Mondays from 3:15- 4:15. See the attached posted for more information. Further information will also be sent home with students soon.