

September Newsletter

A message from Mr. Scott Enns

On behalf of our enthusiastic staff, we would like to welcome our new families as well as our returning families to Port Weller Public School.

Creating and delivering a comprehensive academic and social program for every student is a team effort. We look forward to building on the positive relationships with families in the Port Weller community to provide children with maximum support.

We encourage parents to be active in their child's education. There are many ways in which you can reinforce what students are learning. We encourage you to read your child's agenda (grades 1 to 8), assignments, and notes that come home. Please feel free to visit Port Weller to learn more about what we do. We hope to see you at our Open House and School Council Silent Auction scheduled for Thursday, September 19. Open House runs from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

If you should have any questions or would like to share your ideas, please contact the school. We hope to make you feel welcome and see and hear from you!

Together, we **will** continue to make a positive difference in the lives of our children.

Port Weller School Council

The Port Weller School Council plays a very important role in supporting student success. Through their initiatives, they are able to bring the community together in an effort to provide our students with the best possible learning environment

Important upcoming dates:

Tuesday, September 10	Open House planning meeting: 6 p.m. computer lab
Thursday, September 19	Open House (meet the staff) and Silent Auction: 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 24	Regular School Council meeting: 6 p.m. computer lab
Saturday, October 19	Pumpkinville at Happy Rolph's: 10 a.m. – 2p.m. (info note to follow)

Your School Council welcomes all family members and hopes to see you participate. A separate information letter from School Council will also be emailed.

Student Safety

Keeping students safe is our number one priority. We will be giving our students regular reminders throughout the year to help them stay safe in a variety of situations. We remind our students who walk or ride to school to continue to obey the crossing guards at our neighbourhood intersections. We also remind everyone that we do have several students who have serious food allergies, especially to

peanuts and/or tree nuts. We kindly remind our Port Weller families to please be mindful and not send foods with these ingredients. Your support with student safety is appreciated.

If your child has any medical concerns, please ensure that you inform the school. Parents of children with medical concerns including: anaphylaxis, epilepsy, diabetes, and asthma will be contacted in the first week so that we can develop/review a Plan of Care to help keep your child safe. These plans need to be reviewed each year.

Extracurricular Activities

As in past years, Port Weller will offer children a wide variety of extracurricular activities. Developing student leadership will continue to be a focus through the "Leader in Me" program. Students will be offered many different activities throughout the year including clubs, athletics, and school spirit initiatives. We encourage students to get involved to help them enrich their Port Weller experience.

Cross Country Running for gr. 3-8

Cross Country running is an activity that every student can enjoy. Mrs. Venneri and Mrs. Di Teodoro have been making announcements to invite all students in grades 3 to 8 to come out to practice. Permission forms have been made available to students and need to be returned to the school.

Breakfast Club, Pizza/Sub Lunches and Milk Program

We will be starting our Breakfast Club in the month of October. We are always looking for volunteers to help run our Breakfast Club program. If you are able to help one morning a week for one hour (8:10 a.m. to 9:10 a.m.) please contact the office: 905-934-3322.

Pizza and Sub lunches will alternate every Friday starting on September 20 with our first pizza lunch. These meals need to be purchased ahead of time using School Cash Online (which is now available).

Our Milk Program will begin in October. An information note explaining how to place orders will be sent home. Orders can now be made for October using School Cash Online.

School Cash Online

Port Weller makes an effort to be a paperless school. Many items and trips can be paid for using School Cash Online. It's an easy and convenient way to pay for most activities. To register, please use the following link: www.dsb.org/schoolcash

Important Dates

Attached to this newsletter is a calendar with some important dates for the month of September. More information about special events will be posted on our school website and shared with students during our morning announcements.

Terry Fox Walk/Run

Port Weller is very proud to be part of the Terry Fox Walk/Run tradition in order to help raise money for cancer research. Staff and students will be walking/running around the perimeter of our school yard after the second break (start time is approximately 2 p.m.) on September 26 (rain date is the 27th). We thank Mrs. Favotto for organizing and leading this initiative. Information will be shared with students at our next Monday morning assembly. Leading up to our event, we will ask our community to donate a "Toonie for Terry" as a way of raising some funds that we can donate to Terry's cause. As in the past, students, staff and parents can order a commemorative Terry Fox t-shirt; order forms will be sent home.

Communication

Regular communication between home and school helps us to work together to keep students safe and to be successful. Port Weller School will create monthly newsletters that will be emailed to parents (please return your child's verification form and be sure to include your email address) and we will update our website monthly. In addition, we will use twitter to share ongoing success stories at our school (please follow us: @PortWellerPS). Teachers will also use their own forms of communication (examples include: class newsletter, electronic reminders, student agendas, etc.) to provide parents with information that pertains specifically to their child or the home room program.