



130 Rykert St., St. Catharines, ON L2S 2B4

September 5, 2017

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **1st Day of School - Sept. 5th**
- **Student Verfication Forms due to office no later than - Sept. 8th**
- **Early Release Day - Sept. 15th**
- **Milk Program starts Sept. 18th**
- **Open House - Sept. 21st - 4:30 - 6 p.m.**

September NEWSLETTER

WELCOME BACK!

A MESSAGE FROM OFFICE



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all of our returning students and staff to Westdale for what we are sure will be a great year! To our new students, We would like to extend a warm welcome on behalf of the Westdale community. We are sure you will enjoy your stay here!

We certainly hope that our students had a fun and relaxing summer. Our staff members enjoyed a well-deserved rest and have been working hard to plan for a exciting new school year. They are anticipating many new memories to be made with the new students they will be teaching.

When you have a chance, please have a look at our school's website (the link is below).

To all students and parents, We believe that a positive environment with open communication is key to a successful school. We want to remind you that our doors will always be open for you to drop by and share a concern or to just say hello. We are looking forward to a

great year here at Westdale and we hope to meet many of you in the months to come.

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH WESTDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

- Follow us on our school website: westdale.dsbm.org
- Follow us on twitter @westdale_ps
- Get text reminders by joining our Remind account @WestdaleFamilies (text "@westdalef" to 289-812-3838)

Contact us at:
 Phone: 905-682-9284
 E-mail: wes@dsbn.org



INITIAL SCHOOL ORGANIZATION for 2017-2018

Our tentative class organization is listed below. Please keep in mind that changes could occur depending upon actual Board and school enrolment figures. The first weeks of school are always somewhat uncomfortable in this respect. Hopefully any change will be minimal.

Principal	Mr. C. Scott
Vice Principal	Mrs. J. Wittig
Secretary	Mrs. D. Holderney
K1	Mrs. M. Philip & Mrs. A. Canning
K2	Mrs. K. Davis & Mrs. M. MacPherson
K3	Mrs. K. Koppejan
Grade 1	Mrs. T. Kornelsen
Grade 2	Mrs. T. Hildebrandt
Grade 2/3	Mrs. L. Guitard
Grade 3	Mrs. L. Petro
Grade 4	Ms. M. Marshall
Grade 5/6	Ms. A. Patten
Grade 6	Mrs. C. Hansen
Grade 7	Mr. M. Nevar
Grade 8	Mr. C. Wall
SSP	Mrs. R. Shapiro
FSL	Mrs. J. Gravelle
LRT	Mrs. H. Sacco
LRT/Prep	Mrs. S. Plue
Primary Phys. Ed.	Mrs. K. Miles
Prep	Miss J. Grabs
ESL Itinerate	Mrs. R. Pascoe
Educational Assistants	Mrs. J. deRoos
.....	Mrs. B. Eckhardt
.....	Mrs. D. Towne
.....	Mrs. D. Frydryk
Youth Counsellor	Mr. G. Sentance
Custodian	Mrs. L. Nelson
Night Custodian	Mrs. A. Riches
Lunch Supervisors	Mrs. S. Simons
.....	Mrs. L. Weekes



PIZZA BY THE SLICE

We will be running our pizza day program again this year. Pizza days will be scheduled for every Thursday. Pizza will be ordered on a monthly basis through 'School Cash On-line'. Our first Pizza Day will be **Thursday October 5th**.



MEDICATION FOR STUDENTS



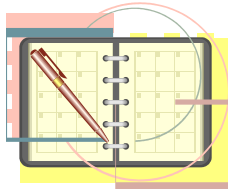
Any prescribed medication that is to be administered to students at school must have an authorization form completed by the physician on file in the school. These forms are available at the school office.

SCHOOL TIMES

8:40 a.m.	Entry
10:20 - 11:00 a.m.	Nutrition/Fitness Break 1
12:40 - 1:20 p.m.	Nutrition/Fitness Break 2
3:00 p.m.	Dismissal

AGENDAS

This year we are requiring our students to use a "student agenda". The student agenda is an excellent way for students to keep organized (i.e. homework) and for parents and teachers to communicate. We strongly encourage you and your child(ren) to use the agenda everyday! Cost for agendas this year is **\$7.00** which can be paid through School Cash Online.



EARLY RELEASE DAY

Friday, September 15th will be an Early Release Day. On this day students will be released for the day at 11:50 a.m. so that staff can spend the afternoon working on reorganization / curriculum related issues.

GOING HOME FOR LUNCH

With our Balanced School Day, our official "Lunch Hour" will be during our second Nutrition/Fitness Break (12:40 p.m. to 1:20 p.m.). We encourage those students able to enjoy the advantages of having lunch at home to do so. Gr. 7 and 8 students will be given permission forms to allow them to leave the property daily at lunch with their parent's permission. All other lunchers **MAY NOT** leave the school grounds during this break time without written parental permission. **Please ensure that we receive a note should you wish to give your child permission to leave the safety of the school grounds.**

PLEASE CHECK IN AT THE OFFICE

For the safety and well being of our students **all** guests of Westdale School, including parents, are asked to check in at the office. Visitors will be asked to sign in and wear a name badge.



OFFICE HOURS

Mrs. Holderney, our secretary is in the office from 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. each week day.

Mr. Scott & Mrs. Wittig are available most days from 8:00 a.m. to about 4:00 p.m.

Please call to make appointments during these specified times.



We realize that, on occasion, students forget their lunches. If this is the case, and you are leaving a lunch at the front office, please make sure your child knows it is coming and that his/her name and grade are on the lunch.

We would respectfully request that you please DO NOT drop off "hot lunches" (e.g. from McDonalds) for your children. Mrs. Holderney has other responsibilities to tend to and cannot afford to take the time to deliver lunches to students. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

IMPORTANT FORMS TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL

Each student has received an envelope with important information:

A "*Student Verification Form*" that we ask you to read carefully, make any changes to the form if needed, and return the form signed to the school as soon as possible. Please pay special attention to filling in any changes in medical information. Please make sure the signed form is returned to school even if there are no changes.

An "*Information Technology Digital Citizenship Agreement*", that needs to be read over with your child and signed by a parent. This form must be returned in order for your child to be allowed on the computers in the lab.

A "*Permission to Participate Form*" needs to be filled in and signed by a parent in order for your child to participate in the physical education program.

A "*Parent Response Form*" also needs to be completed and signed by a parent.

MILK PROGRAM

Milk can be purchased through "School Cash Online" if you want your child to participate in our milk program. A \$15.00 purchase will entitle your child to 20 cartons of white or chocolate milk.

Milk is served during the 2nd nutrition break. The milk program will start on September 18th.



ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

To ensure the accountability and safety of our students, it is imperative that parents call the office when their child is going to be absent or late. There is an answering machine for you to leave a message before school hours.



CUSTODY ORDERS

When couples separate or divorce, parents generally share custody of the children. Sometimes, however, other arrangements are made and are set out in a court order. The school cannot enforce these alternate arrangements if we do not have a copy of the court order on file (in our confidential O.S.R. files). Should you have such a court order that we should be aware of, please discuss the situation with the Principal and share a copy with the office.

OPEN HOUSE

We will be holding our Open House on **Thursday September 21st**, from **4:30-6 p.m.** This is a great opportunity to meet your child's new teacher, however please remember that it will still be very early in the school year and he/she will not be able to give a full report on your child's progress. Pizza and Water will be provided for you.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS

Just a reminder that our newsletters can be found on our website. This will be the only "hard copy" newsletter that will be sent home this year.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

This year most items that are purchased through the school will **only** be available through "SCHOOL CASH ONLINE" (e.g school trips, pizza, milk, pasta, spirit wear, etc.). This will reduce the time that our office/teaching staff spend each week collecting and counting money and permission forms. When you sign up you will receive update emails to let you know what is available and when it is due. You will never have to look for spare change again to pay for school related items. Signing up is very easy. Just head to the home page of our school's website at www.westdale.dsbk.org and click on the School Cash Online button. The process to sign up takes about 5 minutes.



A REQUEST FOR HOMEWORK

When your child is absent from school, we are more than happy to collect their homework for you, should you wish to pick some up. However, we must ask that we receive at least A HALF DAY'S NOTICE in order to facilitate your request. Please keep in mind that teachers are in the classroom all day and it is very difficult for them to stop teaching at a moment's notice to gather up homework.

We would appreciate it if all homework requests were called in to the office before 12:00 p.m., giving our teachers their lunch break and afternoon to gather what is needed and have it down to the office for 3:05 p.m. pick-up by parents. Thank you for your co-operation.

PEANUT ALERT

We have a few students who have a severe allergy to nuts of any kind as well as nut products, oils, etc. These allergies caused from nuts and nut products can be fatal. We thereby require nut-free lunches and snacks to be brought by students. Although we cannot guarantee a peanut free environment, we appreciate your continued efforts with this delicate issue.

