

HAMMOND NEWS

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Principal: Mr. Wes Reamsbottom
Vice Principal: Ms. Megan Olynyk

Newsletter #2 - November 18, 2020

At Hammond

Elementary, students and staff work hard to build a positive school culture. We believe that everyone has a responsibility to create a caring, safe and orderly learning environment.

Upcoming Events

Nov 24	Parent Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal 11:30 AM
Nov 25	Parent Teacher Conferences No Classes
Dec 15	Spirit Day - Ugly Sweater
Dec 16	December Assembly by Zoom
Dec 18	Last Day before Winter Break

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The staff and students at Hammond are continuing to do a great job at hand washing and hand sanitizing, please keep it up! Staff is all wearing masks and an increasing number of our students are choosing to wear masks as well. Hand washing and masks are our best defence to stop the transmission of COVID-19. Parents and families are reminded to social distance whenever possible especially when on school grounds. Staff has been working with students on social distancing when at play, many of the intermediate students are getting the idea and even our primaries are slowly getting on board. We want to thank you for your continued support with this. November is typically an excellent month for learning as students are settled in their rooms and familiar with the routines and activities of their class! Please feel free to say hello at school as Ms. Olynyk and I are outside before school, at recess, lunch and after school.

Acting Principal: Bruce Grady and Vice Principal: Megan Olynyk

PACK IT IN - PACK IT OUT ...

Hammond is committed to a litter free lunch (and recess). Litter free lunches at school are the best form of recycling. On average, a school-age child with a disposable lunch generates approximately 30 kg (67 pounds) of waste per school year. That means a class of 25 students will produce 737 kg (1,625 pounds) of waste in a school year! This is almost as much as an average car weighs Just imagine what a whole school produces!

We ask that whatever comes in your child's lunch bag goes home in their lunch bag, including empty juice boxes and food wrappers. In this way we will create far less garbage at school and you will have a better idea of what your child is finishing for lunch.

SCHOOL CLOSURE REMINDERS...

- Students will be dismissed at 11:30 am on **Tuesday, November 24th** and do not attend on **Wednesday, November 25th** to allow for parent/child/teacher conferencing.

HAMMOND WEBSITE...

Please always check the calendar on our Hammond website page <https://elementary.sd42.ca/hammond/>

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS...

A good percentage of Student Information Verification Forms have been returned however it is vital we have one on file for every student. It is crucial that we have up-to-date, current and correct information on all our students so that everyone can be as safe as possible in the event of an emergency. If you have not yet returned your child's (blue) information sheet please do so as soon as possible. Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have lost it and need another one, please let the office know.

BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, AND SCOOTERS...

Parents, please help reinforce with your child(ren) that if they wish to have the privilege of riding their bike or scooter to school that they must follow school rules as noted below:

Students are welcome to ride their bicycles, skateboards and scooters to and from school provided they:

- Wear a helmet
- Do not ride on school grounds, especially before and right after school we have way too parking lot traffic and sidewalk traffic

LIBRARY NEWS...Scholastic Book Fair is open online! Our virtual Scholastic Book Fair is here!!! From **November 16th – 30th** you will be able to shop, at your leisure, on-line and pick out some great books for gifts or just because. Books purchased can be sent to whichever address you choose, eliminating packing and postage for those out of town/province/country friends and family. Shipping is free if your order is \$35.00 or more and a flat shipping fee of \$6.00 if under \$35.00. On 2 nights, **November 18th and November 25th between 6:00-8:00 pm, shipping is FREE** as it is Scholastic's Family Nights for our school. The school will receive 20% of the net sales. Please go to <https://bookfairs-canada.myshopify.com/pages/5149348> to start shopping! If you have any questions please e-mail hammondpac@hotmail.com. Have fun and the school appreciates your support!



DRESS FOR THE WEATHER...

As the weather is about to get rainier, it is important that your child is sent to school dressed appropriately for the weather. As well, an extra set of clothes kept at the school will enable your child to change should he or she get wet or muddy while playing during recess or lunch. We will be sending the students out during these breaks rain or shine. Please encourage them to **dress for the weather**. Please make sure you label all jackets and extra clothes with your child's name.



SPIRIT DAY...

The next Spirit Day will be held on Tuesday, December 15. The theme for this Spirit Day is Ugly Sweater Day.

PARKING LOT REMINDERS...

To all new families to Hammond, and a reminder to those families using the parking lot at the end of the day, if everyone follows our procedures and is patient for 10 minutes things will go smoothly and safely. It is with cooperation, patience and following a few simple guidelines that we can minimize the frustrations and keep the parking lot safe for everyone.

Guidelines:

- When double parked or stopping beside a yellow curb you **must** stay in your vehicle so you can move it if the person you are blocking needs to exit the lot.
- Do not block an open parking space.
- It is imperative that we leave a **clear path** through the middle of the lot so traffic can keep moving.
- If you get to the flagpole and your child has not arrived yet, **continue to circle** the lot until they do.
- Do not park at the entrance that funnels traffic into and out of the lot as it blocks traffic flow.
- Use the perimeter sidewalks to walk to the overflow lot rather than weaving in and out of the cars.
- **Travel through the parking lot at idle speed.**



COMMUNICATION ...

Home and school communication is so important. As well as receiving our monthly newsletters, please remember to check our school website regularly for any updates. If you are not already registered on the SD42 Parent Portal, this is the best way to stay well informed.

ATTENDANCE....

Just a reminder if your son or daughter is ill and staying home please let the office know at your earliest convenience. There are a number of ways to let us know your child is not coming prior to the start of the school day: phone in (we have voicemail), email or through the parent portal. If you are emailing your child's teacher about an absence, please also let the office know as well.

PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT CONFERENCING

With Covid - 19 parent conferencing will look a little different this year. If you haven't already heard from your child's teacher, you will in the next couple of days to schedule your conference. This year's parent conference will be held over zoom (half day November 24 and full day November 25). The teacher will either send home a portfolio of your Childs work or share examples of the work over the zoom call. On that call you will have the opportunity to ask questions and interact with the teacher and your son or daughter to assess their progress and work to set goals for the second term. If zoom is not available to you we will look at other options, just let your child's teacher know when they contact you.

Counselling Corner [from our school counsellor Trish Maas](#)

When asked most children, youth and adults will admit that they are not kind to themselves, that they have little or no self-compassion.

What can we do today and tomorrow to change this?

We can encourage our children and youth to challenge the negative chatter in their heads, ask themselves.....

Is it kind? Is it helpful? Is it necessary?

We can help them shrink the judgement, the resentment and make more room for kindness, forgiveness and understanding.



“There is a growing body of research demonstrating that relating to ourselves in a kind, friendly manner is essential for emotional wellbeing. Not only does it help us avoid the inevitable consequences of harsh self-judgment - depression, anxiety, and stress - it also engenders a happier and more hopeful approach to life”.

Kristin Neff,
Feb 28, 2020

“ Kindness is
loving yourself
enough to love
those around you.

”
- RAKtivist

SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS...

Kindergarten Registration 2021/22

Children who turn 5 years old in 2021 (born in 2016) are eligible to register in kindergarten for the 2021/22 school year. Registration dates for the 2021/22 school year are below:

Sibling Registration
January 6 - 12, 2021

Choice Registration
January 20 – 25, 2021

General Registration
February 3 – 10, 2021

Late Registration
February 24 – July 31, 2021

Open Registration
August 19 and on

All registration periods open at 12 pm (noon) for more information visit our website:

<https://elementary.sd42.ca/hammond>

Head Lice

It is getting to be that season please refer to Fraser Health's Guidelines:

<http://www.fraserhealth.ca/health-topics-a-to-z/school-health/illness-and-immunizations/head-lice#.X6L2yohKiUI>

Immunizations

Message from Fraser Health re School Immunization for the 2020/21 school year:

Public Health will commence the School Immunization Program for this year's Grade 6 and Grade 9 students in January 2021.

Public Health will also provide catch-up immunizations to students who did not complete their immunizations last school year or over the summer.

DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

All parents, guardians, and/or caregivers **MUST** conduct a Daily Health Assessment of their child(ren) **BEFORE** sending them to school. Keep this checklist in a well-frequented area (like your kitchen) and incorporate the assessment into your morning routine before leaving for school.

1. Key Symptoms of Illness		Do you have any of the following new key symptoms? Please circle ONE for each line.	
Fever		YES	NO
Chills		YES	NO
Cough or worsening of chronic cough		YES	NO
Shortness of breath		YES	NO
Loss of sense of smell or taste		YES	NO
Diarrhea		YES	NO
Nausea and vomiting		YES	NO
2. International Travel	Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	YES	NO
3. Confirmed Contact	Are you confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19	YES	NO

If you answered “YES” to one of the questions included under ‘Key Symptoms of Illness’ (excluding fever), you should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started. If the symptom improves, you may return to school when you feel well enough. If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment.

If you answered “YES” to two or more of the questions included under ‘Symptoms of Illness’ or you have a fever, seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, you should not return to school until COVID-19 has been excluded and your symptoms have improved.

When a COVID-19 test is recommended by the health assessment:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, you should stay home until you are told by public health to end self-isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test.
- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, you can return to school once symptoms have improved and you feel well enough. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless you develop a new illness.
- If a COVID-19 **test is recommended but is not done** because you choose not to have the test, or you do not seek a health assessment when recommended, and your symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, you should stay home from school until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then you may return if you are feeling well enough. If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, you can return to school when symptoms improve and you feel well enough.

Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19). If you answered “YES” to questions 2 or 3, use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine if you should seek testing for COVID-19.

A health-care provider note (i.e. a doctor’s note) should not be required to confirm the health status of any individual.