



Shannen Koostachin
KODIAKS

Shannen Koostachin News – January 2020



Shannen Koostachin Elementary School

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PRINCIPAL: Julie Anderson (@SHANNEN_HWDSB)

VICE-PRINCIPAL: Tricia Nelson (@VPnelson_hwdsb)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK ...

January finds us celebrating all of the events of the past few months as well as looking forward to many events to come in January. Please check the Shannen Koostachin Website often as we continue to update it with current events and planned activities. Our current plan is to hold our first celebration assembly in the gym on January 31st. This assembly is dependent on the completion of the stage and sound system! Fingers crossed we will be able to open the doors for this celebration event.

January brings many more experiences for our community. Thank you to School Council who have planned Pizza Days, Pita Days and are now starting a milk program at the school. If you haven't had the opportunity to join our food days please check school cash online or the website for the most current order forms.

Our student leaders were busy in December with the Mac Kids toy drive and in January will be running a used clothing drive to support the Kidney Foundation. Please take a look at the letter that came home in December to find out more information about the needed items that can be donated anytime between January 6 - January 17. Thank you to our wonderful student leaders for organizing this event to support a local foundation.

January brings many days of cold weather. Please be aware that students will continue to head outside to play and must wear appropriate clothing for winter play! As always, I will make decisions day to day based on extreme cold (-15 without or -20 with wind chill) and/or unsafe conditions to keep students inside at break.

My door is always open for questions, concerns, or suggestions as we continue to work together as a community.

Have a wonderful January and all the best in 2020!

JANUARY EVENTS

- Jan. 14—Grade 2 trip to Children's Museum
- Jan. 17—Kidney Clothing Drive pick up
- Jan. 20—School Council 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 27— Family Literacy Day— Information to come home.
- Jan. 30—School Council Chocolate Fundraiser assembly
- Jan. 31 – Celebration Assembly (9:45– 10:45 a.m.)

P.A. DAY—Friday, January 24—no school

Pita Days—January 9 & 23

Pizza Days—January 6, 13, 20, 27

This Month's Band Practices:

Jan. 13, 15, 20, 22, 28, 30

(11:10 a.m.—11:50 a.m. 1st Nutrition Break)



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

WE HAVE A GYM!!!!

And we couldn't be happier!! Our senior basketball teams have been working hard since before the break and are ready for their upcoming season. It has been amazing watching the growth that our team has had and we can't wait to see how far they will go by the end of the season. Games for our seniors begin on January 14 here at Shannen Koostachin, come out and support our wonderful teams! Looking ahead to next month we are hoping to have some intramurals underway and possibly a cricket team! Lets 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 Clothing Drive for the Kidney Foundation!

If your drawers are overflowing and your closets are in chaos, it might be time to consider donating to Kidney Clothes.

We invite you to donate all clothing (from the socks on your feet to the hat on your head!) and cloth-based items such as footwear, outerwear and linens. We also accept small household goods like kitchenware, knickknacks, games and toys, tools, sportswear and more.

Clothing will be accepted in your child's classroom until Friday, January 17.

- Tattered and torn?**
- Can't be worn?**
- Things you won't wear?**
- We don't care!**
- Give us your ugly.**
- Give us your old.**
- Give us what can't be sold!**
- Got one shoe?**
- Here's what to do!**
- Don't dispose.**
- Donate to Kidney Clothes!**

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!

FAMILY LITERACY DAY— January 27th, 2020

Set a good example and read every day!

Read to yourself and read to your child(ren)

Have your child read to you!



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.



NEW YEAR—NEW RESOLUTIONS!

School starts promptly at 9:30 a.m. and our playground is supervised from 9:15 a.m. It may take longer to walk to school on cold and snowy days but please try to have the students in your household arrive on time.

Good habits take time to form.



Watch for our

Chocolate

Fundraiser—

COMING SOON!



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.



PIZZA!

Parent Council is pleased to be continuing Pizza Days in 2020. Cheese pizza supplied by Famo Pizza will be available at \$1.75 per slice. Watch for the order form in your child's backpack or pay for your order at school cash online.

Deadline for forms and payment is Wednesday, January 15.
No late orders please!

HWDSB

GRADE 8

OPTION SHEET NIGHTS

You're Invited to a Pathways Information Night at:

Saltfleet District High School

JANUARY 21, 2020 - 6:30 TO 8:00 P.M.

The Saltfleet Pathways Information Nights is a welcoming and practical session that helps Grade 8-11 students and their parents select courses for the 2020-21 school year.

Take your time to plan, with your parents or guardians, so that you can work toward the pathway that will be best for you.

At HWDSB, we believe in you, and in the ability of our staff to support you.

We look forward to seeing you!

Follow us on Twitter and our website for more information on exciting events! Call us for a tour!



@SaltfleetHWDSB



905-573-3000



www.hwdsb.on.ca/saltfleet

