



Applewood News

District School Board of Niagara

130 Woodrow Street St. Catharines, ON L2P 3T7 (905) 684-4359 <http://applewood.dsbni.org/index.html>

A NOTE FROM MRS. LAWRENCE

Welcome back to Applewood Public School!!! A "warm" Gator welcome is extended to all students, parents and staff returning to Applewood. If you're new to our area, we extend a special hello to you and hope you enjoy your year with us! A special welcome to Miss MacKenzie, our newest staff member .

Applewood has a tradition of high academic standards and positive school participation and, we as a staff, expect our students to work at their best to achieve their best results in all endeavours.

We invite and encourage your interest, support and participation in the activities at Applewood. We look forward to working closely with you as we strive together to ensure the best possible education for all our students.

THERE IS A STAR IN EVERY APPLE!



All our students have special gifts and talents. They bring to the classroom their unique needs, experiences, and characteristics. We all learn using a combination of multiple intelligences (musical, mathematical, literal, kinetic etc.) How do you learn best? How does your child learn best? The students will be hearing about being a star during our first assembly on Wednesday, Sept 7th. Every one is a star and there is a star in every apple (really!)

BALANCED SCHOOL DAY AND TIMES

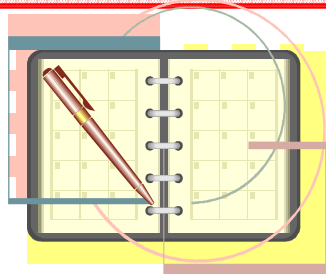
Applewood Public School is now on a balanced school day. Our school day is broken down into three 100 minute blocks of instructional time. School start and finish times have not changed. Our morning entry bell will ring at 8:45 am and our dismissal bell will ring at 3:15 pm. **It is very important for your child to be at school no later than 8:40 am.** That way your child can enter the building with his/her classmates and be ready to begin promptly at 8:45 am.

O'Canada and announcements will be held at the beginning of the first break. Our first Nutrition/Fitness Break is from 10:25-11:05 am where the children will have 20 minutes to eat their food and then play outside for 20 minutes. Our second Nutrition/Fitness Break is from 12:45-1:35 pm. It will be during this break that the students will be allowed to go home for lunch.

8:45-10:25 am	First Block
10:25-11:05 am	Nutrition/ Fitness Break
11:05-12:45 pm	Second Block
12:45-1:35 pm	Nutrition/Fitness/ Lunch Break
1:35-3:15 pm	Third Break
3:15 pm	Dismissal

Morning JK/SK time will be from 8:45-11:15 am
Afternoon JK/SK times will be from 12:45-3:15 pm

AGENDAS



Students in Grade 1-6 are encouraged to use the agenda provided to keep record of assignments, help keep organized and set goals throughout the school year. The issue this year boasts coloured pages, ideas for organization study habits and development of setting goals. Teachers implement the use of the agenda in a variety of ways dependent on the age, grade and skills of the students. We hope that parents will embrace the agendas as one way to have communication between home and school.

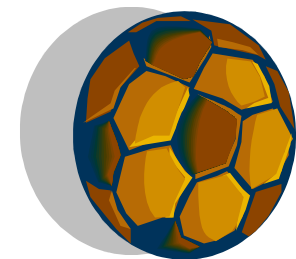
Younger grades often use the plastic pocket in the front of the agenda to carry notes, ideas and notices. Please check the plastic pocket and the notes on the daily section. As well, your child's teacher may have a website that should be consulted often. Please review with your child the expectations found in the chart at the front of the agenda. These are our school rules and we promote respect and responsibility. Any questions about classroom programming or any concerns, see your child's home room teacher as a first contact! Often frustration can be avoided by asking questions for clarification. Our teachers are great resources!

BEVERAGE PROGRAM

We are happy to provide the service to students of cold fresh Chocolate or White Milk for the second nutrition break~ lunch! Fruit Smoothies are also available. Complete the form which is for a month at a time. No late orders are accepted, because it makes ordering very efficient. Return the form to your child's homeroom teacher and your order will be included. Older students volunteer to be Milk Monitors and deliver the beverages to the students during the beginning of the second nutritional break. Kindergarten students have their beverage delivered to their classrooms for their nutrition break. Students love to have these beverages as a welcome break during their school days !



GATOR TEAMS



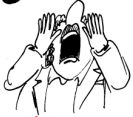
Soccer and Cross Country School Teams will be starting in the first few weeks of school. We encourage Grade 3-6 students to sign up for teams and go through the try-out process. A practice schedule and game schedules are provided to all successful team members and we look forward to another year of team sports and meeting other schools on the playing field. Parent drivers are needed to transport our team members to away games and your gift of time appreciated.

More information will follow.



APPLEWOOD NEEDS YOU!

Volunteers!



Parent Involvement Council will have its first meeting on September 19, 6:30 -8 pm in the staff room. Come out and join us! Parents gain information about what is happening in our school, needs, and discuss ideas, concerns and make suggestions for staff to consider. We seek the thoughts of parents, when considering a new focus/purchase or idea.

Together we can make a difference for our students. We are looking for parents to hold the following positions: Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The students are anxiously awaiting the repairs to the playground following the opening of school. The perimeters will be replaced and the condition of the floor of the playgrounds improved. We look forward to this and thank all our families for supporting this improvement through fundraising! PIC is hosting our Open House BBQ on Sept. 21st. Classrooms will be open the first hour and then everyone is invited to gather outside for food and further conversations. Mark your calendars!

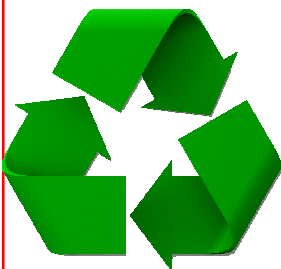
PARENT HOMEWORK

Please read and complete the necessary paperwork that arrives home the first week of school. Your prompt replies help us update our records and provide us with necessary information at the beginning of the year. If your child has an allergy that is critical, please speak to your child's teacher so we are aware as soon as possible. If your child has an extreme allergy or medical condition, a medical emergency plan must be completed by the home, including: a recent picture of the student, name, address, age, condition and steps the school needs to follow. Hand this to the home room teacher, so it can be an awareness for our staff and used as necessary. The following sheets are to be completed: Student Verification Report, Lunch Permission Letter, Walking Permission Letter, Student Insurance Package and Email Address.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT... FOR SAFETY SAKE!

We are very lucky to have the amount of students that attend our school. Did you know that in the primary division we have 100 children that enter and exit through our doors in the lower level? Supervision by teachers and support staff so these students are prepared for the day or home time can be very hectic and demands the teachers' foci. So it is essential that parents, guardians and care givers wait on the OUTSIDE of the doors as we "release" students to the appropriate adults. Please discuss with your child where you will meet him/her on the playground, so entrances and exits are streamlined, efficient and in a timely manner. Let our staff monitor their needs, promote self regulation and dress for the outdoors. When you need to meet with the teacher, send a note in the agenda and teachers will contact you by end of day! Parents that need to pick up their child during the school day, must report to the office first. Thanks for your support and help!

GOING GREEN!



Feedback from a variety of parents and guardians have been welcomed especially as we take those suggestions and put them in to action. One of these suggestions was to have the school newsletters go directly into parents' email addresses on a monthly basis. SO, your home room teacher will be collecting your email address to be added to the grade contact group. Then the office will compile the school list and send out the newsletter to your electronic in- box, each month We hope this will improve the communication link between home and school. Let's give it a try and continue the school goal to be green. Remember too, that when you change your email, update it at the school by contacting your child's home room teacher, with the new email address.

EARLY RELEASE DAYS

Friday, Sept 23 and Friday, Feb 17

On early release days, all busses and taxis providing service to our students will arrive at Applewood three hours earlier the regularly scheduled bus departure times. In the past, working on a fixed three-hour advanced schedule across the board provides parent with greater clarity in knowing that their child should be arriving home three hours earlier than normal on these days. Also, as many of the school busses are now double or triple runs, logistically we need to shift schedules forward in order to service these days as safely as possible.

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

Applewood staff participated in a workshop on September 1 at our school. We learned about the new policies and procedures around assessment and evaluation and a summary is provided as an attachment to this newsletter. It is essential for students to understand what they are being assessed for and how they will be evaluated. Monitoring, supporting and assessing students before, during and after a unit of study is essential. Did you know that students can be assessed when they are being observed, having focused conversations and their completed student projects? The excellent myriad of strategies our teachers have used to monitor students for evaluation purposes in the past, will continue. You will see a variety of student work that will be assessed to ensure student learning has taken place. Some work samples include: written work, tests, technology (clickers, interactive white boards, live scribe pens and paper, daily assignments, math manipulatives and projects. Please read carefully the information sheet attached. Any questions can be directed to your child's teacher, or ask your child. Children can explain what they are learning and how they are being assessed. Having them improve their work is a skill to develop. One of our school focuses this year will be assessment and evaluation.



3 WAY STOP!



Our Applewood Parent Involvement Council, our principal and a concerned citizen, wrote letters to the City of St. Catharines to request a crossing guard and further considerations to making crossing to our school safer. Perhaps you read *The Standard* newspaper article, this summer, highlighting Applewood and the installation of the three way stop, the installation of crosswalk signs and a reduced speed area in our school zone. This is a welcome improvement that affects the safety of our school community and we are thankful for this support.

The Grade 6 students in past years have done a remarkable and responsible job as safety patrollers. This responsibility will continue with 2 students on duty before school, second nutrition/fitness break, and end of school. Please ensure that your child crosses at the crosswalk, follows the instructions of the safety patrollers and arrives to and from school in a safe manner.

THANK YOU PLANT DEPARTMENT!

As you walk about the grounds of our school, you may notice so many improvements outside. DSBN employees have been working hard and completed the following projects over the summer: improved roofing; the northeast corner of the school was rebuilt by a mason; drainage improved; the interlocking sidewalk was replaced by a black-top sidewalk; and the indoor fire doors at the front door were removed making the school entrance more spacious and the outside front doors replaced as well. Our school looks awesome! Our school name is correct with all the letters replaced as good as new. Thank you Plant Department!

SCHOOL-BASED IMMUNIZATION CLINICS



Did you know that every year in Canada, 1,400 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and more than 400 will die from it?

Almost all cervical cancers are caused by a Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection.

The HPV vaccine is an important medical advancement that makes cervical cancer a preventable disease.

Once again this year, the HPV vaccine called Gardasil® will be offered free to **all female Grade 8 students** through Niagara Region Public Health's school-based immunization clinics. In addition, the Hepatitis B vaccine and the Meningococcal vaccine called Menactra® will be offered free to **all Grade 7 students**.

Parent/student information packages will be coming home with your child in September. Clinic dates and times will be announced through your child's school.

For more information, speak to your school nurse or call the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.

APPLEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL STAFF

Mrs. S. Lawrence - Principal

Mrs. A. Jones - Secretary

Mrs. S. Froese- Custodian

TBA - Evening Custodian

Mrs. L. Maynard - E.A.

Ms. A. Tytler - Youth Counsellor

Mrs. S. Vince - French & LRT

Miss. K. MacKenzie - Music

Mrs. H. Whitfield - JK/SK

Mrs. L. Laliberte - JK/SK

Mrs. C. Dumanski - Grade 1

Ms. R. Moore - Grade 1/2

Mrs. S. Di Teodoro - Grade 2

Ms. C. Hoekstra - Grade 3 (am)

Mrs. B. Carile - Grade 3 (pm)

Mr. T. Freure - Grade 4/5

Mr. B. Honsinger - Grade 5/6



Important Dates 2011/12

September 6: 1st Day of School

September 23: Early Release Day

October 5: World Teachers' Day

October 7: PA Day

October 10: Thanksgiving Day

November 11: Remembrance Day

December 26 - January 6:

Winter Holiday Break

January 20: PA Day

February 2: Kindergarten Open House 4-6

February 20: Family Day

March 9-16: March Break

April 6: Good Friday

April 9: Easter Monday

May 18: PA Day

May 21: Victoria Day

June 8: PA Day

June 28: Last Day of School



www.dsbns.org

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DRAW

STUDENT NAME:

GRADE:

PARENT'S NAME:

PARENT'S EMAIL:

Please Print