

Community Weekly Time Lion

Hear us Roar



Principal Announcement:

Dear SWL families,

Sir Wilfrid Laurier staff is excited to welcome back students starting September 6th. We are looking forward to another ROARING school year and hoping everyone is feeling refreshed and ready to learn after a wonderful warm summer.

*A friendly reminder that the first day of school will be **Wednesday, September 6, 2023**. Our main office is open from 9AM-3PM the week of August 28th for new registrations and scheduled student transition meetings. Should you need to speak with the office for other questions or information, please connect through phone or email so we can assist.*

Please review the parent portal during the week of August 28th for your child's class placement. Due to our current class assigned numbers, we are not able to accommodate class changes or new requests at this time. Our SWL staff is dedicated in addressing student need and will support our students so they feel welcomed and safe in new classrooms this year.

Weather permitting, SWL students, Grades 1-8, will meet on the hard top on the first day of school during entry time, 8:35-8:50AM. Class signs will be up for students to locate their classroom line and teacher. The order will be from Grade 1 (starting near our pathway) to Grade 8 (near the portable area). Looking forward to seeing everyone back in September.

Kindergarten students new to school will have a scheduled appointment time communicated by their child's homeroom teacher. Students and families will visit during their scheduled time on September 6th. Year 2 Kindergarten students will attend school starting Thursday, September 7th. Students will come to the Kindergarten gate, as per previous routines, during entry time.

Please reach out to our school if you have any questions.

*Respectfully,
K. Reilly-Scott
Principal*

Hamilton Student Transportation System

Responsibility for getting to and from school rests primarily with the student and parents or guardians. The Education Act states that a board may provide transportation for pupils enrolled in schools operated by the Board. Transportation to and from school provided to students is a privilege and not a right. The HWSTS Member Boards' Transportation Policies set out the terms and conditions under which the Boards may provide transportation. To check if your child is eligible for busing, please visit <https://hwsts.mybusplanner.ca/TransportationEligibility> .

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, 2023. 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](#).

Thank you to our SWL Caretaking Team!

A special thank you to our dynamite caretaking team at SWL! Our team has worked extra hard this summer to support summer learning sessions and prepare for our September opening!

Umbrella Child Care

Before and After care is available at SWL site. Umbrella Child Care is organized through Umbrella Care only. Our main office does not manage registrations with Umbrella. Please review the link to contact Umbrella Care if you are seeking child care before and after school.

<https://www.umbrellafamily.com>

Staff List 2023-2024

Amy Onat	JSA	Melony Parkin	DECE
Melissa Mitchell	JSB	Jana Boccaccio	DECE
Teresa Anderson-Wong	JSC	Valbona Kertoci	DECE
Leanne McGrimmond	JSD	Souhad Saffaf Masri	DECE
Sandra Manojlovik	JSE	Darla Kobe	DECE
Rachel Hone	JSF	Emily Legree	DECE

Lillian Milinkovic	1A		
Jordana Smith	1B	Brock Erben	Educational Assistant
Kristina Groleau	12A	Andrea Hillen	Educational Assistant
Theresa Jones	12B	Lynda Knight	Educational Assistant
Maria Serra/Vacancy	2A	Bailey Lansley	Educational Assistant
Alysha Campanella	2B	Taylor Rideout	Educational Assistant
Jesse Kirkpatrick	2C	LTO TBD (Penny Matte)	Educational Assistant
Matthew O'Connor	2/3A	Amani Abu Errub	Educational Assistant
Lori Colasanzio	3A	Nicole Pereira	Educational Assistant
Tracy Hitchcock	3B	Olivia Slota	Educational Assistant
Erica Mueller	34A	Arlene Tokiwa	Educational Assistant
Anna Cole	4A		
Kristyn Luker	4B	Amy Thorne	Social Communication
Amanda Tessara	4C	Anice Francis	Social Communication
Melanie Collingwood	5A	LTO TBD	Social Communication
Shana Watanabe	5B		
Julie Engelage	5C	Jane Johnston	Reading Specialist
Ryan Maynard	6A	Megan Wood	Intermediate Support (ESST)
Chris Moase	6B	Gail Glenny-Burke	Social Worker
Kailey Kirkpatrick	6C	Jeremy Murray	Math Facilitator
Samantha Coddington	67A		
Frank Federico	7A	Magda Bielak	Head Caretaker
LTO TBD (James Cain)	78A	Jean Boyle	Asst. Caretaker
Brittany Passfield	7/8B	Elzbieta Jedrzejewicz	Asst. Caretaker
Andrew Byrne	8A	Deysy Sandoval de Funes	Asst. Caretaker
Claudio Santaguida	8B	Garcia Smith	Asst. Caretaker
Michelle Tuite	8C		
Melissa Cryer	LRT		
Carni Grewal	LRT		
Scott Petterson	Phys. Ed		
LTO TBD	Library/Lit	Carla Fidanza	Office Administrator
Kristine Scott	Kinder Cov	Tara Mantini	Office Administrator
Kerry Silver	French	Tim Kivell	Vice-Principal
Jeannette Raynham	French	Kelly Reilly-Scott	Principal
LTO TBD (Teesha Burnett)	French		
Lindsay Rogers	Special Class		
Lisa Miron	ESL Support		
Reema Kamboh	ESL Support		
Kelly Burke	AIM Support		

Bell Times 2023-2024

Entry 8:35 – 8:50	School Grounds Open
AM	
8:50 – 9:30	Period 1
9:30 – 10:10	Period 2
10:10– 10:50	Period 3
10:50 – 11:10	Grade 5-8, Outside Nutrition Break Grade 1-4, Inside Nutrition Break
11:10 – 11:30	Grade 1-4 Outside Nutrition Break Grade 5-8, Inside Nutrition Break
11:30-12:00	Period 4
PM	
12:00 – 12:30	Period 5
12:30 – 1:10	Period 6
1:10 – 1:30	Grade 5-8 Outside Nutrition Break Grade 1-4 Inside Nutrition Break
1:30 – 1:50	Grade 1-4 Outside Nutrition Break Grade 5-8 Inside Nutrition Break
1:50 – 2:30	Period 7
2:30 – 3:10	Period 8
3:10	Dismissal
3:25	School Grounds Close

SWL Home-School Communication

We are committed to providing timely, relevant information about your child and the school in a variety of ways. Here are some of our key communication strategies:

1) Direct Contact: School staff will phone home if the need arises. Please feel free to phone the school to share pertinent student information with school staff as well. Parents are welcome to phone the school in order to arrange meetings with teachers to discuss school related issues or concerns. 905-578-4422.

2) Community Weekly Updates: SWL School updates are provided on the school website and through SchoolMessenger. Updates contain information regarding all areas of school life. The weekly community updates are particularly important in providing dates for upcoming events of all kinds.

3) School Website & School Messenger: A great deal of school information will be shared on our school website and through School Messenger during the coming year in regard to school events, school council, etc. A school calendar of upcoming events is also posted and updated regularly. You can subscribe to our website by clicking subscribe button on the left side of the home page screen. <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/sirwilfridlaurier/>. Community weekly updates will be posted on our website as well.

4) Student Agenda: Our student agenda is designed to help students to plan and organize their work at school this year. Teachers will use it as a key vehicle of communication with parents/guardians. It also provides some basic information concerning the programs, policies and procedures at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School.

5) School Sign: The school sign on the front lawn is a great source of up to date information.

7) Parent Portal: HWDSB Parent Portal, is a protected parent log in space that contains important forms for families, student information (e.g, grades, schedule, homeroom teacher etc.).

PARKING AND DROP-OFF AREAS During Entry & Dismissal

Parking space is extremely limited. We are currently experiencing construction at the Recreational Centre attached to the school as well. This parking lot area is closed. Although we are a walking school, parents in special circumstances needing to drop their child off by vehicle are asked to park on the streets adjacent to the school (where it is unsigned) at all times. Our front drive way will have pylons placed in areas where cars should not park as well to help the flow of traffic as our buses and taxis need to access these areas.

Walk to School

SWL is primarily a walking school as only a few students require transportation due to distance from the school allowing for busing eligibility. Students that live within a walking distance from the school are encouraged to walk to school with parents/guardian or peers rather than be driven by vehicle.

Benefits of Walking to and from School

- Improved safety on our community streets
- Less congestion and pollution near the school
- Walking provides time for mindfulness and self-reflection
- Walking with a peer provides time for peer connection
- Exercise – feeling healthier and energized for school
- Adding more steps to your day

Students Requiring a Medical Plan of Care

If your child requires a specific medical plan of care (i.e., Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetic, Special Medical Conditions) and you have not informed the office, please connect with the school the week of August 28 so we can support and provide families with correct forms and processes.

Our office will be sending home updated forms for families of students that currently have a medical plan of care at SWL. Any updates or new information can be included in these forms. If the plan has not changed a signature is all that is required.

Students requiring an epi-pen, must have one on person at all times and one stored at our main office. The epi-pen can be handed to the office starting the week of August 28th. Students that require an inhaler should have on person at all times. Inhalers can also be stored at our main office for support.

Administration of medications require parent/guardian permission and a doctor signature.

Communication regarding our First Week Back to School will be shared prior to the First Day. Enjoy the last bit of summer!