

ÉCOLE CONFÉDÉRATION

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



54 Ewing Drive
Brantford, Ontario
N3R 5H8

519-751-2891

granderie.ca/confederation

Principal

Andrea Smith

Vice Principal

Laura Hearn

Office Coordinators

Michele Edmondson

Angela Vandeven

novembre—November 2017



Dear Confédération Families;

October proved to be a very busy month for our students. We congratulate our soccer and cross country teams on their successes at the regional and district competitions.

November brings us to the midway point in term 1 of our school year. With that comes our progress report cards for students in Grades JK-8. The progress report card is designed to show a student's development of the learning skills and work habits during the fall of the school year, as well as a student's general progress in working towards the achievement of the curriculum expectations in all subjects. Progress reports will be sent home on November 13th. Parent/teacher conferences will be scheduled for Thursday, November 16th in the evening and Friday, November 17th in the morning. Scheduled appointment times will be sent home with the report card. This year, families of all grades will be invited to participate in interviews. This process will replace the Kindergarten conference reports and class observations that were in place in the past. This is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress further with their teacher. We hope that you will be able to attend. If you are not available to attend, please contact your child's teacher to make alternate arrangements.

Yours in cooperation,

Mme A. Smith
Principal

Mme L. Hearn
Vice-Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Nov. 3-Immunizations for Gr. 7 (and any Gr. 8 who missed last year)
- Nov. 6-Courage Assembly-"Open-mindedness"
- Nov. 8-Gr. 5-8 Trip to Sanderson Centre, Dental screening for JK-Gr. 2
- Nov. 9-Dental screening for JK-Gr. 2, Info session for Gr. 7 & 8 trip @ 6:15
- Nov. 10-Remembrance Day Assemblies
- Nov. 13-Progress Reports sent home to all grades, Magazine Fundraiser ends
- Nov. 15- Book Fair Sales (9:10-3:30), School Council Meeting @ 6:00
- Nov. 16-Book Fair Sales (9:10-7:00), Progress Report Conferences (evening), Fresh from the Farm order pick up
- Nov. 17-PD Day for students, Book Fair Sales (9:00 am-noon), Progress Report Conferences (am), Fresh from the Farm order pick up, Gift Card Fundraiser kick off
- Nov. 21-Harvey's Night
- Nov. 22-Photo Retake Day
- Nov. 24- Crazy Hair Day (sponsored by student's council), Accessibility Awareness Day

Monthly Assemblies

During the month of November, we will be looking for students who demonstrate excellence in "Understanding", showing empathy, patience and tolerance when working with others.

Information and Updates

There are several ways for families to keep up to date with information about our school:

1. Visit our website :

granderie.ca/confederation



2. Sign up for École Confédération's **REMIND** account.:
 - 1) go to your texts
 - 2) enter in the "TO" line: **226-799-0230**
 - 3) type **@confedcour** in the message box
 - 4) send

REMIND is completely blind, we don't see your contact info and you don't see ours. Cancel at any time.

3. Follow us on Twitter: @EcoleConfedGE

Electronic Sign Up for Interviews

Sign up electronically for an interview with your child's teacher on Nov. 16 or 17. Follow these steps:

1. Visit this website:

www.signupgenius.com/tabs/63276D905A2C2EDC71-interview

2. Choose the appropriate teacher from the tabs along the top.
3. Click on the desired time slot and then the yellow button at the bottom "Select and Submit".
4. A new screen will open. Enter your child's name and your email address. This information will not be made public on the website. Only school staff will be able to access this information with a secure login.
5. Click the "Sign Up" button.
6. You will receive a confirmation update and the time slot will be marked "Already filled".

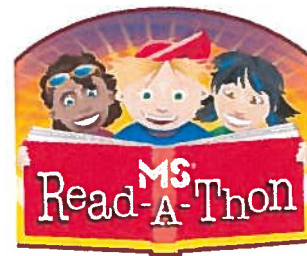
We will send an additional confirmation with your child's report card.

Clothing Drive

We will be collecting donations of gently used winter clothing (coats, snow pants, boots). If you have any items that you would like to donate to our local schools with clothing "closets" for families, we will accept items at the office from Nov. 6th to Nov. 20th.

MS Read-a-Thon

The MS Read-a-Thon ends this Friday, November 3rd. Student donations will be collected from November 6th to November 10th. Thank you so much for supporting the MS Society!



Fresh From the Farm Fundraiser

Thanks to all who participated in the Fresh from the Farm fundraiser. Our apples and veggies are scheduled to be ready for pick up during the parent-teacher interviews on Thursday, November 16th from 4-7pm and on Friday, November 17th from 9am-12pm. Please make arrangements to pick up your items at that time.

Changes to Transportation

A busing note...

We have a high number of students who ride buses home each day. We are not able to permit students to ride a bus other than their assigned bus at any time (as per transportation procedure 028). If you have an emergency, please contact the office to discuss transportation options for your child/children.

If you are not using transportation services for an extended period of time (i.e. more than a month), parents are requested to contact the school, Sharp Bus Lines and GEDSB transportation office and have your child taken off the bus list.

GEDSB transportation: 519-751-7532

Sharp Bus Lines: 519-751-3434

Parents are advised to contact Sharp Bus Lines and/or GEDSB Transportation Department for all after hours issues and any concerns with buses and transportation schedules and routes.

Picture Retake Day

Picture retake day will be November 22. Parents who want their child's picture to be retaken should return the order form and proofs that were sent home following the original photo day.



Student Pick-Up and Drop Off



Our school parking lot provides for a “Kiss and Drop” area for families to use in the mornings. **This area is a no-parking zone.** Caregivers may stop in this zone long enough to drop off students and then continue on out of the parking lot. The on-site parking at the school is reserved for staff parking only. Areas where signage is posted indicating a Fire Route must be kept clear at all times. Parking in these areas can result in a fine. Thanks to all who have been helping keep the flow of traffic moving smoothly in the mornings. A reminder that drop off is at the gate in the morning. We have a large number of people in a small area. Please say goodbye to your children at the gate. By November, we expect that all of our students (including JK) are capable of making the walk from the gate to their line up independently, as our routines are very well established at this point in the year.

Student Pick –Up and End of Day Routines

All students who walk or are being picked up will be dismissed out the exit doors by the gym. If caregivers wish to wait for students, please wait by the bicycle racks along the side of the school.

Please note that dismissal time is very busy for students. It is important for families to establish a clear routine with children and the classroom teacher. If there is a change in routine, a note from the parent/guardian will be expected by the teacher **each and every time**. Families picking up children at the end of the day, should meet their child at the Student Pick-up Area (gym doors by the exterior bicycle racks). Caregivers can wait on the sidewalk there. For safety reasons, please keep the sidewalk alongside the buses clear for bus loading, refrain from leaning against buses while waiting, and ensure that little ones who are waiting with you are supervised and well away from parked buses. Thank you for helping us ensure safety for all.

School Safety Procedures

We have completed our mandatory 3 fire drills this fall. Staff and students did an excellent job. We will be conducting a lock down drill during the month of November.

Remembrance Day



We will be recognizing Remembrance Day on Friday, November 10th. All students will have the opportunity to participate in 1 of 2 assemblies that will be held during the morning on the 10th.

Safe Travel to and From School

Walking is a safe, healthy, and environmentally friendly way for your children to get to school. It may be difficult for a parent to let their child walk to school on their own, but with a few rules and a lot of common sense, walking to school can be very safe.

Do a few dry runs with your child or children before they start walking to school. Walk with them on the exact path they will be taking to and from school each day. Make sure they know what all the signs and signals mean that they will encounter on a regular basis. Be sure to tell them not to get sidetracked – go straight from home to school, and vice versa. Children walking to and from school should get to know the route very well and so should the parent.

Teach and reinforce the rules of the road to your children before they begin walking to school, (or to a friend’s house, or to a nearby store). Stress the importance of walking on the inside of the sidewalk, or where there are no sidewalks, as far away from the road as possible. Remind children to always make sure that the driver sees them before starting to cross the street.

With a child who is capable and mature enough, walking to school is generally very safe. But never hesitate to insist that your child walks with at least one other friend, follows a few ground rules and uses his or her common sense.

Review Stranger Danger safety with children so that they have the tools to respond in the rare event that an issue occurred. Tips like always staying in a group or pair, never taking a ride from a stranger, getting away from someone following on foot, yelling loudly if approached by a stranger, and seeking help from a trusted adult.

Walking to school is a great way to help save the environment. We encourage all of our students who live in walking distance to walk to school! Be safe, be active and do your part to help protect our environment!



School Council

School council meetings are open for all to attend. We have established our 15 voting members, but welcome all who are interested in volunteering and are willing to contribute.

This year's School Council executive is:

Chair – Greg Baetz

Co-Chair – Althea Allen

Treasurer – Bethan Budgell

Secretary – Jennifer Holt

We will continue to organize a variety of fundraising events throughout the year. The next fundraiser will be magazine and gift ware sales, as well as a new gift card fundraiser. Families can purchase and renew magazine subscriptions or obtain gift cards through an online campaign. Proceeds will go towards a variety of items and opportunities that enhance our students' school experience. For full information about School Council's initiatives, you can read the meeting minutes each month from our School website. If you prefer not to participate in fundraising, donations to our fundraising initiatives are always appreciated. Cash or cheque can be accepted at the office, and an option on school cash online will be coming soon. A receipt for income tax purposes can be arranged. Please contact the main office for details.

Festival Du livre/French Book Fair



The French Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school!

We invite your entire family to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books. Your support of this vital literary event is a key part of helping us obtain new books and

resources for our library and classrooms.

Don't forget to mark the French Book Fair dates on your calendar! We look forward to seeing you during our Scholastic Book Fair and thank you, in advance, for supporting this great literary event.

Book Fair Dates & Times:

📖 Tuesday Nov 14th: Preview Day (no sales)

📖 Wednesday Nov 15th: 9:10am - 3:30pm (except nutrition break)

📖 Thursday Nov 16th: 9:10am - 7pm (except nutrition break)

📖 Friday Nov 17th: 9am - 12pm

Location: Confederation School Library

We accept cheques made payable to our school. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are welcome, too.

Note From Our Public Health Nurse...

Stop the Spread of Flu – Get the Flu Shot

This fall, get your free flu shot to protect yourself, your family and community.

- Getting the flu shot supports people who are at a higher risk from the flu, like young babies, older adults and those recovering from disease and illness.

- Flu shots are available for Ontarians six months and older, though kids under five need to get the shot from either a doctor's office or the Health Unit.

The flu shot will be available through doctors' offices by late October. • For more information about the flu shot visit www.ontario.ca/flu or call 519-753-4937 ext. 446.

Teaching Children Good Sportsmanship

Parents and kids alike love sports, and it's easy to get caught up in a game and become focused on winning. There is much more to be gained from the sports experience than a winning record. Students who play on school teams represent the school as ambassadors when they go to a regional tournament. Through participation in sports and teams, students are able to learn and put into practice values that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

Good sportsmanship is one of the life lessons that children can learn from sports. You can help your children understand and value good sportsmanship while making sure they have a safe and fun sports experience. Here are some important principles of good sportsmanship to instill in your children:

- If you lose, don't make up excuses.
- If you win, don't rub it in.
- Learn from mistakes and get back in the game.
- Always do your best.
- If someone else makes a mistake, remain encouraging and avoid criticizing.
- Show respect for yourself, your team, and the officials of the game.

Parents and volunteers are important role models, so let all children see you upholding these principles, whether you play a sport yourself or root for one of our school teams from the sidelines.

(adapted from www.stanfordchildrens.org)

Inclement Weather and Transportation

Winter is just around the corner. In the event of inclement weather, there is the potential for transportation delays or cancellations and school closures.

BUS # AND ZONE

503 = Paris - ZONE 3 and 4
504 = St George - ZONE 3 and 4
505 = Ancaster, Hwy 2/53 - ZONE 3 and 4
507 = BRANTFORD ONLY - Zone 4
509 = BRANTFORD ONLY - Zone 4
510 = Lynden Rd - ZONE 3 and 4
519 = BRANTFORD ONLY – ZONE 4
528 = BRANTFORD ONLY – ZONE 4
543 = BRANTFORD ONLY – ZONE 4

If transportation is cancelled for schools in Zone 3 AND 4, École Confédération will be CLOSED. WE ARE ZONE 4 (CITY OF BRANTFORD) AND ZONE 3 (FOR BRANT COUNTY STUDENTS).

A reminder to all parents that École Confédération is in Zone 4 and Zone 3 for those living in Brant County for all bus cancellations and school closures. BUSES 503, 504, 505, AND 510 COME FROM ZONE 3 BEFORE PICKING STUDENTS UP IN ZONE 4 FOR CONFÉDÉRATION - IF ZONE 3 IS CANCELLED THERE WILL BE NO PICK UP FOR STUDENTS IN BRANTFORD ON THOSE BUSES. BUS 507, 509, 519, 528 AND 543 ARE BRANTFORD BUSES ONLY AND WILL NOT PICK STUDENTS UP IF CANCELLED FOR ZONE 4.

Please listen to Radio Station CKPC (1380 AM and 92.1) or CHCH TV.

To see if buses are cancelled due to bad weather, or fog delay, you can go directly to the transportation website from the school website or the GEDSB website (under the parents tab). Click on the "home" tab and then the "transportation" tab, and look for zone 3 & 4. Please also check the bus delay icon to see if there are any bus cancellations listed there. You will need to know your child's bus route number to see if their route has been cancelled.

Visit: www.stsbhn.ca
click cancellations – closures and Bus Delay icons.

Sign up for email notification from the transportation department at www.stsbhn.ca

Click on the BUS DELAY icon then hit the SUBSCRIPTION icon and sign up for email notification. This must be done every year. Updates can also be received by following @STSBHN on Twitter.

In the event of a mid-day closure, the school telephone lines will be needed to work through our Emergency Phone Fan-Out to contact parents. Parents should note that it is very rare that the school will be closed half way through an instructional day.

On days of inclement weather, the staff of STSBHN and the bus companies, who provide service to our area, are actively reviewing current road conditions and future weather patterns in order to make a determination on delayed or cancelled transportation services. Information is collected from a number of sources and a decision is made and posted no later than 6:30 a.m.

As the decision to run, delay or cancel transportation is made in advance of services actually being provided, there may be some instances where variability exists in what was forecast versus what actually occurs. STSBHN and its member school boards want to provide options for the parents and students of our area and so, when it appears safe to do so, transportation services will be permitted to continue as usual. If, on an inclement weather day you feel that your child(ren) would be better off not taking the bus and either being transported into school by yourself or staying home altogether as a result of the road conditions at or near your home, STSBHN and the boards do understand and respect that this decision ultimately rests with you.

Student Performances This Year

In connection with our expanded music program this year, our students will be involved in a variety of performances throughout the school year. In order to accommodate this with our current gym space, grades will be divided up. Each grade and class will be involved in a performance at some point in the year. In December, our kindergarten classes will present a performance for their families. In March, our Gr. 5 and 6 classes will have their turn. Gr. 1-4 classes will present in May during Education Week, along with our Gr. 7 and 8 students. We will continue to have a whole school event in February as part of our Carnaval celebrations, which will be held at the Branlyn triple gym. More details will be provided as each performance approaches.





ECOLE CONFEDERATION

QSP DREAM BIG Fundraiser **ONLINE ONLY**

We ARE running our annual online only magazine sale again! Renew your subscriptions or order new ones! NEW THIS YEAR – ORDER GIFT ITEMS TO BE DELIVERED TO THE SCHOOL!

Funds raised will go towards new materials and technology in our school.

Why Magazines?

- > Promotes 'Raising a Reader' at home
- > Titles for all ages and interest areas
- > Promotes literacy for the whole family
- > Children enjoy reading topics of interest to them.

Register Online

- > Go to www.qsp.ca/etools and register
- > GREAT texting tool
- > Share with family and friends
- > Snap a selfie and send personalised messages

Online Ordering at www.qsp.ca

- > SO easy to order!
- > **NEW THIS YEAR!!!!** Check out the many other products online – ALL GIFT items purchased will provide our school with MORE PROFIT!! Gifts, chocolates, kitchen items and more! These products will be shipped to the school approximately 3 weeks after the end of our campaign!

www.qsp.ca Online Ordering Code 3711090

FOR SCHOOL DELIVERY of product, ALL GIFT ITEMS MUST BE ORDERED

BY: NOVEMBER 13TH, 2017

******Please note: magazines can continue to be ordered all year!**

Satisfaction Guaranteed! Have any Questions? Contact QSP at 1-800-667-2536

