



# Hopewell Avenue Public School

17 Hopewell Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 2Y7  
Tel: (613) 239-2349 Fax: (613) 566-7354  
**Spring 2020**



OTTAWA-CARLETON  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Principal: Martina Sherwood  
Vice Principal: Christopher Wereley  
Office Administrator: Louise Andoff  
Administration Assistants: Giuliana Falcucci  
Yanka Petrova

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

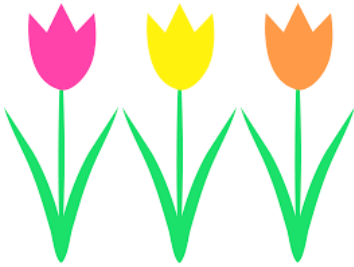
[www.hopewellaveps.ocdsb.ca](http://www.hopewellaveps.ocdsb.ca)

Follow us on Twitter @HopewellAvePS

## OCDSB Mission Statement

**Educating for success – inspiring learning and building citizenship**

### PRINCIPAL & VICE-PRINCIPAL MESSAGE



Thank you for reading our Spring Newsletter! You will find many items related to planning for next year.

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.

### REGISTRATION FOR 2020-2021

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 [School Locator](#) 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.

### MOVING AND SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR 2020-2021

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 your 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.

### EQAO

At this time EQAO is still scheduled to take place. 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 19<sup>th</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup> (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.eqacom](http://www.eqacom) 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 24th, 2020. 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!

## CLASS PLACEMENTS FOR 2020-2021

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 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Please also let the office know if your child will be leaving Hopewell in September 2020 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

### Luv 2 Groove



Last week all of our Junior and Intermediate classes participated in Luv 2 Groove dance sessions. Through

these sessions students found their groove and developed dance routines that they shared with their class. It was great to see the progression as the week unfolded.

### WalkSafe Program



Over the next few Fridays all of our Kindergarten and Primary students will have or will be participating in the WalkSafe Program hosted by the Ottawa Safety Council. Safe crossing of the street, how to read traffic/pedestrian lights, and how to walk safely near traffic are included in the presentation.

### NRC Engineering Challenge



Many of our classes have been involved in the NRC Engineering Challenge. Students were challenged with creating a catapult that can effectively launch a ping pong ball various distances. One student shared that they developed their catapult using triangles because rectangles

make it floppy! We saw some fantastic designs and ingenuity. Well done to our future engineers and a huge thank you to NRC volunteers for supporting this opportunity for our students.

### 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 8th, 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/>

### Anything on Wheels Sale

Our annual Spring event The Anything on Wheels sale is coming up on May, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. 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 2<sup>nd</sup>) and for the actual Sale event on Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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](mailto:rebekka@rogers.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 9:00am, 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 2020-2021**



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, 2020. If you wish to check on stop information, please visit the OSTA website during the last week of August at: [ottawaschoolbus.ca](http://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 2019-2020 school year will need to reapply for the 2020-2021 school year. Empty seat approval ends with the school year.

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

March 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> – March Break – School is closed  
April 10<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday – School is closed  
April 13<sup>th</sup> – Easter Monday – School is closed  
April 14<sup>th</sup>, 7pm – School Council Meeting, Hopewell Library  
April 24<sup>th</sup> – PA day – no school for students  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Anything on Wheels Sale, Hopewell Parking Garage – Time to be confirmed  
May 8<sup>th</sup>, 8am – Volunteer Breakfast  
May 18<sup>th</sup> – Victoria Day – School is closed  
May 19<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> – EQAO Testing for Grades 3 and 6 students (we would kindly request that appointments be scheduled keeping these dates in mind)  
June 5<sup>th</sup> – PA Day, Students do not attend school  
June 9<sup>th</sup>, 7pm – School Council Meeting, Hopewell Library  
June 24<sup>th</sup>, 10am – Grade 8 School Leaving Ceremony  
June 27<sup>th</sup> – Last day of school for students  
June 28<sup>th</sup> – PA Day – Students do not attend school