



54 Ewing Drive
Brantford, Ontario
N3R 5H8

519-751-2891

granderie.ca/confederation

Principal

Andrea Smith

Vice Principal

Nancy Norton

Office Coordinators

Michele Edmondson

Angela Vandeven

janvier—January 2017

Dear Confédération Families;



Bonne année! Welcome back to the 2017 portion of our school year. We hope that everyone had an enjoyable break and has returned rested and ready to get back to work.

2017 promises to be an exciting and eventful year for us. As our school name is in honour of the 150th anniversary of Confederation, we look forward to our grand opening celebrations later this year. We are also hoping to move forward with some additional enhancements to our playground, including the purchase and installation of equipment for student use.



January will draw us to the end of the first academic term. Report cards for students in Gr. 1-8 will be sent home mid-February. Details will follow.

Yours in cooperation,

Mme A. Smith
Principal

Mme N. Norton
Vice-Principal

Important Dates

- Jan. 9 -Feb. 10-Kindergarten Registration
- Jan. 11— School Council Meeting in the Library, 6:00 pm
- Jan. 16—skating: am=Gr. 6-7, pm=Gr. 3/4-5
- Jan. 23-PD Day-No school for students
- Jan. 24— Skating: am=Gr. 2, pm=Gr. 1
- Jan. 26-Assembly for Gr. 3-8 (Think Win/Win)
- Jan. 27—Assembly Gr. K-2 (Think Win//Win)

Kindergarten Registration

Registration for September 2017 Kindergarten placement will begin on January 9th, 2017. All new students who wish to enter the Kindergarten French Immersion program must register between January 9, 2017 and February 10, 2017 at 4:00. Students who currently have siblings here at Confédération and live in our catchment area will be guaranteed a spot provided they register within these timelines. Please contact the main office to schedule an appointment to register your child. You will need to provide a birth certificate or proof of age/citizenship, and proof of current address to register.

Monthly Assemblies

During the month of January, we will continue to encourage students to “Think Win-Win”. Truly thinking Win-Win, or always thinking about another as well as yourself, is an important habit of mind to teach our children.

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

School Council

Next school council meeting will be on January 11 at 6:00 pm in the library. Child care is available. In January, the budget will be reviewed and fundraising events will be discussed. Volunteers are always needed to help out, and any amount of time is appreciated. We continue our efforts to raise funds for playground equipment at the school. Committee members will be needed to help with Carnaval in February.

Coin de l'immersion/Immersion Corner

Supporting our children in French Immersion:

What's the most important thing you can do?

Talk, Talk, Talk!

So much of learning builds on what a child already knows and can do, and learning in French Immersion is no exception. Your child will benefit from the rich language learned at home and the literacy and language lessons taught in French at school. Having strong oral language skills provides the foundation for your child to develop better literacy skills. Reading and Writing skills are built on listening and speaking skills. Here are some ideas to help build these skills.

-Read aloud to your child in the language you speak at home—or any other language—and talk about what you are reading.

-Provided encouragement and set aside time for reading in French and in English to help your child develop a broad vocabulary in both languages.

If you don't know any French, have your child read to you in French and tell you what it means.

-Talk with your child about his or her interests, and help find books or websites about them in English and French—and discuss them!

-Encourage your child to express opinions about the world and explain the reasons behind them.



(Adapted from Supporting Your Child's Success in French Immersion and Extended French Elementary Schools, A Parent Guide, 2014, Ontario Ministry of Education)

Building Healthy Relationships

Help Children and Youth set Realistic Goals



Children and teens are more motivated to succeed when they set their own goals. Guide them to make sure their goals are not too easy or too hard. Encourage them to create a step-by-step plan. With plans to realize goals, it is easier for children to identify where things go wrong.

Problem solving with your children empowers them and gives them the confidence and strength to feel less discouraged. Reaching doable goals builds self-confidence.

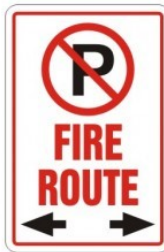
(Healthy Relationships, C.O.D.E- The Council of Ontario Directors of Education)

Student Pick Up

From 3:15-3:45 pm daily, our parking lot is used as a bus loading zone for our 9 buses. There is **NO PARKING on site for student pick up at the end of the day.**



There are two accessible parking spots that are available for those with permits only. Cars parked in these spots without a permit risk receiving a parking ticket that could include a monetary fine.



At all times, cars may not be parked under signage that marks a fire route. Cars parked in these spots risk receiving a parking ticket that could include a monetary fine. Be especially aware of fire route signs located in the front drive around curve and the sign posted along the sidewalk by the front entrance to the school.

All students that are picked up from school or walk will be dismissed through the gym doors. Caregivers may park on Coronation or Stodola streets, on the opposite side of Ewing Drive from the school. If you wish to meet your child at the school, please walk to the doors outside the gym. A crossing guard is stationed in front of the school to assist.

Thank you for your help in ensuring a safe dismissal for all of our students.

A Note From our Public Health Nurse

A Positive Start to a New Year

Each New Year brings with it New Year's resolutions and an opportunity to make positive changes in our lives. This year, think about how you can be a positive role model for your child and help them develop healthy attitudes and habits that will last a lifetime.

Focus on being active and eating well.

- Add physical activity into your daily plans. Make it a family event and let your children choose the activities that they would like to try.
- Encourage your children to turn off the TV and head outdoors to play instead.
- Include your kids in planning, shopping for, preparing and serving meals; visit www.familykitchen.ca for tips.
- Role model positive eating habits by eating meals together as a family. Visit www.eatrightontario.ca for more tips on creating a positive home eating environment.

Inspiring Your Child to Love and Learn Math

You can do informal math together! During rainy days, family evenings, and vacation time, find opportunities to play math games and engage in informal math together. When you choose a game that is mathematical in nature, you show your child that math can be fun:



Toys

Toy stores have lots of choices such as *Tangrams*, *Blockus*, *Equate*, *Mathopoly*, *Dino Math Tracks*, *Mancala*, *Dominoes*, and *Connect Four*.

Television

Watch educational television programs, such as *The Prime Radicals* on TVOntario or *Cyberchase* on PBS. These programs also have a complementary websites with many activities to do together, including game apps, math crafts, and songs.

Puzzles

Complete Sudoku puzzles together. You can use pictorial puzzles for young children and then graduate slowly to larger number grids with older children.

Talk Math

Talk out loud about your problem solving strategies.

Computer Games

There are benefits to playing online games that encourage math skills and thinking process. These games have greater value than mainstream online games that are not designed for education. From a child's point of view, online games are interactive and fun, and make learning more enjoyable! Select high quality online games, such as *Mathfrog*, *Calculation Nation*, or the *NCTM Illuminations Games*, to provide your children with opportunities to practice and extend what they learn in math class.

Student's Council

Thanks to all who participated in our theme days and Candy Cane Grams during the month of December. We raised \$ 714.95 towards the purchase of playground equipment. Thanks for your participation and generosity!



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. You can also sign up for email notifications on this site. 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 families. 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.

Hot Lunch Orders

Thanks to all who have registered for online payments. If you have not yet done so, you can sign up at any time.

Register by following these three steps.

Step 1: Visit: www.schoolcashionline.com

Step 2: Select “Get Started Now” and follow the steps to register

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the ‘click here’ option, sign in, and add each of your children to your household account.

The **Parent Help Desk** available to support you in using School Cash Online. Friendly staff are available 24/7 (365 days) and can support you with registration, password recoveries, finding children or any check out or payment issues.

Food and Milk Order Deadlines:

February orders due Jan. 20

March orders due Feb. 17 (March will be Chinese Food from Jade’s)





