



Shannen Koostachin
KODIAKS

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Shannen Koostachin News – December 2019



Shannen Koostachin Elementary School

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www.hwdsb.on.ca/shannenkoostachin

PRINCIPAL: Julie Anderson (@SHANNEN_HWDSB)

VICE-PRINCIPAL: Tricia Nelson (@VPnelson_hwdsb)

FROM THE STAFF AT SHANNEN KOOSTACHIN..



This month will bring many fun holiday events and activities for the students here at Shannen Koostachin!

There will be Candy Cane Grams being sold at first nutrition break during the week of December 16th for \$1.00. Please also donate, if you can, to our McMaster Children's Hospital Toy Drive, running until December 12th. Toys need to be new and in original packaging based on the hospital's guidelines.

We also look forward to finally having our very first Shannen Koostachin Celebration assembly this month in our gymnasium!

Wishing our Shannen Koostachin Families and Community a very wonderful and warm holiday season! May you have a safe and enjoyable, relaxing holiday, spent with loved ones and making memories.

DECEMBER EVENTS

- Dec. 2– Dec. 12– McMaster Children's Hospital Toy Drive
- Dec. 6– Grade 7 Immunizations
- Dec. 10– Grade 7/8 Trip to Saltfleet for Holiday Concert
- Dec. 16– 20– Candy Cane Grams being Sold
- Dec. 17– SK Vision Screening
- Dec. 18– Kindergarten and Primary Joy Day (student activities)
- Dec. 20– Celebration Assembly (9:45– 10:45 a.m.)

Winter Holiday– Dec. 23–Jan.3, 2020



This Month's Band Practices:

Dec. 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18 (11:10 a.m.—11:50 a.m. 1st Nutrition Break)

This Month's Pita Days:

Dec. 5, 19

This Month's Pizza Days:

Dec. 2, 9, 16



Please continue to check the Shannen Koostachin website and follow Mrs. Anderson on Twitter @SHANNEN_HWDSB or Mrs. Nelson @VPnelson_hwdsb for upcoming events and special occasions throughout the year!



To keep current on upcoming school events, check out our School Website and Calendar www.hwdsb.on.ca/shannenkoostachin/events regularly!

School Council (an open invitation)**We are Always looking for Extra Help!****How to Get Involved:**

If you are interested in attending our monthly School Council meetings or are able to lend a hand please

email: shannenkoostachinSC@hwdsb.on.ca

We look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting:

*Monday, January 20th at 6:30 p.m.
in the Learning Commons/Library.*

SPORTS DESK

A Big Congratulations to our Grade 5 and 6 Flag Football Team on an amazing season! The team finished the season in third place! The league had a final day at Tim Hortons Field on a frigid night in November. Even though they all froze, it was quite an exciting experience to be on a professional field and meet Speedy Banks! Also this past month our Volleyball teams finished their seasons with a tournament at Dofasco Recreation Centre. This volleyball season was quite a challenge without a gym but our athletes demonstrated perseverance, determination and amazing school spirit. We are very proud of both of our teams. Go Kodiaks!!

**Bus Safety Rules****STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

- 1 Abide by the Bus Drivers Instructions**
- 2 No Eating or Drinking on the bus**
- 3 Remain seated at ALL times—stay away from open windows**
- 4 No foul language/no yelling**
- 5 Do not throw objects inside or outside the bus**
- 6 Keep aisle clear at all times**
- 7 Respect other students**

Our Parking Lot

In order to keep all students and families safe, we ask that you please review the parking and dropping off guidelines below:

- ⇒ Please enter through the IN lane of the parking lot- follow the arrows
- ⇒ Please exit through the OUT lane of the parking lot- follow the arrows
- ⇒ If you are parking, please use the designated parking lot. There is also parking along the streets around the school.
- ⇒ If you are dropping off, please drop off at the back gate at the back of the parking lot and continue through the parking lot and out- follow the arrows.
- ⇒ DO NOT ENTER the main lane in front of the school. This is considered a fire lane and for BUSES ONLY at pick up and drop off times.
- ⇒ Please be patient, drop off and pick up takes 10-15 minutes
- ⇒ During our construction the only gate open to the playground will be off of the parking lot. Once construction has ended, we will have an entry gate at the other side of the playground along Keystone Crescent.

A reminder that our school grounds are open from 9:15 until 9:30 when our instructional bell rings. Teachers, Early Childhood Educators and Educational Assistants are ready to assist and support students during this time. As always, we encourage students who live close by to walk to school, this will cut down on the congestion in our parking lot.

Thank you for your continued support and attention to this matter. Student safety is always our number one priority!



Shannen Koostachin's
First Ever
McMaster Children's
Hospital
Toy Drive!



Taking place from December 2nd until December 12th, all classes are asked to bring in toy donations for McMaster Children's Hospital. The class that brings in the most toys will win a well deserved pizza party! Join us Kodiaks in sharing in the joy by giving a toy this holiday season!

IMPORTANT: Toys need to be new and in original packaging based on McMaster Children's Hospital guidelines. Keep in mind we are looking for toys for infants, toddlers, ages 5-12 and teens. Please avoid wrapping the toys and no stuffed animals.

Reminders...

**Smoking is
Prohibited**



Please be reminded that **smoking/vaping is Not Permitted Anywhere on School Board Property at Anytime.**

BILL 31 AMENDMENTS - HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT

NEW ROAD RULES IN EFFECT!

A REMINDER TO ALL DRIVERS AND CYCLISTS!
As of January 2016, all motorists must stop and yield the whole roadway at:

- Pedestrian crossovers;
- School Crossings where there is a guard displaying a school crossing stop sign.

Motorists can **NO** longer turn left, right or proceed through a crosswalk on the clear half of the roadway.
You now **MUST** wait until the entire crosswalk is empty of both pedestrians and the School Crossing Guard.

Stop, when you approach a School Crossing Location
Take notice of whether there is a guard on duty
Obey the Highway Traffic Act and wait for guard to completely exit the crosswalk
Proceed with caution

Allergy Aware School



We have many students with life-threatening allergies to peanuts or nuts. **Please do not send your child with any nut products for lunch or snacks.** Working together we can help ensure the safety of all our children!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Your child has the opportunity to use books from our Home Reading Program. At the beginning of the school year we talk about being responsible and about the proper care and handling of books.

Please be aware that if a book is lost or damaged the cost of that book needs to be remitted to the school so new books can be purchased to replace the lost or damaged book. The cost of these specialized readers is \$10.

If you have received a notice for a lost or damaged book and you have questions or concerns, please contact the school.



turn it off!



Idling is illegal in Hamilton (by-law 07-160).

- **Save money** – because idling your vehicle for 10 minutes a day uses up more than 100 litres of gasoline in a year.
- **Breathe easier** – you won't have to breathe in exhaust fumes from a vehicle that is going nowhere.
- **Spare the air** – to combat problems like smog and climate change, we all need to use energy more wisely.

Idling for over 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting your engine.

**idling gets you
nowhere**



Encourage Your Children to Use Active Travel to Get to School

Walking and wheeling are healthy ways to get to and from school. Skipping car travel for more active travel can help children meet the recommended minimum of 60 minutes of daily physical activity. Trips powered by active travel, rather than vehicles, can help to improve air quality, reduce your carbon footprint, and make neighborhoods friendlier places. Commit to walking or wheeling to or from school at least once, then build from there.



SALTFLEET HOLIDAY CONCERT !!(Grades 7/8)

Dec. 10th

Students will visit Saltfleet to enjoy the music of Disney. The bands will be playing songs from The Little Mermaid, Mary Poppins, Moana, Frozen, Avengers, Spiderman, Jungle Book, Pirates of the Caribbean, etc.



Candy Cane Grams!

Dec. 16-20th

Being sold at 1st Nutrition Break

\$1.00 Each!

SAFE ARRIVAL ABSENCE REPORTING SYSTEM

At HWDSB, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all students safely arrive at school every day.

SafeArrival, a student absence reporting system, makes it very easy for families to report student absences. It also allows school staff to respond quickly and thoroughly to all unexplained absences. **Our goal is to continue to have all absences explained and all student accounted for each day, knowing that they are all safe.**

With SafeArrival, families report a child's absence in one of three ways:

Use the SafeArrival website, go.schoolmessenger.ca. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.

1. 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 **1-844-506-4350** to report an absence using the automated phone system. These options are available 24 hours/day, seven days a week. You can report a future absence any time.

In addition, we will use the SchoolMessenger Communicate automated notification system to contact parents whose elementary school child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents multiple times until parents confirm and explain the absence. If this system cannot reach the designated contacts, elementary school office staff will follow up.

If you try to explain an absence using SafeArrival, but are then told that it is past the cut-off time, please contact the school directly.

If you report your child's absence in advance using either the SafeArrival toll-free number, the website or the mobile app, you will NOT receive these notifications.

Cool Little Kids®

An Anxiety Prevention Program: Working with Parents/Primary Caregivers to support young Children

Information Night

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

6:30 pm-7:30pm

Education Centre
20 Education Court
Hamilton, Ontario

RSVP by:

January 14, 2020

Call: 905 527 5092 ext. 2923
Email: coollittlekids@hwdsb.on.ca

Cool Little Kids is an Evidence Based program grounded in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy



If you are a parent/primary caregiver of a student in JK-Grade 2 and if your child is described as shy, withdrawn or worried, come and learn about the Cool Little Kids Program. Learn practical strategies that will help to build your child's confidence.

THIS IS A PROGRAM FOR PARENTS AND PRIMARY CAREGIVERS. CHILDREN DO NOT ATTEND.



This program is offered by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Social Work Department.

“We will be known forever by the tracks that we leave.”

~Shannen Koostachin Staff



Families Worrying Less Together

A Program for Parents/Primary Caregivers of Kids Whose Worries Get the Best of Them

Information Night

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

6:30 pm-7:30pm

Education Centre
20 Education Court
Hamilton, Ontario

RSVP by:

January 14, 2020

Call: 905 527 5092 ext. 3555
Email: FWLT@hwdsb.on.ca

FWLT is an evidence-informed program based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy



If you are a parent/primary caregiver of a student in Grade 3-6 who is excessively shy, or has intense worries and fears, come learn about the "Families Worrying Less Together" program. This program will give you practical strategies to help your child learn to cope differently.

THIS IS A PROGRAM FOR PARENTS AND PRIMARY CAREGIVERS. CHILDREN DO NOT ATTEND.



This program is offered by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Social Work Department.

