



# APPLEWOOD

PUBLIC SCHOOL

Achieving Success Together

130 Woodrow Street St. Catharines, ON L2P 3T7 905-684-4359 app@dsbn.org

## Back to School - Sept. 2016

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Sept. 6th – First day of School
- Sept. 16th—Early Release—11:55am
- Sept. 21st – Meet the Staff 4:30 - 6:00pm
- Sept. 27th —6:30 pm – School Council Elections



### FROM the PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Welcome back! Applewood staff extends a warm welcome to all of our returning students, as well as to our new students and their parents. We hope that all of you have enjoyed a fun filled, healthy and safe summer. We are excited to meet our new kindergarten families as well as those who are new to Gator Country. The students at Applewood Public School are fortunate to have wonderful teachers and support staff who provide encouragement, compassion, concern and opportunities for student learning. We look forward to getting back into routine! Together with a supportive parental group, we have a tremendous community! A special thank you goes out to Ms. McDowell and her team for all of their efforts in preparing our school for the new school year. Our school looks fabulous! As a staff, we are committed to Achieving Success Together and wish everyone a wonderful year. We look forward to seeing all of you at our Meet the Teacher Night later this month! Mrs. Rocco

### WELCOME BACK - MEET The STAFF NIGHT!

We hope that everyone has taken the time to rest, relax and spend some well-deserved time with their loved ones. We are looking forward to many exciting programs and activities at Applewood this coming school year. We hope that this fall kicks off an outstanding school year for each individual student. A special welcome to all of the new families to the Applewood Community. **Applewood families are cordially invited to our annual "Meet the Staff on Wednesday, Sept. 21st from 4:30-6:00pm.** This evening is an excellent opportunity to establish home & school partnerships, meet your new neighbours, your child's teacher and their classmates! We will have

pizza and drinks available for our guests and would ask for a donation from families towards their dinner. As we begin a new school year filled with academic, social-emotional and physical goals, we hope that all families will join us so that we can begin this important learning journey together. Please try to attend! We look forward to seeing you!



### SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

Welcome to our new and returning students and families! We look forward to meeting you or seeing you again! In addition to welcoming new students this fall, we are also pleased to introduce some new faces to the staff at Applewood. The following is list of staff and their current grade assignments based on the registration numbers as of late August. **Please note that the DSBN re-visits enrollment numbers at each school and both staffing and this organization is subject to change during the the month of September!**

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Secretary         | Mrs. Jones                                 |
| ELP               | Mrs. Dumanski & Mrs. Marr                  |
| DECE              | Mrs. Rogers & Mrs. Wright                  |
| Grade 1           | Mrs. Whitfield                             |
| Grade 1/2         | Mrs. McMahan & Ms. Niznik                  |
| Grade 2/3         | Ms. Woodhouse                              |
| Grade. 3/4        | Ms. Jones & Mrs. Scalzo                    |
| Grade 4/5         | Mrs. Garrod                                |
| Grade 5/6         | Mrs. Dionne                                |
| Librarian/FSL     | Mrs. Vince                                 |
| French            | Mr. Palmer                                 |
| LRT               | Mrs. Vince                                 |
| Phys.Ed.          | Ms. Jones                                  |
| EA's              | Mrs. Beaudette, Mrs. Bergen & Mrs. Maynard |
| Youth Worker      | Ms. Warren                                 |
| Caretaker         | Ms. McDowell                               |
| Evening Caretaker | tbd  |
| Principal         | Mrs. Rocco                                 |



## SCHOOL SPIRITWEAR

Red or Black Applewood School T-shirts are available for purchase through School Cash Net or at the office for \$10. Students may come during nutrition breaks or before or after school to purchase shirts and show off their Gator pride! These shirts will also be available at our Meet the Staff night on Sept. 21st!



## BELLS (ENTRANCE/DISMISSAL)

8:30 - Morning Supervision begins

8:40 - Morning entry

8:45 - Tardy Bell/Morning Announcements/Instruction begins

10:25- 11:05 - 1st Nutrition Break— all students stay

12:45-1:25 - 2nd Nutrition Break—students may go home

3:05 - Dismissal

## ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Our school bell rings at 8:40 a.m. Please have students arrive and go to the playground after 8:30 and prior to 8:40. The yard is supervised by staff as of 8:30. The fencing at our ELP playground entrance is for the safety of the children in our full day Early Learning Program. This gate is the designated kindergarten/ELP student drop off site. Please understand that parents are not permitted inside this gated area for safety/supervision reasons. When students have entered this area they will be supervised by staff. If you would like to wait with your child to help them transition, during the first few days or weeks of school, please feel free to do so, but outside of the fenced area. Thank-you!

All students will be dismissed promptly at 3:05 p.m. Please wait outside of the school for children unless you are signing them out to leave early. It is important to note that there is no adult supervision for students who linger on the playground after dismissal, therefore it is the School Board's expectation that all students leave school property immediately after dismissal unless staying for a school-sponsored event, e.g. homework club, or participating in a sporting event. Students who wish to watch an after school sporting event must be supervised by their parents or an adult to remain at school. Parents who are picking up their children are welcome to stand and play outside, however, they reminded to please supervise their children for safety as there are no staff on duty.



## LATES

It is very important that your child arrives at school on time. When your children arrive late, they miss the introduction to a lesson and therefore may lack some understanding as to the lesson content. Also, by arriving late into a classroom, a child disrupts the presentation of the lesson which is unfair to the rest of the class. **When a student is late, he/she must report to the office prior to going to his/her classroom to obtain a late slip, which must then be presented to his/her teacher.** (please note that this is also the routine for kindergartens who arrive after the bell, but before the students

head indoors). If you know that your child is going to be late or absent please contact the office. This will & ensure your child's safety.

## VISITOR SIGN IN PROCEDURE

**ALL** visitors **MUST SIGN IN** the **VISITOR'S LOG** at the office and obtain a visitor's badge/tag to wear in the school. If you are dropping off items for your child (ren) please leave them at the office. Parents are kindly reminded that 'talking' with teachers, regardless of how brief, must take place outside of teaching time. (We **do** understand that telling the teacher your child has a dentist appointment is faster than a note, but it disrupts the teaching of an entire class to do so!) **THANK YOU** for your understanding and support!

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Just a gentle reminder to keep the school informed of any changes to your children's emergency contact information throughout the year. Telephone numbers, contact names, and student medical information does change and we'd like our records to be accurate at all times. With your help we can keep better informed.



## OUR PARKING LOT

Unfortunately, we have limited parking spaces. With over 60 kindergarten students requiring 'face-to-face' drop offs, please remember to **PARK ONLY** in marked parking spaces! We do **NOT** have a 'kiss and go lane' at Applewood therefore cars pulling into the parking lot are expected to park before they drop students off to keep traffic moving and students safe. Please Note that By-law officers ticket running cars with children left in them as well as cars parked in the handi-capped parking spaces that do not have permits!

## MILK PROGRAM

We will continue to distribute milk during second nutrition break this coming year. Milk (250mL of white or chocolate milk) will still be available for \$.75 each payable at the time of purchase or by buying a sheet of 20 milk tickets for \$15 at the office or through School Cash Net.



## LUNCH PROGRAM & PIZZA DAYS

It is important for the school to know what arrangements you have made for your child during the noon-hour. Please complete the Applewood lunch form and return it to the school as soon as possible. Our 'official lunch', during which students are permitted to leave school property is the 2nd nutrition break. This will also be the break during which any specialty lunches will be offered to students. Pizza lunches will continue each Friday (or last day of the week) this year. They will begin on Sept. 23rd! We hope to have a few specialty lunches this year. Please sign up for School Council if you would like

to get involved in helping with specialty lunches!

## PIZZA or SNACK TICKETS

This year we will be having a Pizza/Snack ticket that parents can purchase by the sheet either at the office or through School Cash Net for \$20 for 20 tickets. Students may still purchase individual slices of pizza or snacks for \$1.



## BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Please note that our breakfast program will be up and running by Sept. 19th.

## AGENDAS

A reminder that all students from Grade 1 to gr.6 should receive their agendas this week. Without a doubt this tool will assist students in becoming more organized. We also recognize the home-school communication component of the agenda and value this resource as a means of sharing important information. We strongly recommend the use of the agenda to communicate early dismissal requests (ie. Doctor's appointments) or other issues. This way both the teacher and the office can stay informed. Please send \$5.00 to cover the cost of the agenda to your child's home room teacher as soon as possible. Thank You!

## DRESS CODE

We are pleased to start the school year by recognizing the continued respect for school and each other that parents and students have shown when choosing their school attire. As school resumes this week, we would like to remind parents and their children about the basics of our dress code which are designed to create an educational atmosphere in the school. The detailed dress code can be found in the student agenda, please look at this with your children if you should have any questions.



## SHOES

With cold and wet weather on its way, we are reminding parents to send an indoor pair of shoes to school for all children. Students will **not** be permitted to wear their wet/ muddy outdoor shoes within the building. Ideally indoor shoes are running shoes, which can be utilized for physical education. Students must have running shoes to be permitted to participate in physical education classes! Please send your children's shoes in quickly! Also note that flip flops, boots or strapless sandals are not permitted on the playground for student safety!

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

To benefit fully from the education program students must come to class prepared and participate regularly. It is our expectation that all students participate in physical education clas-



ses unless exempted for short-term medical reasons. Please send a doctor's note if your child is unable to participate on a long term basis. Appropriate gym clothing must be worn during phys. ed. class All students must wear running shoes to participate, and for older students, this also includes a change of clothing with appropriate shorts or track pants,

## WATER STATION

A reminder that Applewood has purified water re-fill stations on both levels. Students are encouraged to drink water and protect the environment by utilizing re-usable water bottles! Way to be health conscious and Green Gators!

## TEAM SPORTS

For September, dust off those sneakers as it is soccer and cross country season.

## NUTS & PUMPKINS

At this time we **DO NOT** have any nut allergies. Students are able to bring nut products including peanut butter to school. Please note, that if this status changes, we will immediately send out a note to all families to enforce a peanut safe school.

We do however, have a serious pumpkin allergy at the school. **Please DO NOT SEND ANY PUMPKINS or PUMPKIN PRODUCTS TO SCHOOL!** Thank you!



## SAFE SCHOOLS

Door buzzers are in place for all schools in the DSBN to allow schools to monitor the access to buildings. Currently, schools in the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) conduct six fire drills each school year. In addition, we also have plans in place if we should ever need to evacuate our buildings, for a wide variety of reasons including extended power outages, inclement weather, etc.

## MISSING & DAMAGED BOOKS

Due to the ever increasing cost of maintaining our library books and textbook supplies, each student will be assigned a specific textbook for a variety of their classes. Students textbooks are recorded and tracked by their teachers. **If at the end of the year these classroom or library materials are missing or severely damaged, students will be expected to pay a repair or replacement fee.** Please take care of your books! Thank you for understanding our need to watch school resources and teach the students' responsibility!

## COMPUTERS & PRINTING PRIVILEGES

Students who have completed their 'DSBN digital citizenship agreement' with their parents will be permitted access to the **internet when supervised by a classroom teacher.** All students are able to print appropriate classroom materials with the direction and support of their classroom teacher. Stu-

dents, are however, given a cap of 100 free printed pages in order to limit wasteful printing and to limit the cost of maintaining both paper and printer cartridges. Students who need to exceed their cap will be asked to pay \$10 before they are able to access an additional 100 pages of printed material.

### LOST AND FOUND

Parents are welcome to come in and search through the unclaimed items throughout the year. We will continue to put items in the lost and found tote located in the front stairwell foyer. Lost and found items will be donated to Community Care at Christmas, March Break and the end of the school year so please have your children check-in the bins regularly!

### CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

It is important that all cell phones and electronic devices are turned off and in students lockers/bags during the school day. We encourage students to leave valuables or electronics at home as the school can not be responsible for loss or theft. Students having phones with them in the school will have them confiscated by staff, and parents will be notified to come pick them up as per DSBN policy. If your child has a phone, please review these expectations with them! Thank you!

### MEDS

When parents request the school to assume the responsibility of administering medications to their children, a few things must be ensured. A DSBN parental consent form must be signed, which also requires a physician's signature before the school is able to administer any medication. Medication must be sent to school in the original labeled container. In the case of prescription medications, the name of the child and that of the medicine on the bottle label must also match those listed on the signed form before it can be administered by a staff member.



### ASTHMA

Students are permitted to carry their puffers with them as directed by their physician. Please contact the office for any paperwork or more information if your child is asthmatic!

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:

A request to our neighbours. Please help to look after our school! Due to ongoing vandalism, some doors have had their glass removed and we'd like to bring back the windows! So we must reduce vandalism. We are asking for your help to do this! If you need to report incidents, please call the Niagara Regional Police. Should you observe unusual activity at the school call the following emergency number 905-682-8065. Your help in taking care of our school is greatly appreciated.

### COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Make sure you check out the community bulletin board in our

front foyer, which has information about community events, brochures from local community agencies and newsletters. Stop in to see what's going on!

### ATTACHMENTS

(Will arrive during the 1st week of classes)

1. Student Accident Insurance Form
2. School Council Elections—Nomination Form
3. Individualized DSBN - Student Data Verification Form (please complete and return)
4. A )Applewood School Agendas -please send \$5  
B) Sign Code of Conduct and Digital Citizenship agreement
5. Lunch Forms (complete & return)
6. Permission to Participate in Phys. Ed & Extra Curricular (sign & return)



### DSBN VOLUNTEER POLICY

We love our parent and community volunteers! To keep your involvement with your favourite school uninterrupted, please ask for the new volunteer form at the office.

All parent drivers, reading buddies, classroom helpers, etc., must complete this form before they are able to volunteer at any DSBN school!



Please sign and return to be eligible for the draw.

Our Family has read this month's newsletter.

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Students' Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_



## We are turning the Applewood Learning Commons into a Makerspace!

We need your help to get us started! We're looking for items such as:

### For our Deconstruction Box

screwdrivers of various sizes  
small hammers  
Pliers  
Trays  
toys, electronics to deconstruct

### For our Creative Arts Box

wool  
sewing supplies  
knitting needles  
glue guns & glue

### For our Recycled Materials Box (washed please)

paper towel and toilet paper tubes  
Boxes  
pie tins  
Bottles  
Cans  
bottle caps  
milk jugs  
berry baskets  
Cardboard  
Jars  
Newspaper

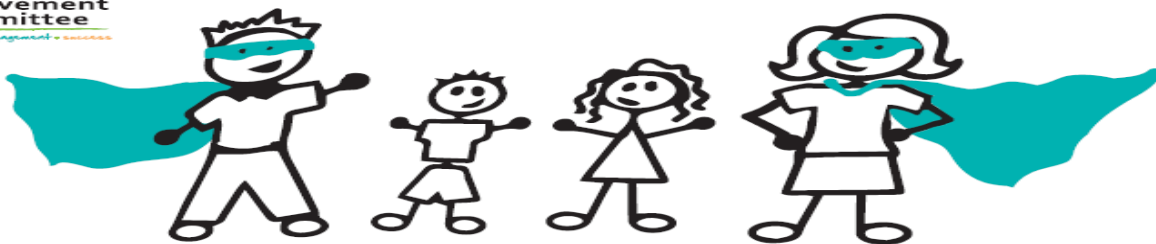
### For our Building Challenges Box

Lego  
Duplo  
Tinker Toys  
K'Nex  
straws  
wine corks  
pipe cleaner  
spools  
electrical wire, connectors & tape  
duct tape  
popsicle sticks

Please continue to keep your eyes open for anything that would help our students bring out their creativity and problem solving skills. **We now have bins to gather the resources in our labeled sorting bin outside of the main office so please bring in the materials so we can get started!**



## HEY SUPER PARENTS! IT'S TIME TO SAVE THE DAY!



# PARENT POWER!

DSBN PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE 2016

### SAVE NOVEMBER 2, 2016 ON YOUR CALENDAR!



Mark your calendar for the 2016 DSNB Parent Involvement Conference, at Eden High School in St. Catharines. Join us for an evening of free workshops for parents of DSNB students of all ages. For more information about the event visit [www.dsnb.org/pic](http://www.dsnb.org/pic)