



Hopewell Avenue Public School

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Spring 2019



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Principal: Martina Sherwood
Vice Principal: Jenny Dewan
Office Administrator: Louise Andoff
Administration Assistants: Giuliana Falcucci
Yanka Petrova

Superintendent: Olga Grigoriev
Trustee: Lyra Evans
Chief Custodian: Chris Farquhar
School Council Co-Chairs: Daphne Dumbrille
Deborah Gomes-Schultz

www.hopewellaveps.ocdsb.ca

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OCDSB Mission Statement

Educating for success – inspiring learning and building citizenship

PRINCIPAL & VICE-PRINCIPAL MESSAGE



Happy Spring! Bon Printemps! Since our return from March Break our school community has continued to be a busy place. Students are

engaged in rich learning activities both inside and outside the classroom. Many of our students continue to access the Brewer Park Arena for skating, our Grade Three students are participating in the Swim to Survive Program at Brewer Pool and many of our classes are embracing nature through the various outdoor education programs offered at MacSkimming Outdoor Education Centre and Baxter Conservation Area. Walking through our school you will find students tackling rich math challenges, engaged in fascinating reading and writing tasks and participating in many conversations that range from, “What do worms eat?” in Kindergarten to “Why are there patterns in population distribution?” in Grade Eight.

Included in our newsletter is an update about our School Learning and Well Being Plan. As you will read, our Numeracy focus continues and we are working as a team to promote belonging in our school community.

Term One Report cards went home on February 14th. Thank you for returning the page three tear-off to the school. This information is very valuable to us and we hope it was useful to you, as parents and guardians, you found the opportunity to provide comments and help your child reflect on their first term of school.

We look forward to continuing to support your child(ren)’s learning and are grateful for your partnership. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

OUR SCHOOL LEARNING AND WELL-BEING LEARNING PLAN

Cycle 2 of our School Learning and Well-Being Plan has begun! We had a wonderful day of learning on our PA Day, Friday, February 15th. Our focus was on looking at student work through the lens of a Learning Continua to understand where students are in their learning and how we can support them moving forward. Much of our discussion was anchored in Alex Lawson’s book, *What to Look For* and Hattie, Fisher and Frey’s book, *Visible Learning for Mathematics* (2017):

“To equip students for higher-level mathematics learning, we have to be clear about where students are, where they need to

go, and what it looks like when they get there....”

Moving forward we will be accessing these resources to support our Mathematics instruction in the classroom and apply it to specific areas. For example, some of our junior teachers are applying this continuum work in their Number Sense strand, such as multiplying two-digit whole by two-digit whole numbers .

Our Well Being Plan was developed by our Safe and Accepting Schools Team. This team is comprised of educators, members of School Council and students. Having student’s voices during our planning has been very powerful. Our overall goal is to increase students’ sense of belonging and connectedness at school.

Opportunities we provide our students; special presentations; educator training in the area of culturally responsive pedagogy, reflection on our current practices through the lens of inclusivity, considering how students see themselves reflected in our school (through what is on our walls and the materials they encounter in their learning) are all part of our plan. Our students captured our key goals most accurately when they shared that it is important that we celebrate their “unsameness”... We learn so much from our students every day!

REGISTRATION FOR 2019-2020

We continue to take registrations for the new school year. Please help speed up the registration process by checking if you are within our boundary at <http://www.ocdsb.ca/sch/sl/Pages/SchoolLocatorMap.aspx> before registering with us. When you come to register your child, we ask that you bring the following items with you: birth certificate or passport, health card information, proof of address (e.g. property tax bill, purchase of sale agreement, rental agreement, insurance policy statement, utility bill, government correspondence). Please note: a utility bill must be accompanied by an additional document listed above. If applicable, please provide immigration documents showing date of entry, or custody documents showing parent access. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact us on 613-239-2348.

EQAO

Students in grade 3 and 6 in Ontario take the EQAO (Education Quality and Accountability Office)

assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics in the spring of each year. This year, our grade 3 and 6 students will be writing the EQAO assessment between May 21st to June 3rd (exact dates to be confirmed). If you have a child in grade 3 or 6 we ask that you avoid scheduling any appointments during these dates. Should you be interested, the EQAO website – www.eqaocom has a comprehensive section of parent resources for your information.

GRADE 8 SCHOOL LEAVING CEREMONY



For your planning... our Grade Eight School Leaving Ceremony will be held in our gymnasium on Wednesday, June 26th, 2019. The official ceremony will take place

from 10:00 am to approximately 11:00 am. Students are asked to arrive at school at the regular time (9:00am). Following the ceremony, students and their guests will then be invited to a small reception in the school atrium. After the reception, students will enjoy a lunch and dance with their classmates. Further information will follow as we approach the big day!

LAST MINUTE DELIVERIES TO YOUR CHILDREN DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Every day we have parents/guardians visit our office to drop items off that their child may need during the day – skates, lunches, outdoor clothing etc. We are happy to help you in the office and will ensure that your child will receive what you have delivered. While we do have requests from parents/guardians to deliver items themselves directly to the classrooms this can interrupt classes in session and disrupt student learning. Your understanding and support of our school routines is greatly appreciated.

CLASS PLACEMENTS FOR 2019-2020

As a school team we put a great deal of thought and time into organizing classes. We consider a variety of criteria, putting the academic and social emotional needs of each student as the highest priority. We also aim for a balance in classes – this includes gender, learning style, and ability. As in previous years, we anticipate that combined grades classes will be included in our organization next year. Combined grades offer many positive

experiences for children. Information on combined classes is included in this newsletter.

Appreciating that the development of classes is a thoughtful process, if you feel you have a very special need to be considered or feel that we need to have additional information to best place your child, please put it in writing and address it to the Principal by Friday, April 19th, 2019

Please also let the office know if your child will be leaving Hopewell in September 2019 as this will assist us with our projections for staffing purposes.

COMBINED GRADES

The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board follows the philosophy of the Ministry of Education in recognizing the unique and special characteristics of every student. Our programs are designed to meet individual needs of students in a variety of organizational structures within schools.

As outlined in the Ministry of Education's resource document, *Combined Grades: Strategies to Reach a Range of Learners in Kindergarten to Grade 6* (2007), a class of combined grades is composed of students from two or more adjacent grades who are grouped with one teacher for instruction.

Combined classes are often created when the number of students does not allow for the establishment of appropriately sized, single-grade classes. In other circumstances combined classes are created to most effectively meet the learning needs, stages of development, and/or learning styles of students.

In all classrooms, whether single-grade or multi-grade, there is a range of students and the teacher's goal to meet the needs of all learners remains the same regardless of the classroom organization.

Within a class of combined grades each student works towards the achievement of their grade-specific curriculum expectations. When there are common concepts and/or skills across grades, students in the class often work together. When there are differences between the grades, students work on the concepts and/or skills specific to their grade. Assessment, evaluation, and reporting are grade specific.

Current research indicates that multi-grade classes foster social growth and independence, practice in

cooperation, respect for others, and increased motivation to learn. Older children act as models and guides for the younger children which gives the older children an increased sense of self-esteem and responsibility. Younger children adjust to school and routines more quickly by observing and imitating the older children. Both groups can learn from each other.

Additional information on [Combined Grades](#) can be found on Ontario Ministry of Education Website.

Should you have further questions about combined grades or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

HOPEWELL HAPPENINGS... EXTRACURRICULAR, EVENTS AND NEWS

Drama Club

The Drama Club meets every Tuesday from 1:30 pm to 2:10 pm, until the beginning of May. It is the initiative of two grade 5 students who wanted to create a space for students to perform, play drama games, express themselves, and have fun. The sessions are run by different team leaders every week, and supervised by Mme Nicolas. Come join us!

Hackergal Hackathon!

Grade Six, Seven and Eight girls interested in coding are invited to participate in the *Hackergal Hackathon* here at Hopewell once again this spring!

Hackergal aims to introduce young girls across Canada to coding through the experience of a hackathon, and strives to inspire a new wave of Canadian female coders to bring equality to the tech industry.

Following an initial information meeting in early April, Mme Quinn and interested girls in Grades Six, Seven and Eight will work through a series of coding tutorials in preparation for the full-day *Hackergal Hackathon*, which will be held in our school on May 8th, 2019.

Mme Quinn encourages girls in Grades Six, Seven and Eight to visit the website hackergal.org, and to join the *Hackergal Hackathon* team at Hopewell! Stay tuned to the announcements for meeting dates!

Ottawa Regional Science Fair

Several students in some of our intermediate classes have been working diligently to prepare projects for the *Ottawa Regional Science Fair*. This annual event will take place at Carleton University on April 5th & 6th, 2019. Hopewell will send up to ten teams of students to this science fair, entering projects in challenge categories such as Discovery, Energy, Environment, Health, Information, Innovation, and Resources. We wish our student competitors all the best as they finalize their projects and then share their learning at this special event! For more information, please visit: orsf.ca

Athletics @ Hopewell

Hopewell has a very vibrant sports program. In our Winter Newsletter we highlighted all of the sports that are run at our school. Students in Grades Four to Eight have the opportunity to try out for many competitive teams. This year, prior to and during the competitive season of a given sport educators have run intra-murals. The goal of the intra-murals is to provide as many students as possible to experience a sport. Thank you to the many educator and student volunteers for keeping our gyms humming during our recess/nutrition breaks and after school.

Music News

Choir

The Hopewell Choirs have been busy! Our website has updated information, including recordings and lyrics for the Grade 3-6 choir. If your child is singing with us, please have a look at <https://sites.google.com/a/ocdsb.ca/hopewell-junior-choir/home>

Bands

The music program at Hopewell will be thriving in the coming months. The first event will be at Southminster Church on April 4th. All the juniors have been invited to attend an educational production of Mozart's Requiem presented by the Rideau Chorale. We are so lucky to have such a great performance venue in our community!

The intermediate bands will be competing in the Kiwanis Music Festival on April 4th and 8th at Ridgemont High School. Wish us luck!

On May 15th the Jazz Band will be taking part in the OCDSB Intermediate music showcase at Fisher

Park, where several ensembles from all over the board share their musical ventures with one another.

An Evening of Music...

On May 30th we will be having our end of the year concert in the school gym. We are really looking forward to sharing all we've accomplished this year with you! The primary and junior choirs will be performing at 6pm, and the bands will play at 7pm.

Volunteer Breakfast

We would like to thank all of the volunteers who help our school run more smoothly. If you have given your time this year, please join us for breakfast in the library on Friday, May 10th, between 8am and 9am.

If your child's grandparent or another family member has volunteered, please help us pass this message along.



SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



To keep up to date on School Council information, please check out our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/hopewellavepsschoolcouncil/>



We are looking for someone with technical skills who can help make our School Council meetings more accessible in a virtual way. Have you worked with ZOOM or other call-in programs? We'd like your assistance!

School Lunches:

Do your kids enjoy the hot lunches on Fridays? This is also our school council's biggest fundraiser! From activities to improvements, Hopewell Ave PS benefits greatly from these funds. Our school community relies on parent volunteers to make this magic happen and we need your help. Do you have

a few hours to help make our lunch programs run smoothly? Please join our team!

Pizza Coordinator:

Kristy Hannah and Ilia Fabbri are our experienced pizza coordinators and they need a backup! If you are interested, or would like to know more, please contact Kristy Hannah: kristyhannah@yahoo.ca

Time Commitment: Four hours per month including the bi-weekly delivery times;

Tasks: Handling pizza orders; Coordinating the team of volunteers for classroom delivery every other Friday

Subway Volunteer: The time commitment is for about 1 hour for up to 2 Fridays a month. The hope is that with enough volunteers, each person may only have to do a few Subway lunch days a year.

If you are interested, or would like to know more, please contact Roopa Dolvane at roopa_dolvane@live.ca

Anything on Wheels Sale

Our annual Spring event The Anything on Wheels sale is coming up on May, 4 & 5, 2019. It's a great way to sell your bikes stored in the shed, and to buy an upgraded version. Volunteers needed for the drop-off day (Saturday May 4th) and for the actual Sale event on Sunday May 5th. The advantage of volunteering is that you have first view and pick of the items for sale. If you are interested, or would like to know more, please contact Rebekka Roy: rebekka@rogers.com

If you are interested in supporting the school council with a few hours of your time, or would like to know more about any of the above, please contact: parentspeak@gmail.com

SCHOOL SAFETY REMINDERS



All visitors and parents/guardians to the school are required to report to the office upon entering the building. You will be asked to sign our Visitor's Register and receive an identification tag to wear while you are in the school building. When we see your Visitor Tag we know you have signed in at the office.

Parents/guardians are requested not to go to their child(ren)'s classroom or to wait for them in the hall during the school day or at dismissal time. Parents/guardians who wish to meet their children at dismissal time are asked to do so at their children's normal exit door or make arrangements to meet them at the front of the school. In addition, parents/guardians should not approach children on the yard at recess time without first checking in at the office and then notifying the teacher on yard duty.

SPRING WEATHER

With unpredictable weather upon us, the need for warm and dry clothing is essential. Children do go outside for recesses unless there is heavy rain or extremely cold temperatures. Light drizzle will see our students outdoors, and we hope that all will be dressed for the varying weather conditions that are part of our Canadian climate. It is a good idea to pack an extra set of dry clothes in your child's knapsack.



MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

If you would like the school office staff to administer medications, **it is mandatory to get your doctor to complete and sign the form available from the school office.** These forms go into a medical log which must be updated annually at the start of every school year. This applies as well for students who have severe allergies and must use an Epi-pen. Medication will be administered to the students upon receipt of the completed form which must be signed by the doctor. This also applies to both short-term and long-term prescriptions as well as all over-the-counter medications.



ATTENDANCE LINE

If your child is going to be absent or late arriving, please call our main office number: 613-239-2348 and select 1. If you are calling after 9:30am, please connect with the main line. If the buses are cancelled and the school is open, please call and advise us that your child will be staying at home even if your child is a bus rider. If your child is ill, please share the nature of the illness.

BUSING FOR 2019-2020

As we head towards the final months of the school year, we would like to remind all parents/guardians to ensure we have complete and up to date information including addresses, telephone numbers and daycare arrangements. The details that we have on our system are used by the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority to determine eligibility for busing, along with the setting up of stop information for September. By ensuring that we have accurate information, we can be as organized as possible for transportation set up in September, 2018. If you wish to check on stop information, please visit the OSTA website during the last week of August at: ottawaschoolbus.ca and choose "Parent Login". If your child is eligible for busing this link will advise of stop information. If you have any queries, you can contact OSTA directly at 613-224-880 ext. 2380.

As a reminder, students who were approved for an empty seat for the 2018-2019 school year will need to reapply for the 2019-2020 school year. Empty seat approval ends with the school year.

MOVING AND SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR 2019-2020

We are in the beginning stages of planning for next year. If your child is not returning to Hopewell in September because you are moving out of our attendance area, please let us know of our child's destination as soon as possible. This information will help us plan for September. Please also encourage any new neighbours in your area to come in to register as soon as possible or to give us a call and we will be pleased to guide them in this process.

FINALLY... UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS AT-A-GLANCE ☺

April 9th, 7pm – School Council Meeting, Hopewell Library

April 11th – Movie Night and Grade 7 & 8 Games Night hosted by Hopewell School Council. Doors open at 6pm and movie begins at 6:30pm. The movie is Sing.

April 12th – PA day – no school for students

April 19th – Good Friday – School is closed

April 22nd – Easter Monday – School is closed

May 5th – Everything on Wheels Sale, Hopewell Parking Garage – Time to be confirmed

May 10th, 8am – Volunteer

Breakfast

May 14th, 7pm – School

Council Meeting, Hopewell Library

May 20th – Victoria Day – School is closed

May 21st – June 3rd – EQAO Testing for Grades 3 and 6 students (we would kindly request that appointments be scheduled keeping these dates in mind)

May 30th, 6pm – Hopewell Music Concert – Primary and Junior Choirs and Hopewell Bands

June 7th – PA Day, Students do not attend school

June 11th, 7pm – School Council Meeting, Hopewell Library

June 26th, 10am – Grade 8 School Leaving Ceremony

June 25th – Term Two Report Cards go home

June 27th – Last day of school for students

June 28th – PA Day – Students do not attend school

