



Hawthorne Elementary School

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Office Hours: 8:30 am -3:30 pm

Principal: Mr. J. Hope **Vice-Principal** Ms. B. Bryan

Administrative Assistant: Ms. W. Methven

Office Support: Mrs. D Richardson

Twitter @ElemHawthorne

October 11, 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Hawthorne Parents and Guardians,

It's hard to believe we are into October already. We ended September with the teachers and students doing an excellent job recognizing the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. I was fortunate to be teaching for a couple days in a 6/7 class and was able to read the Phyllis Webstad book upon which the orange shirt symbolism is based on and shared a video featuring Murray Sinclair who led the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. These, combined with the range of other learning activities the students were doing, are ways to help encourage the importance of understanding diversity and acceptance in our Hawthorne community.

Sincerely,

J. Hope
Principal

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE

We understand that getting kids ready for school in the morning can be a challenge for some families. Having set routines where possible and knowing the timing of the school day may help. For clarification, students are expected to be on site and ready to line up at the first bell at 8:52. At this point students are let in, they hang up coats, unpack bags and get seated ready for the start of school at 8:57. If any student arrives after 8:57 they are late and are to **report to the front office** to get a "Welcome to School Slip" and to be signed in. There is a digital clock above the front door of the school to assist with this. Please do not report directly to classrooms as the attendance and time needs to be altered by office staff before they begin calling families.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Mrs. Mack is kindly opening the library before school on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 8:30am. There is a sign by the front door of the school indicating that it is open. If it is, students may enter the building and head straight to the library and remain there until the first bell goes. While there, students are welcome to do a quiet activity (read, draw, do a puzzle or play a game, finish homework/projects). There will be no technology use during this time. When the 8:52 bell goes, students will head outside and join their classroom lineups for class entry.

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Hawthorne! We will be running the fair during our Parent Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, October 19 and Thursday, October 20. Students will also have the opportunity to visit the fair with their class during their library time. We will also be open for families to come shopping with their children before or after their interview time. We are looking for volunteers to help at the book fair. If you can volunteer, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084EACA72CAAF49-hawthorne>



[Hawthorne Book Fair](#)

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you!

www.signupgenius.com

Also, Ms. Minci and Mrs. Mack will be starting a book club for anyone in Grades 5-7 interested in joining. The book club will be held Thursdays at lunch.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Teachers are always willing to discuss any emerging needs with you regarding your child's educational program and progress. To ensure they have the time to give, and can prepare any information required, please make appointments with them for discussions. They are not able to meet just before the bell as they have to teach a class and they may have other meetings set up so pre-arranging a time can ensure any questions or concerns can be dealt with thoughtfully and effectively. Thank you for understanding.

As part of the formal reporting process, Parent-Teacher meetings are scheduled to take place on Wednesday, October 19 and Thursday, October 20. On each day there is a **2:00 dismissal**. Please notify all caregivers, daycares and babysitters of that schedule change.

Interview structure is returning to a face-to-face model. We will use the same booking system as last year which is found online at schoolappointments.com. To manage data, the website deletes parent accounts each year so a new account will need to be set up. Once done, parents will be able to book one 15-minute time slot per child beginning at noon October 11 and closing at noon on October 19. If booking for multiple children, please leave some space between appointments in case one runs overtime; we don't want it to interfere with your following appointment. If there are any challenges booking an appointment, please contact Ms. Methven in the school office. Appointments open for parent booking on October 11th at 3:00 pm.

GRADE 6 IMMUNIZATIONS

We have received information from our public health nurse regarding the regular yearly vaccination program for Grade 6 students. The dates have been set for our school. They are December 2, 2022 and June 2, 2023. Before the first session, consent forms will go home, and vaccination history will be checked by public health to see if there are any missing vaccinations. The vaccine will be for HPV and then additional ones may be given for things like tetanus, chicken pox, or measles/mumps/rubella. These do not include COVID vaccinations. More information will come as the dates get closer.

FSA (FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT) GRADES 4 AND 7

Students participate in provincial assessments in grades 4,7,10, and 12. These assessments are designed with teacher input and are grade appropriate. These provide useful snapshots of where students are in their learning and are administered over several weeks. The focus is on the foundation skills of reading, writing, and math. There is no need for students to study and it is not used for report card purposes. The school does get the results which give an indication where student strengths are and what areas teachers can focus on. This is all information that goes along with the daily assessment teachers do in their classrooms.

The expectation is **all students** write the assessments. Some exceptions are made for students such as ELL students who do not have a working knowledge of English, students with severe intellectual disabilities, or students experiencing extenuating circumstances like a lengthy illness or family emergency.

ALLERGIES

Please inform the classroom teacher or office of any major allergies your child may have. We do have some classrooms with confirmed allergies and a letter will go home to those classes asking that nuts not be sent in with students in those rooms. We try to create a "nut aware" environment that provides a level of safety for people that have anaphylactic reactions to allergens.

PARENT CONNECT

A reminder to please login to your Parent Connect account. There is a link in the red box in the top right corner of the school webpage. In each child's account, please go in and check off the permissions for:

- walking field trips
- updated demographics
- fruit and veggie program
- emergency release information
- outside media in schools
- personal information consent form
- Google apps for education

You can read each of the documents in parent connect before giving permission. Doing so in a timely manner will prevent your child from potentially missing out on some opportunities. If you need any assistance with that, please contact the school office.

PAC INFORMATION

All Hawthorne parents are automatically members of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC). An executive gets elected from the parent community to take on various roles during the Annual General Meeting. They held their first meeting on Tuesday, Oct 4. To ensure you get information from them regarding hot lunch and other PAC events, please subscribe to their mailing list by going to the website <https://hawthornepac.ca/> and under the 'More' menu click 'subscribe'.

VOLLEYBALL

We have begun our interschool volleyball season for this year. Our grade 6 and 7 Co-Ed volleyball teams have started practicing. Thanks to the coaches Mrs. Mack, Mrs. E. McGill, Mr. Hope, and Ms. Selles. The goal of elementary school sports is to have participation, develop skills, increase school spirit, and develop sportsmanship. Winning is nice too, but not the main focus!

HALLOWEEN

Halloween is coming up on Monday, October 31. Students are invited to dress up for the day in a costume that is easy to take on and off (for bathroom purposes!) and has good visibility. Although it is meant to be a fun day, there are some younger kids who get scared of some costumes. Please avoid sending overly scary costumes to school and keep at home any swords, knives, guns or other weapons that may be part of a costume. Sometimes the wear and tear of the school day from activities such as recess, sitting on the floor, or PE class can damage a costume, so please be mindful of sending things to school which will cause distress if they are damaged.

Part of the celebration will include a primary costume parade and an intermediate pumpkin run. Timing of those events will be announced closer to the day. Parents will be invited to view both.

HAWTHORNE HELPING HANDS

Last year we worked really hard to reinforce the main student expectations at Hawthorne of Taking Care of Self, Taking Care of Others, and Taking Care of This Place. In addition to direct teaching and reminders, staff used Hawthorne Helping Hands tickets to thank kids when we ‘caught’ them doing the right thing. At the end of each week those tickets were put in a draw and kids would get to select a small prize. We will continue with this activity this year as it was well received by the students. We will also add additional reminders to morning announcements and have more school-wide assemblies to promote the expectations.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, October 19	2:00 Dismissal - Parent Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, October 19	Scholastic Book Fair 8:30-6:00
Thursday, October 20	2:00 Dismissal - Parent Teacher Conferences
Thursday, October 20	Scholastic Book Fair 8:30-5:00
Friday, October 21	Professional Learning Day- No School for students
Wednesday, October 26	PAC Walk to School Day
Monday, October 31	Halloween
Friday, November 4	PAC Hot Lunch Day