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**SEPTEMBER 2020**

Welcome to the 2020-21 School Year. Things are looking a little different as students enter the building. Thanks to our custodian Mr. Chmiel for creating a clean school. We have directional arrows on our walls to help keep social distancing. Classes have been practicing hand washing and transition procedures. The school yard is divided into class cohorts and students from grade 4-8 will need to have masks on when they cannot keep a 2 meter distance. Welcome to our new students and families. We hope you love it here at Walpole. A big Walpole welcome to Mrs. Jackie Poulin (grade 4),

Mrs. Kimberly Jamont (grade 4/5), and Mr. Michael Vanka who is filling in while Mrs. Orrick is off on maternity leave. Welcome back to Mrs. Cecchin in the JK/SK class.

The year is looking a little different in an effort to keep students in school and safe. With this in mind, we are not allowing visitors into the building. Many cleaning and protective measures are in place for staff and students. We protect ourselves and self-monitor with the Covid self-assessment. If you or your child display symptoms similar to Covid, please complete the [Ontario Self-Assessment Tool](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/) to determine your and your child’s next steps. If testing is recommended, then household contacts should self-isolate pending testing and results. A good place to get your questions answered is the parent portal ( <https://granderie.ca/board/parentportal/covid-19-in-grand-erie-schools/covid-19-grand-erie-schools-frequently-asked-questions> )

Other changes to the school year will include not having hot lunches or milk program at this time. Fundraising is taking a pause for now as well. We are working on setting up the snack/nutrition program in a safe way. With no “Meet the Teacher” this year it will be important to touch base with your child’s teacher and share some ways that your child is special. I am sure that the teacher will have some special observations as well.

Whether you are joining us for the first time or have been at Walpole for several years, we hope you will become an active member of our school community and find Walpole North a safe and welcoming place to be. To keep up to date, follow us on Twitter @WalpoleNorth and check out the Walpole School website at [www.granderie.ca/schools/walpolenorth](http://www.granderie.ca/schools/walpolenorth)

Like our page on Facebook @WalpoleWildcats.

**Parent Council**

W are planning our first Parent Council meeting. Keep an eye out for more information. It will take place virtually on Microsoft Teams. We have a wonderful group of parents on our Council. We would love to have new members join us. You do not have to take on a huge role. All new members are welcome! Elections will take place at this first meeting. If you want to nominate someone or yourself, please call the office.

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905-768-5112

**Principal**
Randy Ongena



**Office Coordinator**
Jamie Tate



**Nut Aware**

WNES is a “nut aware” building. For the safety of our students, many of whom have severe allergies, peanut and nut products are prohibited in our school. If your child has an allergy or other medical condition, please be sure to fill out the medical assistance forms that are coming home this week.

**Scent Free**

WNES is also a scent free building. We have members of our school community who are severely sensitive to scents. For that reason, we ask that you don’t send your child with scents such as perfumes, scented sanitizer, or deodorant aerosols.

**Student Drop Off and Pick Up**

Students may arrive when yard supervision begins at 8:25am. Students who are dropped off each morning are asked to walk along the side of the building to get to their play area. The dismissal bell rings at 3:05pm. Please wait outside the front door for the bell. Please notify Miss Tate if you are picking up your child early for an appointment.

**Picture Day!**

Information regarding picture day will be shared at a later date.

**Nutrition Program**

We will be providing a modified snack program this year. All food items will be “grab and go”. In this way, we can ensure a touch free snack for those who need it.

**Walpole North Staff 2020-21**

Mr. R Ongena - Principal

Miss J. Tate - Secretary

Mr. C. Chmiel - Custodian

Mrs. A. Cecchin – JK/SK

Mrs. K. Opdecam (DECE) – JK/SK

Mrs. J. Keenan – SK/Gr. 1

Mrs. C. Sharp – Gr. 1

Miss C. Miller – Gr. 2

Mrs. B. Hughes – Gr. 2

Mrs. D. Henrique – Gr. 3

Mrs. J. Poulin – Gr. 4

Mrs. K. Jamont – Gr. 4/5

Mr. P. Harris – Gr. 5/6

Mr. M. Elliott – Gr. 6/7

Mr. M. Vanka – Gr. 7/8

Mme. S. Vervaecke-Beckham - French

Mr. J. Smith – Prep

Mrs. M. Maloney - Prep

Mrs. L. Parsons - LRT

Mrs. A. Giles - Education Assistant

Miss K. Legault - Lunch Supervisor

**Transportation Delays/ Cancellations**

Did you know that there are a number of ways to see if your child(ren)’s bus is running behind schedule or has been cancelled? The ways that you can be notified of an interruption include: 1) downloading the bus delays app from either the Google Play or Apple store; detailed instructions on setting up the app is available by visiting <http://www.stsbhn.ca/faqs> and clicking on the last FAQ labelled “Delays and Cancellation App”. 2) register to receive email notifications. To register simply visit <https://transinfobhn.ca/Login> and create and account. After your account has been created, connect your child(ren)’s bus service to your email address by logging in and clicking the “Add Student” button. Detailed instructions on setting up your account is also available by visiting <http://www.stsbhn.ca/faqs> and clicking on the FAQ labelled “having trouble logging into the Parent/Student portal”. For parents who look up bus information before the start of school, you have already completed this option! 3) visit <https://transinfobhn.ca/Alerts> daily to see if your bus is running behind schedule or has been cancelled.

If you are having trouble with any of these methods, please reach out to the transportation office by emailing transportation@stsbhn.ca or by calling 519-751-7532.

**Monthly Character Attribute Focus**

September - Responsibility

October - Cooperation

November - Courage

December - Compassion

January - Integrity

February - Respect

March - Humility

April - Inclusiveness

May – Perseverance

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