



October 1, 2020

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- Rowan's Law Day—Wear Purple - October 2
- World Teacher's Day - October 5
- Thanksgiving Day - October 12
- Dress Purple for Child Abuse Awareness - October 27

# October NEWSLETTER

**A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE**



We would like to extend our thanks to all members of our school community, including students, parents and staff, for an amazing kick off to our 2020-2021 school year. We know things are a little different this year, but our staff appreciate your support in following our new protocols with everything, from our entry and exit, to daily self-assessment screenings.

We cannot stress the importance of ensuring your child is symptom-free before arriving at school in the morning. Both staff and students need to complete a daily self-assessment before arriving. Any students (or staff) that develop any of the following symptoms while at school will need to be picked up right away. The symptoms include:

- Fever/chills (feeling hot to the touch, a temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher)
- Cough that's new or worsening (continuous, more than usual)
- Shortness of breath (out of breath even when sitting or walking)
- Sore throat (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- Runny, stuffy or congested nose (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- Unusual level of fatigue
- Headache that's unusual or long lasting
- Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, stomach pain (not related to other known causes or conditions)
- Feeling unwell for an unknown reason

If children display symptoms, they must remain home from school and seek medical attention by a health care provider to see if testing is recom-

return to school. For more information, call the Niagara Region Public Health Info-Line at 905-688-8248 or toll-free at 1-888-505-6074, press 7, then press 2 if you're a parent or guardian. This line is available Monday to Friday, 9:15 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 9:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. You may also chat online in 90 different languages with auto-translate through their website or email

[healthyschools@niagararegion.ca](mailto:healthyschools@niagararegion.ca).

We appreciate your support and cooperation as we work to keep everyone safe.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us. Both Mr. Scott & Mrs. Hurd pride ourselves on having an open door policy and we will continue to solve any problem/concern together.

**SUPERVISION REMINDERS**

Your child's safety is very important to us at Westdale. In order to help us keep your child safe, we ask that you keep in mind the supervision schedule for students. Supervision for students in Grades 1-8 begins at 8:25 in the back of the school. Students should not be arriving prior to 8:25, as supervision is not provided. We request that once students arrive at school, they immediately enter through their assigned gate and remain in their classroom designated space to ensure their safety, to keep the sidewalks clear for those still arriving, and to ensure physical distancing. After school, supervision is provided for our students that take the bus home. We ask that students leave school property at the end of the day unless supervised by a parent. **We also stress that if you are dropping your child off or picking up that you are remembering to social distance and also wear your mask.**



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

There will be no school on **Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>**, as we celebrate Thanksgiving.

**Contact us at:**

Phone: 905-682-9284

E-mail: [wes@dsbn.org](mailto:wes@dsbn.org)



## SNACK CLUB, MILK PROGRAM AND HOT LUNCHES

We hope to have our snack program up and running in the near future. Please note that it will look a little different this year. We will provide further information when it is available.



As for our hot lunch and milk program, that is also on pause for the time being. If we are able to run either of these in the future, we will send out further information at that time.

## ROWAN'S LAW DAY—CONCUSSION AWARENESS

Rowan's Law was named for Rowan Stringer, a high school rugby player from Ottawa, who died in the spring of 2013 from a condition known as second impact syndrome (swelling of the brain caused by a subsequent injury that occurred before a previous injury healed). Rowan is believed to have experienced three concussions over six days while playing rugby. She had a concussion but didn't know her brain needed time to heal. Neither did her parents, teachers or coaches. We will be recognizing Rowan on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.



Rowan's Law and Rowan's Law Day were established to honour her memory and bring awareness to concussions and concussion safety. We wear purple on this day as this was Rowan's favourite colour.

## WORLD TEACHER'S DAY

World Teacher's Day is recognized annually on October 5<sup>th</sup>. We would like to thank our teaching staff for all you do each and everyday to ensure that our Wildcats are safe, well, and challenged to do their best. Thank you to our amazing teaching staff for making our community an amazing one to be a part of!



## DRESS PURPLE DAY—CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS

The DSBN has joined the commitment to Dress Purple to support Child Abuse Prevention Month. October is Child Abuse Prevention Month and Wednesday, October 27, 2020 is Dress Purple Day, a provincial day of action when students and staff are encouraged to wear purple and show your support for child abuse prevention. On Thursday, October 27, DSBN will be recognizing Wear Purple Day.

## TERRY FOX

Due to current considerations, we will not be having a school-wide Terry Fox run this year. Many classes will be learning about Terry Fox and participating in a walk on school grounds with their classmates. Unfortunately, we cannot accept any cash donations for this very worthwhile cause. If you would like to donate, we encourage you to donate directly to the Terry Fox foundation by visiting [terryfox.org](http://terryfox.org) and select "Make a Donation".



## WE ARE A NUT AWARE SCHOOL

Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening reaction to certain food substances. We have students and staff in our school that suffer from a severe allergy which can cause an anaphylactic reaction. An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that in some cases, it can be life threatening. These children have a severe allergy to nuts. Prevention is the best approach. Therefore, we ask your cooperation in not sending any snacks or lunches containing nut products with your child, including peanut butter and Nutella.