



The Homeland's Herald



June 2017

HOMELANDS SENIOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Ms. Simone Wallace - Vice Principal
Ms. Laurie Lambie - Office Manager
Mrs. Leslie Morrison - Office Assistant

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**Our School Website: <http://schools.peelschools.org/1323>
Follow us on Twitter @homelands323**



June, wow where has the school year gone? I always find it difficult to write this newsletter as I am so excited for the next chapter of learning for our grade eights as they move to secondary school, but it is hard to say goodbye. As for our students who will remain with us I am so thankful for all that they give to our school climate and look forward to working with them and their families in the upcoming year. It has been a privilege this past year to watch your child grow and learn with us here at

Homelands.

May was busy with athletic events, competitions, clubs meeting and bands filling our corridors with beautiful music. We had our Open House May 4 and despite the weather many students had the opportunity to shine and share their daily learning experiences with their families. Our musical, FAME Junior came to life during the evenings of May 30 and 31 with amazing performances by many talented students, as well as the stage and sound crew who gave so much of themselves. We value and appreciate the time, effort and dedication these students demonstrated for the months leading up to the performances, as well as, the actual performances themselves. Way to go Homelands! Also, a huge thanks to the teachers who gave so much of their time, Ms. Rose, Mr. Allen, Mr. Oldham and Mr. Mick.

June is jammed packed with more exciting learning, slow pitch and soccer tournaments, a track and field competition, the senior band trip to Wonderland and finally, the grade eight graduation at Erindale Secondary School. The last day of school 150 of our students will have the opportunity to go swimming at the local pool. Another highlight of June is the grade eight trip to Ottawa where students take learning and experiences outside of the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all and your wonderful children for all that you do for the spirit and culture here at Homelands. It is your dedication and partnership that make all things possible. It has been an exciting year and I wish you all the best during your summer and look forward to 2017/18.

Warmly,
Ms. Wilson ☺



Henna Hands



Rangoli Art



The Musical FAME

Sports Corner



This month, we had three teams practicing their hearts out. On Thursday May 18th, Homelands attended the South Peel Cross Country meet at Erindale Park. We had some amazing individuals place within the top 10 for their races. In grade 7 boys, Raghuv placed 4th, Hanwen placed 6th, and Liam placed 8th. In grade 7 girls, Carina placed 3rd. In grade 6 boys, Jack placed 7th and Yousef placed 8th, and in grade 6 girls, Orly placed 1st! We had 4 teams place in the top four:

1st for grade 7 boys

2nd for grade 6 boys

3rd for grade 6 girls

4th for grade 7 girls

... and Homelands placed 2nd overall!!! Amazing considering there were 24 schools in attendance. Well done runners!

Quickly following cross country, our soccer teams both battled it out in 2-12 team tournaments.

The Girls Soccer Team finished the tournament 6th overall, with one win, three ties, and one loss, narrowly missing a spot in the bronze medal game. They tied the first placed team of their division in a riveting match where their skill, hard work and sportsmanship shone through. Well done! Congratulations to the boys soccer team which was undefeated in the round-robin. Mr. Johnson is am very pleased with the boys for their patience and perseverance - and they placed third out of 12 teams. Many boys had outstanding games, but the popular consensus for MVP was Owen Brady. Special mention to Marcus Brown, Andy Jung, and Yousef Elgawish for their tenacious defending.

Coming up in June:

Slo-Pitch Wednesday June 14th. Tryouts have begun with Mr. Cabot

Track and Field Wednesday June 21st. Tryouts have also begun with Ms. Breuer and Ms. Madray.

Physical and Health Education

Students have been working on learning the tactics for ultimate frisbee, and will be practicing each of the different track and field events. We will also run a soccer unit.

Please remind your child to bring a change of clothing - especially in the heat. Running shoes are absolutely mandatory - please no sandals or flip flops. For students who are fasting, physical activity accommodations can be made upon student request, but changing is still an expectation.

Did you know that your child may qualify for a free summer swim and bus pass to use from July 1 to August 31? The City of Mississauga is once again providing free passes for students aged 12-14. Go to your local community center with a proof of age (with photo ID) to get your pass today!

<http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/freedompass>

From the Art Studio by Mr. Johnston

For this years last edition I would like to congratulate the students who participated in the annual Peel Elementary Student Art exhibit called Visual Voices-Through our Eyes. Jonas Erwin, Gabrielle Villaruz, Samika Bhusal, Hania Memon, Nora Borges, Olivia Harrick, Nimra Chaudry and Sara Albodamet presented. The theme of the exhibit is diversity. Jonas chose to demonstrate the diversity of cartoon characters using his skill as an illustrator. Gabi, Samika and Hania chose planets as their theme and Olivia, Nora, Nimra and Sara used colour and old lamp to illustrate diversity. Last night at the opening there was large crowd to see the show.

Once again, student work is on display at the Sheridan Library. During the month of June the Grade 6's enjoy the out doors sketching and the 7's will also be outside carving.



School Council News

We have had a very successful year with the support of a dedicated small group of parents. We appreciate the input from family and community members and look forward to the upcoming year with new members. A big thanks to Craig Van Spall, Joanne Eng, Elaine Bellevue, Nicky Rossi and the other parents who attended our meetings. Due to the efforts of our School Council, technology and physical education equipment has been purchased, as well as bussing provided for families to attend activities at the school.

Our Open House was a well attended event with families enjoying the successes of their children and the flavours of MnM Meats. We want to express a Homelands thanks to Mrs Eng and her team of volunteers for organizing all the BBQ orders and ensuring that everyone received their nutritional needs. Also, it is important to recognize the donation of water from Mr. Van Spall as this was used to hydrate folks during our Open House and the evenings of our Fame musical.

Nominations will be held in the fall for opportunities to be part of the executive or just come out and join our meetings. Hope to see you in 2017!

Asian Heritage Month



Asian Dance

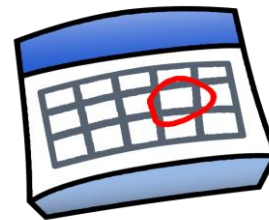


Asian Spirit Day

Staff and Students at Homelands celebrated Asian History in creative and engaging ways throughout the month of May. In many classrooms, students were learning about the economic, cultural and social contributions of Asian-Canadians in shaping Canada's development. A variety of Asian inspired activities were organized such as Asian Spirit Day, Henna & Origami workshops, Rangoli chalk drawings. All of these activities were free and provided students with unique, new learning experiences. A beautiful dance performance choreographed by Ms. Madray kicked off our celebration and a Dumpling Demo Cooking Session is scheduled to close out Asian Heritage month. Thanks to ALL who participated and helped out with organizing the events. Looking forward to next year's celebrations:)

Important Dates:

Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays	Lunch Lady
June 1	Fame Jr Performance for Students
June 5-7	Grade 8s Ottawa Trip
June 5-7	Mad Science for grade 6
June 8	Parents Information Night for Feeder Schools
June 12	PD Day – No School for Students
June 13	Senior Band, AM Announcers, and Office Helpers to Canada's Wonderland
June 13	Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
June 21	Track and Field
June 22	Celebration Assembly and Talent Show
June 26	Awards Assembly
June 27	Grade 6s Bowling
June 27	Term 2 Report Cards Go Home
June 27	Grade 8 Graduation at Erindale SS 6:00pm – 10:00pm
June 29	Swimming & Grade 8s Bowling
June 29	Last Day of School for Students
June 30	Professional Learning Day for Staff



LOOKING FORWARD

September 5 First Day of School for Students
September 26 Reorganization Day – No Classes for Students

The Homelands Senior Public School Team 2017-2018



Principal: Ms. Wilson
Vice Principal: Ms. Wallace
Office Manager: Ms. Lambie
Office Assistant: Mrs. Morrison



The Grade Six Team

Mrs. van Beek
Mr. Doiu
Mr. Thompson
Mr. Williams
Mrs. Crocker
Mrs. Cooper

The Grade Seven Team

Mr. Fralick
Mrs. Brown
Mr. Cobban
Mr. Oldham
Ms. Menzies
Mrs. Doiu
Ms. Linthwaite

The Grade Eight Team

Mr. Cabot
Mr. Mick
Mr. Johnson
Mrs. Dockeray
Ms. Schmidt
Ms. Haines

Planning Time Team

Mr. Mark Peron	ISSP/Contact
Mrs. Dani Chiodo	ISSP/ESL
Mrs. Sloan	ISSP
Mr. Heath Allen	Music
Mr. Tim Johnston	Fine Arts
Ms. Andrea Breuer	Physical Education
Mrs. Sophia Siddiqi	Library/Learning Commons

Teaching Assistants

Mr. Terry Strickland Ms. Helen Rebeiro
Ms. Victoria Martins

Inspire Greatness Together

2017-2018 REGULAR SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR**SCHOOL YEAR - ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY**

The school year begins	September 5, 2017
First day of classes for students	September 5, 2017
The school year ends	June 29, 2018
The number of instructional days for elementary and secondary students	187
The number of professional activity days for the elementary and secondary panel	7

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY

Labour Day	September 4, 2017
Thanksgiving Day	October 9, 2017
Winter Break (inclusive)	December 25, 2017 to January 5, 2018
Family Day	February 19, 2018
Spring Break (inclusive)	March 12 - March 16, 2018
Good Friday	March 30, 2018
Easter Monday	April 2, 2018
Victoria Day	May 21, 2018
Canada Day	July 1, 2018 (held July 2, 2018)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS - ELEMENTARY (7)

Professional Activity Day – Elementary Reorganization / In-school Professional Learning	September 26, 2017
Professional Learning Day ~ Provincial Education Priorities	October 6, 2017
Professional Activity Day - Reporting to Parents	November 17, 2017
Professional Activity Day - Assessment, Evaluation and Report Card Writing Day	January 22, 2018
Professional Learning Day ~ Provincial Education Priorities	February 9, 2018
Professional Activity Day - Assessment, Evaluation and Report Card Writing Day	June 11, 2018
Professional Learning Day ~ Provincial Education Priorities	June 29, 2018

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS – APPLEWOOD AND PARKHOLME SCHOOLS (7)

Professional Learning Day ~ Provincial Education Priorities	October 6, 2017
Professional Activity Day - IEP Consultation and Development	September 26, 2017
Professional Learning Day ~ Provincial Education Priorities ~ Joint PA – Applewood, Parkholme and DDD class @ TLKennedy	November 17, 2017
Professional Learning Day ~ Provincial Education Priorities - IEP Consultation / Development	February 9, 2018
Professional Activity Day - Transition planning and meetings	May 18, 2018
Professional Activity Day - Yearend reporting, professional and curriculum development, and school closing activities	June 28 - 29, 2018

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS - SECONDARY (7)

Professional Learning Day ~ Provincial Education Priorities	October 6, 2017
Professional Learning Day ~ Provincial Education Priorities	November 17, 2017
Professional Activity Day – Semester Turnaround Day	February 1, 2018
Professional Learning Day ~ Provincial Education Priorities	February 9, 2018
Professional Activity Day - Yearend reporting, professional and curriculum development, and school closing activities (inclusive)	June 27-29, 2018

EXAMINATION DAYS - SECONDARY (10) - Exams to be scheduled as follows unless otherwise approved

Semestered	Semester 1	5	January 25 – January 31, 2018 June 20 – June 26, 2018
	Semester 2	5	
Vocational	Number of designated evaluation days over the school year	6	
	Exam days	4	

SECONDARY SCHOOL SEMESTER SUMMARY

SEMESTER	INSTRUCTIONAL	PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY	TOTAL DAYS	DATES
Semester 1	94	3	97	September 5, 2017 – February 1, 2018
Semester 2	93	4	97	February 2, 2018 to June 29, 2018 April 21, 2017

40 hours to graduate – Start this summer

Since 1999, all students in Ontario secondary schools are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement in order to receive a diploma. The purpose of this requirement is to encourage students to develop an understanding of the various roles they can play in their community.

Students are encouraged to start accumulating community involvement hours in the summer before they enter grade 9.

Research shows that early involvement in community service helps students build a spirit of civic responsibility which can be expanded as they move through secondary school. The aim of the 40-hour requirement is to encourage students to become actively involved in making positive contributions to their community.

The community involvement component is an opportunity for students and parents to work together, independent of the school. With parent support, your teen is responsible for finding and completing 40 hours of community service.

Parents should provide assistance to their teen in the selection of community involvement activities. Here's how to get started:

- Spend some time with your teen going through the list of eligible and ineligible activities in the Peel District School Board's "40 Hours" brochure. You can obtain a copy of the brochure from your school or online at www.peelschools.org/students/40hours/
- View online resources and volunteer opportunities at www.peelschools.org/students/40hours/

Please note that the selection of the activities should take into account the age, maturity, and ability of the student, and the location and environment of the proposed activity.

ParentConnect is coming to YOUR school this fall!

The Peel District School Board is excited to announce that ParentConnect, our new parent portal, is launching this fall at your student's school. ParentConnect is a safe and secure application that provides access to electronic services for your Peel student(s).

From alerts to busing, absence reporting to earned credit history, ParentConnect offers easy and convenient self-service access to important K-12 student information. Best of all, ParentConnect is mobile friendly so you have access when you're on-the-go.

Registration is easy. With the Student ID Number and a ParentConnect token passcode, you can access information about **all** of your children from one website, virtually any time!

Watch for your unique ParentConnect token passcode via email, then go online and register.

Want to learn more? Visit YouTube.com and search 'Welcome to ParentConnect.'

Peel board recognizes Crossing Guard Appreciation Day on June 13

The Peel board will recognize the contribution of school crossing guards on Crossing Guard Appreciation Day, June 13. The board encourages students, parents and staff to take a moment to thank the neighbourhood crossing guards who help to ensure a safe journey to and from school for thousands of students every day.

On the road again: How to keep your cyclist safe

Here are some tips you can review with your child to ensure bike season gets off to a great start:

The right fit

- children should be able to straddle the bike with both feet on the ground
- a bike that is too big or too small can be a safety hazard
- the helmet should fit—if it's too loose, it could fall off, if it's too tight, it's uncomfortable

Get noticed

- a young child's bike should be equipped with a bell and reflector
- older riders should have a light and/or reflectors

Follow the rules

- no riding on busy streets
- no riding at night
- stop for all STOP signs

Actions that cause injuries

- driveway ride out—not stopping and looking both ways before entering the street
- running the stop sign
- turning without warning
- cycling in the dark
- following the leader—one child goes through a stop sign or misses a parked car but the second cyclist doesn't



Register today for Adult ESL or LINC classes

Do you know an adult that is interested in improving their English language skills for work, study or daily life?

Through the Continuing & Adult Education department, the Peel District School Board offers a wide variety of English language classes that help parents experience success in Canadian English in both listening/speaking and reading/writing. Courses are designed for a range of basic, intermediate and advanced English (Levels 1 to 7) as well as the more experienced learner needing to prepare for an IELTS exam.

Classes are ongoing - Register anytime.

All learners that complete a session will earn a certificate of learning from the Peel District School Board.

Classes operate from six locations in Brampton and Mississauga with three specially designed adult centres at:

- **Bramalea** - Adult Education Centre - 25 Kings Cross Road, Unit 3
- **Brampton** - Adult Education Centre - #300 - 7700 Hurontario Street
- **Mississauga** - Adult Education Centre - 100 Elm Drive West, Room 117

To learn more or to register, call **905-270-6000**

Also visit www.peelschools.org/adulteducation or follow us on Twitter: @PDSBLearnESL



The Peel District School Board's *We Welcome the World Centres* located in Brampton, Malton and Mississauga, are the first point of contact for all newcomer families to become familiar with the educational system in Peel. The centres are open all year—including the summer months.

In addition to providing literacy and numeracy assessments, *We Welcome the World Centres* provide newcomers with a host of services including: reception, orientation, interpretation and referrals.

At each centre, parents/guardians and students will discover:

- computer portals—guided introduction to the Peel Welcome to School Kits and other Peel resources
- settlement service information
- translation of materials to support the reception and assessment process
- age and grade appropriate educational and related program resources
- audio-visual materials to explain the adult education program
- professionally administered child-care (only available during assessment and orientation process)
- information about various community supports and programming available

For more information about the *We Welcome the World Centre* and the services they provide, call 905-366-8791.

Summer activities that boost learning



Grades 5 to 8

Follow the news – As a family, choose an important news event to follow for a day or two. Ask each person to find as much information on the topic as possible – read newspapers, look at online news webpages, listen to the radio and watch TV news. Then talk about what everyone learned.

Pro and con: what do you think? – Make a family game of discussing a special issue. For example, "Teenagers should be allowed to vote," or "There should never be any homework." Ask your children to think of all the reasons they can to support their views. Then ask them to think of reasons opposing their views. Which views are most convincing? For variety, assign family members to teams and have them prepare their arguments pro and con.

Stretch, run, walk – Ask your child to do at least one kind of exercise every day. For example, run or walk briskly for 10 minutes. Walk, when possible, instead of driving, for any distance less than a mile. Have your child make a week-long exercise plan. Try to think of a modest reward for sticking to the plan and exercise with your child.

Let your voice be heard – Promote good citizenship. Help your child write a letter to the editor of the local newspaper about an issue affecting children – for example, suggest that a bike path be built near the school or that a city event be planned for youngsters. Children are citizens, and their ideas are worth hearing.