



# Ryerson Heights Elementary School

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September 2017

I would like to extend a special Welcome to all of our students and their families for the 2017-2018 School Year at Ryerson Heights. A new school year is a New Beginning and with it brings the promise of new friendships, experiences and learning!

Ryerson Heights has become well established as a "Leadership School". Our unique Leadership vision is designed to inspire our students to believe in their potential both as learners and leaders. The ultimate goal of fostering a leadership environment is to motivate our students to believe in themselves and the positive impact they can make in the world.

Each school year here at Ryerson we provide a variety of leadership opportunities and experiences designed to challenge and motivate our students to unleash and use their potential as leaders to achieve their goals, hopes and dreams while embracing our school mission statement "Today's Believers are Tomorrow's Leaders".

An exciting and unique aspect of the Ryerson Heights Leadership program is the tradition of embracing an annual Leadership Theme.

This year the Ryerson Heights Leadership Theme will be .....

## ***"It's Our Time To Shine!"***

For families who are new to our school, you will be amazed at the wonderful projects our students have become involved in over the years. Our history of Leadership Focuses:

- 2009-2010 Today's Believers, Tomorrow's Leaders (which became our School Mission Statement)
- 2010-2011 Leaders For Life
- 2011-2012 Together We Can Make A Difference
- 2012-2013 What If....
- 2013-2014 What We Do Matters
- 2014-2015 Imagine
- 2015-2016 It's Time
- 2016-2017 We are UNSTOPPABLE...
- 2017-2018 It's Our Time to Shine!



I look forward to seeing and sharing in the incredible leadership moments that I know will happen this year at Ryerson Heights because **It's Our Time to Shine!!**

### **CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS**

Each year we attempt to prepare for the new school year by creating class lists that are balanced. Each summer we also receive new student registrations and hear about students moving. We have certain classroom guidelines provided by the Ministry of Education, determined by grade level. In order to balance all of the classrooms within Ministry guidelines it will be necessary to move students around at the beginning of the school year. Naturally we understand that this can be disruptive to some students and we attempt to minimize movement wherever possible, however it is important that all families understand that classroom changes **may still occur**. Please take some time to discuss this with your children so they are aware of the possibility. We sincerely thank you for your cooperation and understanding.



8:35 am	Entry Bell
10:15am – 10:55 am	1 <sup>st</sup> Nutrition Break
12:35pm – 1:15 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Nutrition Break
2:55 pm	Dismissal Bell

<b><u>DOOR 1:</u></b>	Ms. Kroes, Ms. Koniuch, Ms. Stewart, Mrs. Madgwick, Mr. Daniel and Mrs. Manzo
<b><u>DOOR 2:</u></b>	Mr. Woodley, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Marsh, Mr. Cohoon, Ms. Blunt and Ms. Penrice
<b><u>DOOR 3:</u></b>	Mrs. Ogle, Mr. Mayock, Ms. Volchoff, Ms. Payne, Mrs. Robb, Mrs. Stallmann, Mrs. Elsohemy and Mrs. Harris
<b><u>DOOR 4:</u></b>	Mrs. Rivers/Mrs. Wardell-Parasiuk, Mrs. Horne/Ms. Dredge, Ms. Halabecki/Mrs. Smyth and Ms. Tyson

**Welcome to our new staff members:** Ms. Tyson, Mme. Grozelle, Ms. Gates, and Mrs. Haliburton

**Welcome back to:** Ms. Penrice

### **ANAPHYLACTIC ALLERGY REMINDERS**

Please note that there are several students at Ryerson Heights with anaphylactic allergies to: peanuts, tree nuts, sesame, latex, kiwi, guava fruit and mango. In some cases, just exposure to these items could trigger a life-threatening reaction. We appreciate the cooperation of all families in keeping the items out of the school. We ask for your support by voluntarily avoiding:

- Nuts and sesame in any form (including nut butters, nut oils or any items baked with nut products)
- Latex products
- Kiwi, guava fruit or mango

In September, rooms containing students with anaphylactic allergies will be posted with awareness signs and parents with students in those classes will be notified.

### **PARKING LOT**

**We continue to need your help to make school entrance and dismissal times as safe as possible for everyone.**

**Just a Friendly Reminder:** Our parking lot has been a work in progress. Please **Do Not** park and **leave** your car unattended in the “**Drop Off & Pick Up**” lane in the middle of the parking lot. Parking and leaving your car unattended in the “**Drop Off & Pick Up**” lane disrupts the flow of traffic for those dropping off and picking up students. Again, we are asking for your support to help make our drop off and pick up times as efficient and safe as possible for your children. Thank you for your continued patience and support!



### **INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS**

In order to avoid confusion regarding the doors during inclement weather conditions such as rain & extreme cold temperatures, Door #1 and the front doors will be open at 8:20 for student entrance. Please do not send your child(ren) to school before 8:20 a.m. in the morning as there is no supervision until that time. Students will not be permitted in the school on Inclement Weather Days until 8:20.

### **STUDENT LEADERSHIP NOTEBOOKS**

Student Leadership Notebooks are an essential component of Our Leadership Program. ALL STUDENTS are required to have a Student Leadership Notebook (provided by the school) which will take the place of the traditional student agenda. The Student Leadership Notebook is provided by the school and is a record of your child’s personal growth over the course of the school year.

### **FIRE AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS**

As per Grand Erie policy and procedure each school is required to conduct 6 Fire Drills and 2 Lock Down Drills throughout the school year.

### **PARENT ACTION TEAM "PAT"**

The Parent Action Team is a group designed for Parents who would like to volunteer in the school, but may not be available during the school day. Meetings will provide Parents the opportunity to provide advice to the school's principal on school related matters and help make the best possible educational experience for all students. We are hoping this group provides an opportunity for more parents to get involved when it works best for you and your family! Meetings will be October 4<sup>th</sup>, January 17<sup>th</sup>, April 18<sup>th</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup>. The time for the meeting will be announced.

### **FRONT DOOR BUZZ-IN/SIGN IN & VISITOR/PARENT PASS PROCEDURE**

Under the Ontario Ministry of Education "Safe Welcome Program" all school doors including the front doors are locked throughout the day. Please use the call button on the front post to buzz into the office for access. In order to avoid interruptions to classes and improve student safety all visitors to the school **must sign in at the office**. Please respect this policy as it is in place for the safety of your children. Please do not go directly to your child's classroom during the regular school day. If you need to speak to your child or your child's teacher our office staff will be more than happy to help you out.

### **POLICE CHECKS**

Just a reminder that anyone volunteering for the school requires an up-to-date Police Check. Police Checks are now **valid for 2 years** from the date of issue. You must take a signed form from the school with you in order to process your Check. Please see us in the office for the appropriate form.

**Please note: the first PA Day of the school year is on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. The second PA Day will be Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

### **STUDENT ABSENCES –Please ALWAYS advise the Office – 519-752-8814**

If your child is going to be late or absent from school, please call the school to let us know. Our office hours are between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The answering machine is on outside office hours for your convenience.



### **STUDENT MEDICAL FORMS**

Please note that any student requiring medication at school **MUST** have the appropriate paperwork completed and signed by their physician annually. It is important that this paperwork is ready to go for the beginning of the school year. The school is unable to administer any medication (eg. Tylenol, allergy medicine, epipens, prescription medicine) without the proper paperwork on file. Please contact the school if you have any questions, or to receive the appropriate forms.



### **PETS ON THE SCHOOLYARD**

We recognize that pets are a special part of many families, however, some of our students have an extreme fear of animals. For the safety and comfort of all of our students, if you are bringing a pet onto the school grounds we would ask that you do not bring your pet near the exit doors so that students may exit safely from the school. We suggest that you wait for your child as close to the field as possible to allow students who may fear animals easy access off of the schoolyard. Please arrange a specific meeting spot with your child(ren) so they know where to find you. We appreciate your cooperation!

### **WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**

We send many reminders out from the office using email about important dates, exciting events, and reminders for the happenings here at Ryerson! It is important that we have an up to date email address for families to make sure you're informed! Please let the office know if there are any changes in your email address or contact information.

**"UNDER CONSTRUCTION" - KEEP CHECKING OUT OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE** – The Grand Erie District School Board recently updated the school board and school websites. We are currently in the process of updating our school page, but please continue to check our website as it will be updated frequently with events, important dates and news of the great things happening around here! Be sure to bookmark our home page, as well as the teacher pages and **CHECK IN OFTEN!!**



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### **SCHOOL CASH ONLINE**

As per GEDSB directives, **all school payments must be made using School Cash Online** (ie. field trips, lunch program, etc.). Please ensure you have registered with School Cash Online.

#### **Here's how to register:**

- Step 1:** Go to this website: **<https://gedsb.schoolcashonline.com>**
- Step 2:** Register by selecting "Get Started Now" and follow the steps
- 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.



**It's Chocolate Bar selling time! Sales run until  
Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Happy Selling!!!**

### **MEET THE TEACHER – Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>! 5-7pm**

We are happy to announce that Strobe's will be here with BBQ hamburgers and hot dogs for sale. In order to make sure we have enough food, we are asking families to purchase hamburgers for \$4.00 and hot dogs for \$3.00 on School Cash Online before Sunday, September 17th. Prepaid tickets will be sent home with students before Meet the Teacher Night. We can't guarantee quantities if you decide to purchase at the event. Drinks, popcorn and chips will be available to purchase that night. Hamburger and hot dog purchases will expire on School Cash Online on Sunday, Sept. 17th. Please **DO NOT** send cash to school.

Join us for dinner and a tour of your child's classroom!



**Picture Days are October 11<sup>th</sup> (Kindergarten to Grade 3) and  
October 12<sup>th</sup> (Grade 4-8). More information to come!**



## Dropping something off for your child?



Due to the high volume of lunches and other items being dropped off at the school during school hours, Ryerson Heights is implementing a new system. If you are dropping off lunches, permission notes and/or belongings for your child(ren) be sure to label them and leave them on the table or in the bin outside the office door so that your child(ren) can retrieve their delivery at a convenient time. As a leadership school we would like to encourage students to take ownership for their belongings. Please let your child(ren) know that the office will no longer be calling into their classroom to remind them of items as it is a disruption to the class – it will be their responsibility to retrieve their belongings at a time that is appropriate with their teacher and class.

## Ryerson Heights Toonie Toss to support Autism Speaks



**Where:** Ryerson Heights

**When:** Meet the teacher Night from 5-7 pm

**Cost:** Toonie

**For:** Chance to win closest to the bucket and a basket of Candy

**All proceeds will be donated to the Autism Speaks walk.**

**It's our time to shine Ryerson!**

**We are asking all Ryerson Families to come and join us on the walk at  
1:30pm on Sat Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

**One of our own students has been chosen to be the  
ambassador for this year's walk.  
Congratulations Suzie!**

**Come join,  
Team Ryerson!**

