

Heximer Avenue Public School

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Niagara Falls, ON L2G 4T1
(905) 356-0932
<http://heximer.dsbm.org>



October 2020

Principal's Message

Thank you so much to the amazing Heximer Avenue community for giving me such a warm welcome while I fill in for Ms. Storrey. I want to extend a huge thank-you to our community for making the start of the 2020-2021 school year successful as we navigate through new procedures and protocols. Your support is greatly appreciated.

I 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. 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.

Thank-you,

Mrs. Sinnett



October Events MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Rowan's Law Day – Wear Purple. Oct. 2
- World Teacher's Day Oct. 5
- School Advisory Council..... Oct. 6 - 6:00 pm
(you need to fill out the form that was emailed in order to receive an invite to this online meeting)
- Terry Fox Walk Oct. 9
- Thanksgiving Day Oct. 14
- Dress Purple for Child Abuse Awareness.... Oct. 27

PLEASE NOTE:

Please note that there is *not* a PA Day in October. Our next PA Day will be on Wednesday, November 18.

We will be having a regular school day on the Friday before Thanksgiving.

Prevalent Medical Conditions

If you have a child with a prevalent medical condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy or others) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. All parents of children with prevalent medical conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. You can download the forms here dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions

40TH ANNUAL TERRY FOX WALK

Due to current considerations, we will not be having a school-wide Terry Fox run this year, but rather classes will be taking the opportunity throughout the day on October 9th to walk outside, socially distanced around the playground. Classes will also be learning about Terry Fox and participating in activities in their classrooms. Unfortunately, we cannot accept any cash donations for this very worthwhile cause. If you would like to donate, we encourage you donate through school cash online for this.



ROWAN'S LAW DAY

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.

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. (Friday, October 2, 2020)



WORLD TEACHER'S DAY

World Teacher's Day is recognized annually on October 5. I would like to thank our teaching staff for all you do each and everyday to ensure that our Heximer Avenue students 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!

ATTENDANCE AND SAFE ARRIVAL

Attendance is taken twice daily. Please help us to ensure the safety of our students by reporting your child's absence or if they will be arriving late to school. Your co-operation in calling will assist Ms. Oliver immensely. If we do not hear from you, we will call you either at home, on your cell, your place of employment and your emergency contacts. Please note that due to starting our days outside, attendance calls may be a little later than usual. Also, all students who arrive late to school (morning or afternoon) must report to the office. **Parents will not be able to escort their child into the building.** A staff member will meet the child at the front door and will ensure the child gets safely to their class. Using the Safe Arrival system, parents will be able to report daily absences, and even schedule absences in one of three ways:

Call: 1-866-606-5567

Logging on to the web portal (<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/account/login>). Using this website, you can set up your account to report and schedule absences.

Using your smart phone or tablet. Simply download the School Messenger app. The app is compatible with both Apple and Android devices.

Please report all absences prior to bell time for the current day. If your child has an upcoming appointment, you can also schedule future absences by using one of these three methods. Please do not contact the school directly to report your child's absence. For more information, please visit: <https://dsbn.org/safearrival/>

If you are changing your child's pick-up time, the office must know by 2:30 pm as it gets busy near the end of the day and some classes may be extending their learning outside at that time.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Dear Parent/Guardians,

Heximer Avenue School believes that successful education requires active involvement and communication among the school, the home, and the community. Heximer Avenue has a history of having an active School Council. Please consider joining the enthusiastic team! Our School Council needs YOU! We need your new ideas, perspectives and creative energy to provide each student with physical, emotional and intellectual development opportunities.

What School Council Is And Why You Should Join

The purpose of the School Council, through active participation of its members is:

- being an important partner in the education system, whose views are valued;
- contributing to the shared goal of improving student achievement;
- having a vehicle through which to express opinions;
- Making a Difference being able to keep informed about what is happening at the school and the board, and at the provincial level of education.

The School Council is an advisory body who will meet monthly and consists of Heximer parents, teachers, and the Principal. In the past we have met in person, but due to new Covid-19 protocols we will be meeting virtually. The first meeting will occur **Tuesday, October 6 at 6:00 pm**.

Instructions will be sent out to those that fill in the attached form in advance of the meeting. We will be using Microsoft Teams for this meeting. Please take the time to fill out the attached form.

Due to the fact many families have moved to online learning it is important to note that elected positions on council need to be by parents/guardians with students "in school". However all parents of our community are welcome to attend and be a part of the meetings.

Please fill out this form no later than Tuesday, September 29, 2020. Click on link below:

[School Council Link](#)

DRESS IN PURPLE—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.

HALLOWE'EN

Given the current unprecedented times we are holding off on determining our plan for Halloween this year. Once we determine a plan we will be sure to communicate it with our community. We know Halloween is an event that is looked forward to by our students. As things are changing almost daily we just want to have the most up to date information before we share with our community.