



Drayton Heights Public School

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Mr. Mike McNamara,
Principal (extension 223)

Ms. Laurie Carrow
Office Coordinator (extension 221)

Principal's Message

I hope everyone enjoyed some relaxing family time during the holidays. It was unfortunate the first week of January was extremely cold, and reduced outdoor play. Let's hope for some good winter weather that is ideal for tobogganing, skating, building snow structures, skiing, etc. We know outdoor play is important for the physical and mental well-being of children. As we begin a new year, it is an ideal time to chat with children about goal setting and strategies for success. Report cards will be coming home February 15th and this is another great time to make plans. December was a really busy month at school. We enjoyed the 'famous' Jingle Jokes put on by Mrs. Straus and Mrs. Noble. What a great way to get us in the holiday spirit. We also had a superb presentation by Pat Anderson, Olympic para athlete. Pat's main message was: make a choice to succeed (goal setting), hard work (plan and action), and process (reflect on progress, adjust, persevere). Pat was extremely inspirational. I wish to thank Mr. Hodgins, designate principal, for supporting staff, students and parents during my leave. I also wish to thank our parents involved in School Council. They continue to offer fundraising events and social opportunities. Over the break, I spent some time reviewing information about technology and the effects on us. I have included three links below that are thought provoking and may give you some ideas about raising children in 2018:

Globe and Mail summary article from January 6th:

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/technology/your-smartphone-is-making-you-stupid/article37511900/>

Tristan Harris ted talk:

https://www.ted.com/talks/tristan_harris_the_manipulative_tricks_tech_companies_use_to_capture_your_attention#t-179261

Simon Sinek on millennials:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hER0Qp6QJNU>

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mike McNamara
Principal

January 2018 Newsletter

SAFE ARRIVAL ROUTINES

Each school day, one of the first priorities of our office is to ensure the safe arrival of our children. If you know that your child is going to late or absent, please call the office (extension 100) and leave a phone message so that we know that your child is safe.

At Drayton Heights there is a sign in/sign out sheet in the office for any students leaving between 8:45 am and 3:20 pm.

Parents/Guardians are asked if you are picking up your son or daughter for an appointment, please sign him/her out and back in again if he/she returns. Any intermediate students going out for lunch with a note, must also sign out and in again.

If there is to be a change to your child's schedule through the day (eg. Early pickup, change to lunch routine, etc.), please send a signed note with your child to be forwarded to the office. Whenever possible, we ask that these arrangements be made before school so that calls are not being made to the office throughout the day to change these plans. We wish to reserve mid-day calls for urgent matters, rather than for arranging student social events.

The start and end of each school day is a very busy time for everyone, and the school yard at these times is full of activity. To ensure the safety of your children, I ask that parents and students NOT use the parking lot to access the back of the school yard.

There are times when it is very difficult for drivers to see pedestrians, and particularly small children, passing through our parking lot. Though less convenient, it is much safer for


students and parents to use the walkway in front of the school adjacent to our bus lanes, to access the school tarmac near the climbers.

Your understanding and support with these routines, as we work together to ensure the safety and well-being of our youngsters, is greatly appreciated!

DATES TO NOTE:

- Jan 9 – 19 Kindergarten Registration
- Jan 12 Pajama Day
- Jan 25 Favourite Book Character
- Jan 26 PD Day
- Feb 15 Term 1 Report Cards go home
- Feb 15 Spirit Day – Heritage Day (wear red)
- Feb 19 Family Day Holiday
- Feb 28 Anti-Bullying (wear pink)

DIVISION III




During inclement weather, please note the following:

Your Child rides a "North Wellington" school bus or taxi to school. When you hear the radio announcement "All school taxis and buses in North Wellington will not be operating today" your child's bus or taxi is cancelled.

During times of inclement weather, please listen to: 1460 AM CJOY, 106.1 Magic FM, Oldies 1090 AM, 105.3 Kool FM, News Talk 570 AM, 96.7 FM CHYM, 920 AM & 101.7 FM CKNX, CKCO-TV for school transportation cancellations.

A decision to cancel transportation is made by 6:30 a.m. in order to give all parents and drivers sufficient notice. The decision is based on a number of factors, including the actual weather and road conditions, as checked first-hand by designated Bus Operators in each area, weather predictions made by Environment Canada, and information on road conditions from the local Road Superintendent.

Parents can also check their school board's web sites for bus cancellations. Information will be posted daily on the web site by 6:30 a.m. November to April or as required at other times of the year.



Service de transport de
Wellington – Dufferin
Student Transportation Services