



APPLEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

130 Woodrow Street, St. Catharines, ON L2P 3T7

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Mrs. S. Lawrence, B.A., M.Ed., Principal

WHERE IS THE TIME GOING?

It seems like only yesterday, that school was beginning and we enjoyed our Open House BBQ. Thanks for meeting and greeting and donating towards our school during a very successful evening. It was great to see you all and have you at our school. WE are getting into the routine of schedules, checking agendas, the websites and getting all the paperwork returned to our home room teachers. If you have not already, please send in your email to your child's teacher so that we can add you to the master list and have the newsletter emailed monthly. Continue to check our Applewood Public School website for classroom updates as well. The crisp air and leaves turning colours, remind us that Fall is here and the harvest celebrations that come with it. We are planning for the annual Hallowe'en Costume Parade up and down Woodrow about 1:35 pm on the afternoon of Oct 31st and UNICEF will be available if students want to collect, envelopes will be sent home later in the month to all students. Give us a call at the school, if you have any questions or concerns, as we are here to help! Happy Thanksgiving! Next will be Progress Reports (Nov. 15) and interviews ~where is the time going?

4- Picture Day

4- Wendy's Fundraiser

7- P.A. Day

NO SCHOOL

10- Thanksgiving

NO SCHOOL

12 - Cross Country meet at Fireman's Park

17 - Parent Involvement Council Meeting 6:30

31- Book fair arrives

Nov 1-4 Book Fair

Nov 3 - Parent night

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

During the Fall, we will be reviewing our safety rules and practicing our fire and lockdown drills. Each classroom teacher will spend time talking to their students about the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency situation.

ADULT ENTRY PROCEDURES

- If visiting or volunteering in the school, parents are asked to go to the office first to speak to our secretary, Mrs. Jones, then to sign in and receive a visitor's pass.
- Parents picking up children at the end of day or for lunch, must wait outside by the back doors.
- Parents delivering lunches or other items are asked to come to the office. Our secretary will page the students to come to the office to collect the items, when it is a natural break in the school day.
- Appointments and early dismissals are arranged with the child in advance by informing the office with a note
- When picking children up for appointments, parents are asked to come to the office first and Mrs. Jones will page their child to come down to meet them
- Parents are asked not to wander the halls without first coming to the office, signing in and receiving a visitor's pass. We don't encourage wandering the halls. It is difficult for the staff to recognize every parent or guardian who comes into the school.

Staff and students will be encouraged to greet visitors without nametags and direct them to the office.

Thank you for making our school a safe place to be!



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA
Achieving Success Together



Halloween Safety

Some pointers to keep the trick or treaters' safe.

- Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.
- Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic. Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. It is important they walk on the sidewalk, or walk facing the traffic if there is no sidewalk.
- Bright coloured costumes make your child easier to see. You can use reflective tape on a costume to make your child more visible. Face paint instead of a mask helps them to see well. Have your child carry a flashlight.
- When they get home, check all of their treats carefully. Throw out any treats that aren't wrapped, if the wrapping is torn or loose, or if the wrapper has a hole. Remember that small treats can cause your child to choke.
- You might want to offer an alternative to sugar based treats. Stickers or multicoloured pencils can be a nice surprise in place of, or in addition to, traditional treats.



HEALTH ALERT / ALLERGIES

We have several children in our school who have severe allergies with sensitivities which may threaten their lives. This is referred to as Anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a life threatening allergic reaction. It can be triggered by accidentally inhaling, injecting or absorbing an allergen. Some sources include:



Foods/nuts
Latex



Insect stings
Medications



Prevention is the best approach. Therefore, we ask your cooperation in not sending any snacks or lunches containing nuts or nut products with your child.

Please teach and remind your child not to share or trade food at any time, and to wash their hands frequently.

All food must be eaten in the classroom or designated areas, not outside the school or on school buses.



MedicAlert's No Child Without Program is at Our School

The **No Child Without** program offers a free MedicAlert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a MedicAlert membership through this program. MedicAlert is your child's voice in an emergency,

MedicAlert membership;

- Gives emergency first responders immediate access to a your child's medical information on their MedicAlert bracelet or necklet
- Enables first responders to quickly obtain up to date medical information by means of the child's Electronic Health Record through the **24 Hour Emergency Hotline**.
- Communicates with the parent or emergency contact upon activation of the **Hotline**

Allows free updates of the child's medical record as needed

MedicAlert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about your child's medical condition should an emergency occur.

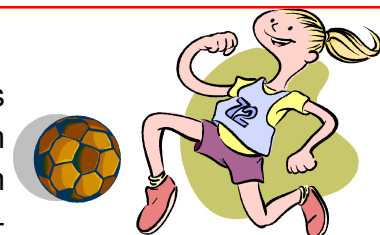
For further information come to the office for a brochure or go to www.nochildwithout.ca.

To register your child you will need a **No Child Without** brochure from the office.

If your child is already part of the **No Child Without** program and there have been changes to their medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call MedicAlert at 1-866-679-3220 to update your child's file.

SPORTS CORNER

Great Gators represent our school in our Soccer Co-ed Team and Cross Country Team! We have a very full Cross Country Team that has been running in 2 meets at Burgoyne Woods. They are finishing the track in great times, despite the rainy wet weather. Many thanks to Mrs. H. Whitfield, Mrs. S. Di Teodoro and Ms. Servos. The Soccer Team as well has had all close games and continues to work as a team and work hard on the field! Thanks to Mr. B. Hon-singer, Mr. B. Kore and Mrs. S. Lawrence, the Soccer Coaches. They are proud of the sportsman-ship shown at all the games by the team members: Jared P., Charlie B., Liam Hancox., Kyle H., Olivia N., Kayla L., Katia M., Ilisa M., Kaley D., Riley D., Janeya L., Shaima A., Owen F., Ian K., Julia M., Haiven G.





WASTE REDUCTION AND PACKING LUNCHES

Parents, teachers, and students can not only help the environment but also their wallet and their health by making good eco choices when it comes to packing lunches and snacks for school.

<p>TYPICAL/TRADITIONAL LUNCH (DISPOSABLE)</p>	<p>A WASTE-FREE LUNCH (REUSABLE)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sandwiches sealed in plastic bags • fruits and vegetables in plastic bags • prepackaged chips, cookies, fruit bars, granola bars, cheeses, and fruit leathers • prepackaged yogurt, applesauce, and pudding • crackers, pretzels, chips, and other snack foods sealed in plastic bags • disposable juice boxes, juice pouches, soda cans, water bottles, and milk cartons • plastic forks and spoons • paper napkins • reusable lunchboxes and disposable paper and plastic bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sandwiches and other main dishes, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, and treats in a reusable lunch container • cloth napkins • stainless-steel forks and spoons • reusable drink containers • reusable lunchboxes <p>*With this type of lunch, lunch food items can be bought in larger quantities. The packaging can be left at home for reuse or recycling. Waste-free lunches are not only a wise environmental choice, but they are less expensive as well.</p>

LICE PROCEDURES

Lice is a pest for all of us, and none of us want to be bothered ~ but they seem to be a part of our lives. SO we need to know what to do.

When you discover your child has head lice, please:

- notify the school immediately
- treat your child with a head lice product. Use can consistently use a shampoo with Tea Tree Oil, rinse hair with vinegar, and /or spray hair with hair spray
- use a lice comb to remove eggs/nits from hair
- pull/comb all eggs/nits from each hair shaft that were not removed with the lice comb
- vacuum carpets, furniture and car seats
- wash clothes, hats, towels, bedding in hot water and dry in a dryer for 20 minutes (bleach is helpful)
- stuffed animals should be washed or stored outside the house for one week (5 hours in a freezer will also work)
- your child may return to school after treatment we must check hair for lice or nits before the student returns to class

If LICE is discovered while at school, we will make every effort to contact parents or the emergency contact to take the child home for treatment. When we are aware of lice, all students in the affected class will receive a letter requesting parents check their child’s head and follow the above steps if lice/nits are found. If you aren’t sure if it is lice, bring your student to the office and we will check for you. Thank you to all of you that support our lice procedures, as it is not an easy process for anyone! Thank you to our volunteers who are trained and very diligent!

Helping Young Children Learn Math and Science at Home

Did you know that the games you play with your toddlers and preschoolers can influence their interest in learning math and science as they grow older? According to educational experts from the National Science Foundation ("Helping Children Learn at Home," 1997), "young children are natural mathematicians and scientists" because of their curiosity and their desire to explore and experiment.

When parents encourage their children to ask questions and help children explore and discover the natural world, they are helping build an interest in math and science. Many experts say that children who have such experiences when they are very young develop an enjoyment for and a confidence in math and science that pays off as they get older.

Here are some ideas for what you can do to develop your preschooler's interest in math and science.

- **GO FOR A WALK WITH YOUR CHILD.** Take time to stop along the way and watch things that children notice, such as flowers, animals, and bugs. Talk with your child about what you see, and ask about what he sees.
- **DRAW PICTURES TOGETHER.** Draw a picture of what you have seen, whether it was on your walk together, on your front steps, in the backyard, or from your window. Ask your child to draw a plant, an animal, or a favorite place, and then ask her to tell you about the drawing.
- **TURN A DRAWING INTO A STORY.** Write down what your child says about the picture he just drew. Ask him to make up a story about the picture, and save it with other artwork and stories he has developed.
- **LISTEN TO YOUR CHILD AND ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT SHE IS SEEING AND DOING.** Children need to have time every day to tell another person about what they have seen or what they think. When you ask your child to tell you about a walk or a trip to the zoo, you are encouraging her to think and choose words.
- **CHOOSE TOYS THAT HELP YOUR CHILD LEARN.** Young children learn about the world primarily by playing. As a result, they need toys that encourage them to imagine and explore, which are not necessarily those that are advertised on television. Toys do not have to be expensive, but they should be simple, safe, and long-lasting. Some ideas for toys include:
 - **BALLS.** They can be bounced, rolled, thrown in the air, the grass, or the sidewalk. Which bounces the highest? Lowest? Which ones sink in water? Which ones float?
 - **BLOCKS.** Building blocks can be a great math and science toy because they help children learn about engineering and geometry. You can either buy a set of wooden, plastic, or cardboard blocks, or you can make your own out of egg cartons, cereal boxes, or wood scraps. For young children, make sure the blocks are big enough to handle easily and keep out of mouths. Have enough blocks in different shapes and sizes to build unusual structures. Have children paint the blocks in bright colors.
 - **PUZZLES.** Puzzles help children learn to solve problems as well as learning about shapes, sizes, and colors. For toddlers, make sure the puzzle has some large pieces. You can make your own puzzle by pasting a magazine picture onto a piece of cardboard, then cutting it into large pieces. Or make a puzzle from one of your child's drawings. As children get older, they can do more difficult puzzles.
 - **PLANT A GARDEN WITH YOUR CHILD.** Planting a garden, any size, is a great family activity. A garden can be a patch of dirt in the yard or a container on a window sill, and it has a season of math and science lessons in it. Measure the space or container, determine where the plants will get sunlight, find out how much seeds will cost, count the seeds, measure the rows, watch the plants grow and chart their growth, pick vegetables, look for insects, and learn what plants need to be healthy.
 - **READ TO YOUR CHILD.** Read books aloud every day. Look at picture books and talk about what you see. Alphabet and counting books are always popular, and you'll experience a sense of pride as you watch your children learn. Plan a regular time to go to the school library, public library or bookmobile. Enlist brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, and grandparents to help read stories. Have your child read to you if he wants to or tell you a story based on the pictures in the book. Remember that it does not matter if you read in English, Spanish, or Chinese as long as you help your child develop a reading habit.

Developing in your child the Skills & habits essential for success

Helping children develop positive work habits is an important part of their learning. The six learning skills listed on the new progress reports and report cards are a key part of your child's success in school and in their work pursuits after school.

In the classroom, teachers work with your child by explicitly teaching these learning skills. Throughout the school year, they provide opportunities to deepen your child's understanding of each skill, guide your child in setting goals for personal growth, and provide feedback about successes and next steps your child might take.

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD DEVELOP THESE CRUCIAL LEARNING SKILLS AND WORK HABITS?

RESPONSIBILITY

Students are responsible for fulfilling commitments, completing assignments on time and managing their own behaviour.

Help your child learn to plan ahead by asking questions such as, "What do you need to pack for school tomorrow?"

ORGANIZATION

Students develop and follow a plan and process for completing work and achieving goals. Students complete tasks by identifying, gathering, evaluating and using information, technology, and resources.

Track your child's assignments and activities on a wall calendar. Children benefit from visual reminders.

INDEPENDENT WORK

Students develop independence by following instructions, monitoring progress, assessing and revising plans. Class time is used effectively to complete tasks and meet goals with minimal supervision.

Involve your child in making age-appropriate decisions, such as healthy food choices for their lunches and picking out their own clothes.

COLLABORATION

Students share information and fulfill various roles within a group to achieve goals. The group works together to solve problems while respecting the ideas and opinions of the other group members.

Play interactive games to practise sharing and taking turns.

INTIATIVE

Students seek new ideas and opportunities for learning. The student willingly takes risks and demonstrates a positive attitude while respecting the rights of self and others.

Promote your child's interests and support them by providing them with related experiences such as a nature walk or a trip to the library.

SELF-REGULATION

Students set and monitor individual goals based on strengths, needs and interests. Appropriate learning opportunities are identified and the student perseveres to achieve these goals.

Encourage your child to set goals of personal interest. Help them to make a plan to achieve their goal such as earning/saving enough money to purchase a desired item.