

Hamilton Elementary School - Newsletter

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Principal: Mr. Mark McCallum

Vice Principal: Mrs. Mika Livingston

We acknowledge and thank the First Peoples of the [hən'q'əmin'əm](#) (hun-ki-meen-um) language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

October 26th, 2022

- **Hamilton Pumpkin Patch – Friday**
- **Traffic Around the School**
- **Halloween Treats at School**
- **Halloween Safety**

A reminder our **Hamilton Pumpkin Patch** is Friday. **Parents, if you could please send a reusable bag with your child to make the gathering of their pumpkin easier.** Thank you. If you are able meet at the tennis courts at 8:00 on Friday to help deliver the pumpkins to the field, it would be greatly appreciated. It is a bit of a dirty and wet job, so rain gear and boots are recommended. **This wonderful event is funded by our Hamilton PAC.** Thank you, PAC!

Our **Parking, Dropoff, and Pick-up** situation has once again become very problematic as of late. Some important points to remember:

- The **safest place to drop off your children is at the front** of the school/community centre in the designated zone, by coming in parallel to the curb and pulling up as far as you can, dropping off quickly but safely, and exiting in a thoughtful and considerate manner.
- **DO NOT park your car on an angle or leave your car unattended** in this area. This is the biggest cause of congestion and frustration for other parents.
- **The parking lot is a one-way loop.** There have been several instances where people have driven into the *exit* off Gilley. This is completely unacceptable.
- **Dropping off on Smith Drive is causing huge safety concerns** and is annoying our neighbors. We have seen parents stop on Smith and their children are exiting the car from the driver's side directly onto the street and oncoming traffic. Seriously, WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
- **Arriving at school a few minutes earlier** can prevent a lot of the traffic issues.
- **BE PATIENT!**

It is in **EVERYONE'S best interest** to be as safe as we can when driving near the school. You do not want your child to be harmed and you do not want to harm someone else's child. We can do better, and ALL be a part of the solution to keep everyone safe. THANK YOU!

If you would like to contribute **Halloween Treats for your child's classroom**, please ensure that the treats are store-bought and individually packaged. Please try to send your treats prior to

Monday. Your child's teacher will safely store the treats and distribute them equally to the students. Thank you so much for helping make this a fun day for the kids!

“Trick or Treat” Others with Respect

Halloween can be fun. However, we need to be aware that celebrating Halloween needs to be fun for ALL and not at the expense of equity seeking groups. **Halloween offers an opportunity to have meaningful conversations about costume choices with colleagues and students and requires consideration.** In doing so, it is important to keep in mind that we need to be sensitive to groups that have been marginalized through mimicry and cultural appropriation during Halloween and other ‘dress up’ events. A few things to keep in mind: It’s good to keep in mind that the following are NOT Costumes: RACE (black face/brown face) CULTURE (Indigenous regalia/dreadlocks) RELIGIOUS FAITH (religious figures/gods/saints/gurus/hijab) GENDER (gender switching for humour or to mock) TRAUMA (hangman’s noose/weapons)

Upcoming Dates

- November** 5–11 Veteran’s Week
- 8 Indigenous Veteran’s Day
Birthday of Guru Nanak Dev Sahib
- 11 Remembrance Day
- 20 National Child Day
Transgender Day of Remembrance
- 20-26 Canada History Week
- 24 Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahdur
- 26 Holodomor Memorial Day

- Hamilton Pumpkin Patch 1:00
- Photo Retakes
- Indigenous Veteran’s Day
- Remembrance Day Assembly – 11:00
- Remembrance Day - SCHOOL CLOSED**
- National Child Day
- Pro-D Day – Students do not attend**
- Zero Heroes Presentation
- Winter Vacation - SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation
- Pro-D Day – Students do not attend**
- Pro-D Day – Students do not attend**
- BC Family Day - SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Conferences – 12:00 Dismissal
- Spring Vacation**
- Good Friday - SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Easter Monday - SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Pro-D Day – Students do not attend**
- Victoria Day - SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Last Day of Classes
- Administrative Day

- October 28
- November 2
- November 8
- November 10
- November 11**
- November 20
- November 21**
- December 1
- December 19 – January 2**
- January 3
- January 30**
- February 17**
- February 20**
- March 8**
- March 13 - March 24**
- April 7**
- April 10**
- May 19**
- May 22**
- June 29
- June 30 (no students at school)