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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Our Team at Fitch Street School works very hard to create an environment that is not only conducive to learning but is safe and promotes respect for self and others. School rules have been implemented and are outlined in the student agenda. We ask all of our students to :

- Keep your feet on the ground
- Keep your hands to yourself
- Use words to solve your problems
- If that doesn't work, get an adult to help
- If not adult is available, come to the office for help

If anytime throughout the school year you have a question or concern about school, I welcome a call or a meeting to discuss your issues. Educating children is a team effort. As educators, we realize that we can teach, encourage and support your children but the strong communication and support from home is necessary to fulfill your child's needs.

All students are encouraged to take an active and positive role during their time at Fitch!

Back to School



Welcome Back!

Back to School



Balanced School Day

9:05	Entry
9:05 - 9:55	Period 1
9:55 - 10:45	Period 2
10:45 - 11:25	Nutritional Break
11:25 - 12:15	Period 3
12:15 - 1:05	Period 4
1:05 - 1:45	Nutritional Break
1:45 - 2:35	Period 5
2:35 - 3:25	Period 6
3:25	Dismissal





Attendance Calls

To ensure the safety of our students, call in when your child will be absent or late to school. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Outside of these hours you may call anytime, day or night, and leave a message on our answering machine. Our phone number is 905-732-3683. Please call before 9:00 a.m. for morning absences and before 11:00 a.m. for afternoon absences. We always need to know the whereabouts of each and every student. Your co-operation in calling will assist our office staff immensely. If we do not hear from you we will call you either at home, on your cell or at your place of employment. Also, all students who arrive late to school must report to the office to receive an admit slip.



Parking

Parking at Fitch is a Safety Concern. Remember, the safety of our students is of the utmost importance. Thank you for being cooperative in this manner and working together to help alleviate the traffic jams in the parking lot. Please co-operate fully by not blocking the busses or double parking in an unauthorized space.



Fitch Street Staff

Kindergarten	Mrs. Stadnyk Ms. Nicholls
Kindergarten	Ms. Gordon Ms. Leveille
Kindergarten	Miss. Parks
Grade 1	Mrs. Leblanc
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Gyugyei
Grade 2	Miss Fuaco
Grade 3	Ms. Phillips
Grade 3/4	Mrs. Sherwin
Grade 4/5	Mrs. Carile
Grade 5	Mr. Scozzafava
Grade 5/6	Mrs. Janzen
Grade 6	Mrs. Anderson
Grade 7/8	Mr. Ilskens
Grade 7/8	Mr. Frank
SECO	Mrs. Smith Miss Carpenter (EA) Mrs. Johnston (EA) Ms. Peters (EA)
French	Mme. Lizzotti Mme Lisi
ESL	Ms. Rae Mrs. Bowman
LRT	Mrs. Lepore
Library /Prep	Mrs. Teal
Prep	Mr. Priddle
EA	Mrs. Swick
Secretary	Ms. S. Macsai
Caretakers	Mr. R. Bisson Mrs. K Cseh Mrs. D. McPherson
Principal	Mrs. J. McDowell



School**Agendas**

***A worthwhile
tool to be
used
between
home and
school.***

**School Agendas**

We feel the agenda is a very worthwhile tool to be used between home and school. This agenda can be used to help improve organizational skills and to keep the lines of communication open between the teacher and the parents/guardians. Please continue to follow the homeroom teacher's requests for the use of organizers.

Leaving School Grounds

When busses arrive in the morning, students are considered to be at school and are not permitted to leave the property. At lunch time, parents who have given permission for their children to leave school property are responsible when the students leave the grounds. With parent permission students will only be permitted to leave during the second nutritional break. There will be a crossing guard on duty at this time. The second nutritional break will be from 1:05 to 1:45 p.m. It is our expectation that students will be polite and cooperative while off school property. Our reputation in the community depends on their good behaviour.

Visitors and Volunteers

We are always happy to have helpers and parents drop into the school. However, we need to ensure a safe environment for all of our students. An unknown person can be cause for anxiety, especially for our younger students. Therefore, all visitors, including parents, must report to the school office where they are to sign-in and pick up a visitor/volunteer's badge, prior to going to the classroom. If you are dropping off items for your child, ie. Lunch, homework, clothing, etc. please leave it in the office area and we will see that your child receives it. **Please do not go directly to the class.** Thank you, in advance, for your co-operation!

Medication Policy

The safety of all students is of great importance to every staff member and parent. It is for this very reason that the District School Board of Niagara has come up with a policy for the storage and administration of medications to students (in accordance with the Ministry Memorandum #81-1984. According to the Administrative Procedure, 3-13, authorized drugs "shall be administered by the Principal or designate and shall be provided through the parent in an appropriate container on which storage and safe keeping requirements are clearly indicated". The school must have an "Authorization of Administration for Oral/ Topical Medication" form signed by parents and the physician to allow students to receive medications at school. Any parents that have concerns regarding this procedure should call the school to discuss appropriate arrangements. Remember, we are here to assist parents with this process because we realize that it is difficult for you to get to the school daily. However, please feel free, at any time, to come and administer medications yourself if that is your wish. Forms are available at the office.



Our Buses are Full! Parents, please do not give your son/daughter permission to bring a friend home with them on the bus as they will not be permitted.



ICT Forms

All students will be asked to have a Netiquette form signed. This is a network privilege that allows our students to use the computer network and to have internet access.



School Advisory Council & Home and School

We are always looking for members to join our School Advisory Council. If you are interested, could you please give the school a call and indicate your interest in promoting the curricular success of your child(ren). Home and School are also looking for volunteers to assist in our special fundraising and special days. Please call the school to indicate your interest in this group also. We will hold our meetings together and all parents are encouraged to attend and be active in your children's stay here.

Early Release Days

There is one early release day this school year on September 15, 2017. This means that there is no school in the afternoon. Please make sure you have arrangements in place for your child/children on this day.

School Bus News

Our buses are full! Parents, please do not give your son/daughter permission to bring a friend home with them on the bus as they will not be permitted. First Student (Bus Company) would appreciate your support as the teachers who are on bus duty, and the bus drivers will have no choice but to tell the student "NO, they cannot get on the bus." As well, students are not allowed to eat or drink on the bus. Proper and acceptable behaviour on a school bus is critical to making every child's bus ride safe. The driver's responsibility is to get children to school and home again safely. Your child's responsibility as a rider, is to demonstrate excellent behaviour on the bus. If your child is not clear about the expectations they can ask the driver or the school principal.



Head Lice

Occasionally, head lice or live eggs may appear on scalps of students. Should this occur, parents will be notified and the student will be sent home. Parents will be required to administer a special anti-lice treatment. To help prevent this problem, parents are urged to check the scalps of children under bright light on a regular basis. We will have several informal screening of students scalps here at our school, performed by volunteers.

Students are not allowed to use the front doors of the school unless they are accompanied by an adult or they are late getting to school.



Exit and Entrances

We would like to remind everyone about the entrances that our students use. Teachers will let students know what doors to use for entering and exiting the building. These are designated according to where the classrooms are located. It is important that we continue to apply our procedures logically to ensure that safety matters are addressed. We know our primary function in the community is to educate our students. However, we also appreciate that we have a responsibility to keep our students safe while they are in our care. For this reason, we have established entrance and exit doors for each classroom in the school. Please discuss with your child(ren) the importance of using the door they are designated to use in order to promote everyone’s safety. The staff will be better able to supervise the students, “comings and goings” to ensure that they are headed toward their appropriated destination.

Front Doors

Students are not allowed to use the front doors of the school unless they are accompanied by an adult or they are late getting to school and are checking in at the office.



Parent Access to the School

A reminder to parents who enter the building that you must check in at the office. Parents are **not** to wander down to the classrooms. Our procedures are as follows:

When picking up your child(ren) please wait outside at the designated door your child(ren) will be using at the end of the day. Please leave buggies, strollers and pets etc...outside as they are considered a health and safety risk.

It is a good idea to discuss with your child(ren) a plan to establish a special place where you will meet once they have exited the building. Thank you for your co-operation with these matters.

Students and Cell Phones

Fitch Street School recognizes that students may have in their possession personal mobile devices while at school or at school related activities. It is our policy that mobile devices eg., cellular telephones, smart phones, tablets, etc., owned and /or carried by students are to be turned off and are not to be used on school property. The office area has been designated as an appropriate area for the use of mobile devices by students for emergencies. Devices are not to be used in private areas such as locker rooms and washrooms nor are they to be used where it interferes with the learning, privacy or safety of staff, students or others. Teachers, at their discretion, may have students use mobile devices in their classrooms for teaching/learning purposes.

Remember!

A positive school culture and tone are integral to the creation and enhancement of a school environment committed to the achievement of personal and academic excellence

**Dressing for Success**

Dressing for success at Fitch Street School. It is the belief of teachers and parents alike that student dress should be appropriate to an academic setting, create a separation between the street and the school, and to contribute to an overall positive image of our school. The consistent enforcement of our dress code will enhance our educational environment and help create a tone conducive to the achievement of excellence. It is felt that in the interest of fairness, the dress code applies to all students regardless of age or grade.

Hats must be removed upon entry into the school and not worn indoors.

Φ Shoes must be worn indoors due to safety/fire regulations.

Φ Students, regardless of age, are not permitted to wear inappropriate clothing which includes: short shorts, halter tops, tube tops, spaghetti straps, “see through” tops or mesh tops (unless worn with an undershirt).

Φ Exposed undergarments, bare midriffs and backs are not permitted. Shirts, blouses, T-shirts and sweaters must be long enough to cover the midriff.

Φ Clothes bearing written statements, or diagrams (pictures, logos, people) that do not promote a positive and safe environment; that are racist, suggestive, or in bad taste, or that advertise alcohol, drug or tobacco products are not permitted.

Behaviour Expectations

It is our goal to create a caring, learning community here at Fitch Street School. A safe, positive nurturing environment is essential in order to challenge children to pursue education excellence. Our “Code of Conduct” is based on three principles. Respect, Responsibility and Safety. Our school rules are discussed and posted in every classroom as well as published in the school agendas. Everyone is responsible for knowing the rules. The “Code of Conduct” applies to all activities at the school, on the bus, during school trips and events during the school day. We will be very proactive in our approach so that inappropriate behaviour can be avoided. Action and consequences will be taken by staff when the code of conduct is not followed. Be respectful of others, be positive and thoughtful, and be respectful of the school.



***Let's have a great
2017-2018 school year!***



Dear Parent(s)/ Guardian(s):

My name is Mr. David Howell and I will be the Principal at Fitch Street Public School for the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. Mrs. McDowell will begin the year on a Leave of Absence..

Please feel free to drop by the office and say hello in September. I look forward to being a part of the Fitch Street community and hope to get to know all of you over this time.

See you soon!

Mr. D. Howell



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