



APPLEWOOD

PUBLIC SCHOOL

Achieving Success Together

130 Woodrow Street

St. Catharines, ON L2P 3T7

905-684-4359

app@dsbn.org

Back to School - Sept. 2017

IMPORTANT DATES

- Sept. 5th – First day of School
- Sept. 15th—Early Release—11:55am
- Sept. 20th – Meet the Staff 4:30 - 6:00pm
- Sept. 26th —5:30 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 Evening on Wednesday, Sept. 20th 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! A book fair will be running all of this week, and school t-shirts are also available for purchase (\$10 each) 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 DSNB re-visits enrollment numbers at each school and both staffing and this organization is subject to change during the month of September!**

Secretary
ELP
DECE
Grade 1
Grade 1/2
Grade 2
Grade. 3/4
Grade 4
Grade 5/6
LRT/FSL
French
Phys.Ed.
EA's

Mrs. Lyndon
Mrs. Dumanski & Mrs. McCumber
Mrs. Roper & Mrs. Ruszty
Mrs. Whitfield
Mrs. McMahan
Ms. Woodhouse
Ms. Jones & Mrs. Scalzo
Mrs. Garrod
Mrs. Dionne
Mrs. Huibers
Mdme Larouche
Ms. Jones
Mrs. Beaudette, Mrs. Bergen & Mrs. Maynard
Ms. Warren
Ms. McDowell
Baba & Mrs. Rutherford
Mrs. Rocco



TERRY FOX RUN

As Canada celebrates its 150th birthday, we at Applewood would like to show our Canadian pride for one of our greatest heroes - Terry Fox. This month we will be learning about Terry Fox and some of his admirable character traits that we can all emulate. We will have an ambassador from the Terry Fox Foundation come to our school later this week to speak to us about Terry and his dream to eradicate cancer. Then, in the spirit of Terry Fox, we will participate in a Terry Fox Event, allowing the students to help raise money for the Terry Fox Foundation prior to our big walk on Terry Fox Day,



Students will be given pledge forms to collect money and pledge information, and, for those who would rather make their donations online, this can be easily done! Applewood Public School is already set up on the Terry Fox website to receive online donations. **Our fundraising page can be reached through the following url**

link: <http://www.terryfox.ca/ApplewoodPublicSchool>

Remember, Terry's goal was to collect at least \$1.00 from every Canadian, so every bit counts! Please do what you can to help us honour Terry's dream.

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. 20th!

BELLS (ENTRANCE/DISMISSAL)

8:30 - Morning Supervision begins

8:40 - Morning entry

8:45 - 2nd Bell/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.

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

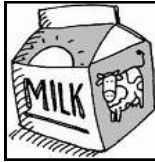
Unfortunately, we have limited parking spaces. With almost 60 kindergarten students requir-



ing '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, cars parked outside of designated parking spaces as well as cars parked in the fire-lane or handi-capped parking spaces that do not have permits! Parking on the side streets is always an easy option to avoid the chaos!

MILK PROGRAM

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



LUNCH PROGRAM & SPECIAL LUNCH 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. 22nd! Pita Pit lunches will be on every second Tuesday of the month beginning Sept. 26th. Please note that all specialty lunches are paid for using School Cash online.

PIZZA or SNACK TICKETS

Pizza/Snack tickets are available for purchase by the sheet either at the office or through School Cash Net for \$20 for 20 tickets. Snacks available for purchase include popcorn, baked chips or ice-cream treats.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Please note that we hope to have our breakfast program up and running by Sept. 18th. The Breakfast program opens at 8:25! All children are welcome! Students simply enter from the junior playground doors. Kindergarten parents are reminded to walk students to these doors to ensure students are met by an adult if coming for breakfast!



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 infor-

mation. 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!

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.

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 structures 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 classes 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 junior students, this also includes a change of clothing with appropriate shorts or track pants,

PLAYGROUNDS

Playgrounds are classified for different age groups based on their size (reach required between elements and heights)

Please do not allow students grade 3 or younger to play on the junior playground outside of school hours for their own safety! Thank you!



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!



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. Students, 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!

MEDICATION

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.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS

If your child suffers from a medical condition, please alert the office or your child's teacher. We will discuss the condition with you and put into place a medical plan (if required) to ensure that your child's needs are met to the best of our abilities while at school.

ASTHMA

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

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!



FREE DENTAL SCREENING COMING to APPLEWOOD THIS SEPTEMBER

A Public Health registered dental hygienist is scheduled to visit your school September 19th to provide dental screening to students in ELKP, grades 2, 4, 6 and 8 as required under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

During this time the registered dental hygienist will perform a quick visual inspection of each child's teeth to determine his/her dental needs. Parents will be contacted if their child requires immediate dental care. The Healthy Smiles Ontario program may financially assist children who do not have access to required dental care.

Please contact the Public Health dental program if:

You wish to exclude your child from dental screening

Your child is not in one of the targeted grades and you would like him/her to participate

In addition to dental screening, ELKP students have an opportunity to receive an optional free fluoride varnish application if they have returned a signed consent form.

Call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 or email dental@niagararegion.ca

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:

A request to our neighbours. Please help to look after our school! 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)
7. Dental Health Screening information
8. Dental Health—School Screening
9. Parent Power—PIC conference registration form
10. School Photo Information
11. School Cash Online Info. (Kindergarten only)



Calling all parents & caregivers

IT'S TIME TO SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

4pm to 8:15pm at Eden High School
535 Lake Street, St. Catharines

Join us for an evening of learning & FREE workshops!

Mark your calendar for the 2017 DSBN Parent Involvement Conference, at Eden High School in St. Catharines. Join us for an evening of free workshops for parents and caregivers of DSBN students of all ages.

For more information about the event visit www.dsbn.org/pic



Early Bird Draw!

Register before October 4, 2017
and you could WIN \$500 of support
for your School and School Council!