

APPLEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Achieving Success Together

130 Woodrow Street

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Month End Wrap Up - Sept. 2016

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 7—Professional Development Day

Oct. 10—Thanksgiving



CHOOSE TO MATTER—GATORS CARE!

In line with the DSNB Strategic Plan, Applewood Public School staff, students and School Council have formed a committee called "Gators Care". The mandate of our group is to use the Choose2Matter initiative as our model, to strengthen a culture of caring in our school. The Choose2Matter manifesto reminds us that we all matter, we have influence, we have contributions to make and that our actions define our impact. We want everyone in our school to feel special and valued. So, the "Gators Care" committee will be spearheading activities to influence the culture of mattering. We want to foster an environment that will support every individual in our school to reach their full potential.

Next month you will begin to see students displaying key fobs with happy faces - the first sign that we think every student is special. As the days pass, you will start seeing new fobs being displayed, recognizing students for being special in their own way.

We encourage you to chat with your family **about why** each and every one of you matters. Please help us make everyone realize how special we all are!

You Matter!

From your Gators Care committee



RE-ORGANIZATION

After the dust settled following labour day, students and teachers were counted and the final result was that our enrollment had stayed relatively the same, but we had shifted in numbers in a few grades. The result was the ability to move all of our junior students upstairs, and form a straight grade three class. The rest of the grades and classes have remained the same for the rest of the school year.

MEET THE STAFF

Thank you to the many families who came to join us on Sept. 21st for our Meet the Staff night. It was great to see you, our book fair was a huge success and the students were excited to show off their classrooms! What an awesome night!



SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION

Thank you to all of the parents who came out to our first School council meeting and election in September. If you missed the first meeting it is not too late to join us, our next meeting will take place on Oct. 19th at 5pm in the staffroom. We are all looking forward to working together for the Applewood student community! Thank you to the following people who have stepped forward/returned to assume executive positions:

Chair - Cassidy Corby

Treasurer - Lisa Rutherford

Secretary-shared by Parent reps

Community Rep.—Pam Stokes

Thank you to the many 'Parent Reps' who have also joined our Council. We are looking forward to another great year and always welcome volunteers to help out. Please watch for flyers in your child's backpack this year as Council will be looking for helpers during their;

1) Fall Magazine Campaign

2) Holiday Bake and Coffee Sale Campaign

3) Winter Family Movie Night

4) Spring Seed & Plant Sale

5) June Grade 6 Celebration

DSBN PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (PIC) CONFERENCE

A gentle reminder that the DSNB PIC conference takes place on Wednesday, Nov. 4th at Eden Highschool from 4-8:15pm. Don't forget to register early so that you can get into your preferred workshops! Day care and dinner are provided for families, so come and enjoy an informative night out!

OUR PARKING LOT

Thanks in part to the beautiful weather, our parking lot has

been relatively issue free! Thank you all for making the extra effort to pull into a parking space when dropping off or picking up students and leaving your vehicles to escort your children to our playgrounds. By not having cars parked illegally, all care-givers can see pedestrians clearly and ensure their safety. This also allows busses to move in and out of our parking lot in a safe and timely fashion which ensures that they are staying on schedule. **THANK YOU!**

NEW FENCE

We are eagerly awaiting fencing for our kindergarten area. The current ELKP fence will be extended to include the grassy area from almost the street-side sidewalk, to just outside of the climber area. When the fence arrives, our bike racks will be moved to the other side of the school by the gym, and older students will be asked to enter our Applewood playground by the gym.



BIKES & HELMETS

A reminder to parents that it is required by law for students on bikes, scooters and skateboards to wear helmets! Please keep your children safe by ensuring they wear the appropriate equipment when out riding!

PIZZA PROGRAM

Our pizza program began in mid-September. As our healthy pizza provider is very busy, they need their orders early to prep their pizza for the many schools they serve. So please understand that orders **must** be received by **THURSDAY MORNING!** Students may purchase a sheet of 20 pizza tickets for \$20 dollars. Until the end of October, students may alternately order pizza by the slice the day before a pizza lunch by bringing \$1 per slice. By November, all pizza orders will be cashless. This pre-order process allows our staff time to tally our orders, order the pizza, and voila—Pizza lunch during **2nd Nutrition** break on Friday!

NOTE: There **may** be pizza slices available for sale the day of a pizza lunch, but there are no guarantees that extras will be available, so ordering in advance is your safest option for your children not to end up without a lunch



BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Please note that our breakfast program re-opened on Sept. 19th. Students may enter the school as of 8:20 through the junior doors and wait by the staff room at the Breakfast Club tables to choose their breakfast options. The program will serve breakfast from **8:20-8:35** each day unless a change is needed, which students will be informed about via morning announcements.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A request to our neighbours. Please help to look after our school! 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.

SCHOOL SPIRITWEAR

Red or Black Applewood School T-shirts are available for purchase at the office for \$10 each. T-Shirts may also be ordered on-line through School Cash Net. Students may come during nutrition breaks or before or after school to get shirts and show off their Gator pride!

HALLOWE'EN

Our Halloween activities will take place on Monday Oct. 31st. As it is difficult to help dress so many younger friends, students are asked to arrive at school in their costumes. The school will then hold their annual Hallowe'en parade first thing in the morning. Students will then change and resume regular classes. Teachers will communicate specific in class activities directly to you via agendas or their classroom newsletters or web-sites. **PLEASE** send street clothes for students in costumes to change into, with a large bag to store their costumes. A reminder that weapons or accessories that could be lost or cause injury are best left at home. Lastly, please ensure that your child can walk in their costume without tripping over its length. With stairs throughout our school this is a significant safety concern! Also a reminder that if you wish to send treats to your child's classroom, due to food sensitivities, please pre-arrange this with your child's teacher. Please remember that **DUE TO A SERIOUS PUMPKIN ALLERGY, we are a PUMPKIN FREE SCHOOL!**



HALLOWE'EN SAFETY

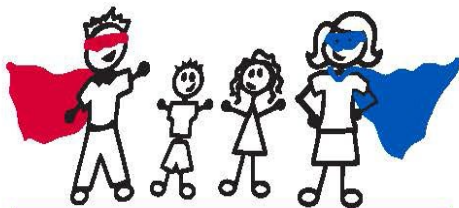
- Some pointers to keep the trick or treaters safe.
- Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.
- Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic. Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. 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.

Hey Super Parents!

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER!

Join us for an evening of learning with FREE workshops for DSNB parents

REGISTRATION, FOOD & CHILD CARE are FREE!



PARENT POWER!

DSNB PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE 2016

Mark It On Your Calendar:

WED. NOV. 2, 2016

4:00 pm - 8:15 pm at Eden High School
535 Lake St., St. Catharines

Register online at www.dsnb.org/pic

OR speak to someone in your school office for assistance



Early Bird Draw



Register Before October 3, 2016
and you could WIN \$500 of support
for your School and School Council!



I Matter At DSNB

The DSNB Parent Involvement Committee invites you to join us for an evening of learning, sharing and networking with a focus on ideas for all DSNB parents and School Councils.

Session Topics Include:

Mental Health, Special Education, Mathematics, Kindergarten, Transitions to Secondary & Post Secondary... and so much MORE!

4:00 - 5:15 Light Dinner and Vendor Fair
Cafeteria and Gym AB

5:15 - 5:25 Opening Remarks
Cafeteria

5:45 - 6:45 1st Session

6:45 - 7:15 Vendor Fair and Refreshments
Gym AB and Cafeteria

7:15 - 8:15 2nd Session

Information about Child Care:

PRESCHOOL CHILDREN: Certified Early Childhood Educators will be available at Sven H. Dohnberg Centre. Enter the Eden High School parking lot (facing Lake St.), the child care centre is on the right.

SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN: Children will be supervised by qualified teachers in the Eden Gymnasium.

★ CHILD CARE IS AVAILABLE BY PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY. ★

★ Child care will be provided from 4:00pm to 8:15pm. ★

★ A light dinner will be provided for the children. ★



PARENT POWER!

DSNB PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE 2016

Register online at
www.dsnb.org/pic

OCTOBER IS INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH!

Lace up your shoes or snap on those bike helmets for an active trip to school.

If you live far from school, park a few blocks away and walk part of the trip.

If you ride a bus take part by walking to your bus stop.

Here's a quick trivia question to have fun with at the dinner table tonight. Walking and wheeling to school can improve:

- A) Health
- B) Happiness
- C) Stress Level
- D) Grades
- E) Safety
- F) All of the above

If you said F, you're correct! Walking and wheeling to school has many benefits and those are just a few. (Source: activesaferoutes.ca)

Tips to remember when walk or biking:

Look left, right and left again when crossing the street
Never run or dart out into the street or cross between parked cars

Make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them. Watch out for cars that are turning or backing up.
It's always best to walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as you can possibly go.

Always walk your bike or scooter on school property.
Cross streets at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks
Watch out for cars coming out of driveways and alleys.
If what you are doing has wheels, protect your brain - always wear a helmet.

When riding your bike, ride in the same direction as the cars are driving.

Tips from www.parachutecanada.org



Please sign and return to be eligible for the draw.

Our Family has read this month's newsletter.

Parent's Signature _____

Students' Name(s) _____

PROPER FOOTWEAR FOR SAFETY!

A gentle reminder to parents that students must have running shoes to participate in physical education classes. It is not considered safe for children to be running in the gym wearing any other footwear, so if students do not have running shoes on, they are unable to participate in their physical education class, as their personal safety is at risk. As all students receive physical education & health instruction five times in a ten day cycle, it is important to have running shoes at school—ideally as a student's indoor shoes.

Proper footwear is also required on the climbers, so when making shoe choices in the morning... Running shoes are a good idea!



SAVING THE ENVIRONMENT 1 TREE AT A TIME!

We will continue to use an electronic monthly newsletter & calendar this year. Therefore we will only send home printed copies for those who request it. If you would like to receive a hard copy, please return this form ASAP. Thanks for conserving!

Family Name: _____

Youngest Child's Grade/Teacher: _____



PARENT VOLUNTEERS - PRIMARY READING

The classes are looking for volunteers to help students read. This school reading program is designed to increase confidence in primary children through the teaching and reading strategies. The program matches the children with an adult mentor. These volunteers than read with the children on a weekly basis. Training is brief and will be provided for all volunteers. Hours are very flexible. Parents can come any morning or afternoon they choose and the time of day can vary if that is more convenient. Please contact the office, Mrs. Vince or your child's classroom teacher if you are interested. Thanks!! (Please note that a 'Volunteer form' must be completed and filed at the office before volunteers are able to work with students)

