



# Sir William Osler Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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April 08, 2020

Good afternoon SWO!

The last few weeks have been quite a journey. Firstly, I hope that families are safe and healthy in these challenging times. Continue to *stay at home* so we *can flatten the curve* with the hope of moving past this latest challenge sooner than later. From a SWO perspective, things are beginning to fall into place. What have we been up to since we have last seen each other?

- Countless hours of teacher planning and learning how to negotiate digital platforms to best meet student needs
- School-based and HWDSB data collection to inform next steps
- Reframing all interaction and programming via a digital lens
- Preparing an inventory of technology to support distance learning needs

This has been quite a learning process for both staff and our SWO community. A worthy endeavour as support for student achievement and wellbeing are goals that have not changed.

Please continue to follow HWDSB updates as mass communication for parents and families will continue to be communicated in that form. I have had several families reach out with questions. We will answer what we can although, at this time, most decisions are not school-based. We rely on board-wide planning, problem-solving and direction at this time. The items below are still being problem solved at the board level:

- Entry to the school building for students and families (to retrieve, shoes, medications, books, etc.), no access at this time
- Technology for home use (rollout begins next week)
- No wifi at home

When answers for the above items are known, we will communicate this information as soon as possible.

During our time away, we have had a staffing change. We would like to welcome back Ms. Harvey (class 2A) and thank Ms. McManus for her efforts to support 2A in Ms. Harvey's absence.

We have begun to refund families who have prepaid for pizza. You can expect this process to be completed in a few days. If you have questions about your refund, please reach out to our Vice Principal, Ms. Seo – [mseo@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:mseo@hwdsb.on.ca). We will update you regarding grade 8 Graduation when we hear from the board. We can let you know that all further trips have been cancelled for the duration of the 2019/20 school year (including Camp Couchiching).

Our Lunchbox orders have been cancelled for March and April. The company will automatically credit payment on account and the credit will carry over to the next school year. Parents wishing for a **refund** will need to contact Lunchbox directly at **1.877.426.6860**.

In this the first week of teacher-directed distance learning, I encourage parents to touch base with their children and communicate any home based learnings/comments directly with your child's teacher. Teacher contact information can be found via this link: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/sirwilliamosler/staff-directory/>

This is a learning process for everyone and teaching staff are continually making adjustments as we move forward. It also is the case that some teachers have let me know that some students (especially grade 6-8 students) have not yet accessed or taken part in on-line sessions. A parent reminder may be needed.

We will continue to keep the lines of communication open to support our SWO families as we negotiate our new normal. Please reach out, we are here for you. Stay safe, healthy and enjoy the time spent with your family.

G. Smith  
Principal

M.Seo  
Vice Principal