



Sir William Osler Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

330 Governor's Road
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Principal: T. Walsh
Vice-Principal: D. Repchuck

Dear Families of Sir William Osler,

Fri. Sept. 17th, 2021

We have successfully celebrated the completion of the second week of the 2021-22 school year with an awesome energy in our building! Your children are amazing!! We would like to again extend a big welcome and hello to all of our new and returning students and families in the school community! We are thrilled that you are here, and have been working diligently as a school team to continue to build and renew capacity, resilience, and a sense of belonging in the return to school.

We are proud to be a part of a collective that works towards welcoming, caring, mindful, inclusive, and down right fun classrooms that support the creation of new routines and a fresh start for everyone. At Osler there are many new faces and names, including those of various Educators, DECE, EA, Caretakers, and a new Principal and Vice-Principal (.5) team.

This is truly an amazing place to be... A tremendous thank you to everyone in the community who have welcomed us all with kindness, patience, understanding, and flexibility in new routines, expectations, and daily interactions. We recognize that changes to entry/dismissal and parent/guardian drop-off and pick-up was a shift in the way families and students had previously experienced those important moments of the school day. The feedback from the school community has been overwhelmingly positive and supportive. Thank you for working together with Osler staff in keeping all students safe, we could not do it without you!

In searching for best practices, we continue to overcome 'hiccups' along the way, and we will consistently reflect upon measures that keep students and youth at the forefront of our decisions. Please review some school expectations:

- **Drop-off and Pick-up:** Please continue to drop off and pick up your children in a location other than the cohort boxes on the back playground and field. Many families have pre-determined with staff the best location for their child to meet with them.
- **Parking Lots:** Please do NOT park or drive into the upper lot. This is for busses daycare agreements, and disability permits only. We do not want to have students entering the lot because they see their family vehicle. It is a serious safety concern. Families should be parking/picking-up their children in the lower lot.
- **Dogs on Property:** Please do NOT bring dogs onto school property. There are bylaws to keep all staff, students, community members safe while on school property. As much as we love our furry companions, we do not want to have any animal related accidents and/or negative experiences for anyone.
- **Daily Covid Screening:** Please continue to do the daily Covid screening with your children *prior* to them arriving to school (remember to communicate clearance on the provided calendar log/agenda/online screener to reduce phone calls home).



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- **School Contact:** Please connect with your children's teachers regarding academic, socio-emotional, self-regulation, medical information, as well as any concerns/issues that have come to your attention regarding your child.
**We empower our teachers to problem-solve with students and their families in a timely manner. (An email with your contact information and the best time to reach you or a note in the agenda are usually the best ways to connect with a staff member).*
Of course if there is further follow-up required from the administration team, we are certainly glad to connect with parents/guardians *once previous communication and problem-solving with teaching staff has occurred.
- **Outdoor Breaks:** Please remember that due to Public Health measures and HWDSB policies *students will not be permitted to eat lunch outside the building *students may benefit from hats, sunscreen, extra water (in our warmer months) *there may be inclement field conditions that require us to have some portions of nutrition breaks inside vs. outside for safety
- **Keeping our Spaces Safe and Tidy:** Please remind your children about their important role as ambassadors of Osler in doing their part to keep our learning spaces clean and safe. There are some current *tik tok* challenges/trends that entice students to vandalize their schools, write hate language in shared spaces, steal personal or school items from staff, lick items throughout the school, etc. ... and we have unfortunately begun to see some of these issues in our building. *Students have been directed to stop these actions immediately.* We need your support in discussing the health and discipline implications of these social media suggestions and the behaviour resulting from them.
- **Fire Drills and Lockdown Practice:** Schools are required to practice safety procedures several times throughout the year with all staff and students. Procedures will look a little different this year again as we must adhere to public health protocols as well. We will be having three fire drills in the fall and spring, and a few practiced lockdowns. We also recognize that these types of practice drills can create some anxiety or uncertainty for our learners. Please join staff in reassuring your children that we are just practising, it may be a more stimulating and/or louder experience than they are used to, and adults will be there to support them.

Once again thank you for your continued support. Together we are an amazing team. We are looking forward to a fantastic year at Osler!

T. Walsh
Principal

D. Repchuck
Vice Principal

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB