

Heximer Avenue Public School

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<http://heximer.dsbn.org>



September 2020

Principal's Message

WELCOME TO THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR! On behalf of the staff at Heximer, I would like to welcome back all our returning students and families. For our students and families new to Heximer, we are excited that you will be joining our SCHOOL this year. A new year is always filled with possibilities. At Heximer, we know that this year will be full of new learnings, new experiences, new opportunities and new friendships. Although things will look different, we will create an amazing, healthy and safe learning environment for our Lions!

There is a great deal of information in this newsletter and I appreciate the time you are giving to reading all this information! If you have not already taken a few minutes to read the [DSBN Parent Return to School Guide: In-Class Elementary](#) guide, please do so. Please visit the [DSBN website](#) and click on the Return to School Updates – Elementary. You will find many valuable resources to prepare for your child's return to school, including a [Welcome to Kindergarten Parent Guide](#), the [COVID-19 Management Plan](#) release by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education as well as [A Parent's Guide: Preparing for a Mentally Healthy Return to School](#).

The first day of school brings life back to the building, such as seeing smiling students eager to share their summer tales and hearing excitement in the air as students settle into their new classrooms. Thank you to Mrs. TOY for the excellent job She has done this summer getting the school ready to greet our students.



September Events

DOT DAY.....SEPT 15
SCHOOL SPIRIT DAYSEPT. 25
ORANGE SHIRT DAY..... Sept. 30

BELL TIMES

Morning Entry 9:00 am
Period 1– 9:20-10:00
Period 2– 10:00-10:40
Period 3– 10:40-11:20
Period 4-11:20-12:00
Period 5– 12:00-12:40
Period 6– 12:40-1:20
Period 7– 1:20-2:00
Period 8– 2:00– 2:40
Period 9 –2:40-3:20

*** Nutrition and Fitness breaks will occur in 2 of these periods during the day and will vary between classes, your teacher will let you know, when this is for your children.**

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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

RETURN OF BORROWED DEVICES

Did you borrow a Chromebook during the spring Learn from Home session? We will be asking for you to return the technology to Heximer during the first week of school. Please send these in with your child with their name on it.

STAGGERED START_ THE FIRST WEEK

To help ease your child's return to the 2020/2021 school year, Heximer will be implementing a staggered entry return to school for elementary students. Even if your child is in a split grade class, they will follow the staggered start date for their specific grade.

Students attending In School learning					
	MON September 7	TUE September 8	WED September 9	THU September 10	FRI September 11
 When does my child attend school?	Labour Day - No School	Kindergarten Grade 1	Kindergarten Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3	Kindergarten Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3 Grade 4 Grade 5 Grade 6	Kindergarten Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3 Grade 4 Grade 5 Grade 6 Grade 7 Grade 8
Designated Special Education classes will all return on Tuesday September 8					

PARENT ROLE IN KEEPING CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY SAFE

The DSBN Parental Agreement is available on School Cash Online and is due to the school by September 18th. As acknowledged in the DSBN Parental Agreement, it is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to assess their children on a daily basis before sending them to school. Please be sure to sign and submit this agreement promptly through School Cash Online. All forms are available through School Cash Online. Please sign up today if you haven't already done so.

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING TO SCHOOL?

We understand that many families like to purchase school supplies. As always, you are welcome to do this but please keep it simple (pencils, erasers, pencil crayons or markers, scissors, and a calculator for our students in Grade 6-8). However, the school will provide all necessary learning materials. As part of our Enhanced Health and Safety program, students will not be permitted to share school supplies.

If you need these items, many of our community partners will be providing schools with supplies. Please let your school know. Personal non-instructional items in their backpacks will be taken home each day

Please label all items with your child's name.

Kindergarten

Grades 1-8

- A **backpack** that is large enough to carry their lunch bag.
- A **snack and lunch daily**. Consider packing food in containers that can be easily opened by your child. Healthy snacks are encouraged.
- Refillable water bottle**.
- Headphones** to use with technology. Headphones that cover the ears work best. Place headphones in a labeled bag (e.g. a large Ziploc).
- Indoor running shoes** that will be kept at school. (e.g. velcro and slip on shoes).
- Outer clothing** (e.g., jacket, snow pants, etc.) appropriate for the weather.
- A **change of clothes** that will be kept in their cubby. Place clothes in a labeled bag (e.g. a large Ziploc bag).

MASKS - The DSBN will be following all mask guidelines as provided by the Ministry of Education and Niagara Region Public Health.

Grade 4-8 students will require a non-medical mask each day. Please send a back up mask or two in a labelled Ziploc bag or container, to keep in their backpack.

Kindergarten to Grade 3 students may choose to and will be encouraged to wear a mask.

OUTDOOR CLOTHING

In addition to fitness breaks, a portion of your child's day will include outdoor learning and breaks for mask relief. Please send your child to school dressed for the weather.

PAIR OF INDOOR SHOES

WATER BOTTLE

LUNCH

BACKPACK

HAT AND SUNSCREEN

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

HEADPHONES to use with technology, in a labeled bag (e.g. a large Ziploc)

Things my child should not bring to school from home:

Toys or stuffies.

Any food containing any nut or nut product.

Shared foods (e.g., cupcakes, Timbits)

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

With School Cash Online, you will be able to approve permission forms and make payments for any of these items online. Understanding that we're quickly becoming a cashless society, we know it can sometimes be a challenge to find exact change for items and then send it to school through your child's backpack.

School Cash Online is a safe, reliable portal that will ensure the security of your information. The system is already active. You are able to gain access through the School Cash button which has been placed on our school website. We are asking that you click on the button and follow the simple instructions to register. Registration should take less than five minutes. If you registered last year, you do not need to register again!

You do NOT need your child's OEN to register—please leave this box blank when filling in the form.

If you require some assistance registering for School Cash Online, please call the office and we will be happy to help get you set-up and ready to go!

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

Most of our Lions live within walking distance of Heximer. If your child qualifies for busing, go to <http://www.nsts.ca> for procedures and health and safety guidelines.

Niagara Student Transportation Services is following Ministry of Education protocols.

If you require transportation, **you must complete the Opt-In to Transportation form** available in the parent portal. Opt-In Notice Extended one week to Monday, September 7 at 3:00 p.m. **If you do not Opt-In by this new date, transportation will be removed effective the second week of school.**

Students in K to grade 3 are encouraged to wear face masks

When arriving by car, parents may park on Margret Street. Make sure to greet our friendly crossing guards. They are sure to start your day with a smile! Of course, we encourage our families to choose active transportation to school by walking or riding a bike (for our students in Grade 4 or older). Reminder to all parents that there is no parking in front of the school and only limited spots in the school parking lot. The parking lot by the far doors is for STAFF ONLY as students enter and exit this area. **NO PARENTS ARE ALLOWED IN THIS AREA DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.** Remember parents are not to be gathering on school property. Please drop your child off between 8:45-9:00 each morning.

SAFE ARRIVAL/ ATTENDANCE

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. Mahoney 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.

How can I report my child's absence or late arrival? Whether it's an illness, a medical appointment or other important event, there are times when students may need to be away from school. 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.