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granderie.ca/confederation

Principal

Andrea Smith

Vice Principal

Nancy Norton

Office Coordinators

Michele Edmondson

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mars—March 2017

Dear École Confédération Families;

We have almost made it through another winter! We hope that Spring will be just around the corner.



March will be another busy month for us. As a staff, we continue on with our Collaborative Inquiry that focuses on improving achievement and instruction in math. For students in Gr. 3, our Booster Club will begin and continue on until the end of April. Students who are invited to attend will receive additional support with developing math skills.

We hope that you have a restful and relaxing March Break.

Yours in cooperation,

Mme A. Smith
Principal

Mme N. Norton
Vice-Principal

March 7— Donations accepted for book sale

March 8-Book sale

March 9-Jr. music presentation in gym (for student audience)

March 10—Weird and Wacky Day-\$1 donation for playground equipment

March 13-17-March Break: School Closed

March 22— 6:00, School Council Meeting in library



Building Healthy Relationships

Technology is offering our children and teen huge benefits for communication, collaboration, learning and research. Rapidly growing technology can also bring challenges. When parents listen, set limits, and communicate, we can help children and teens to use digital technology to develop and grow.



Our children build and maintain friendships through social media. By being part of their experience, we can help guide them in the development of positive relationships and help them learn how to use these digital experiences to mature and grow. Healthy social media relations can enrich your parent-child relationship.

As the world of digital communication continues to grow, it shapes how we interact with one another. Many families rely on electronic devices to keep in touch and provide updates on daily schedules and activities. This may be a good way of starting to “talk” with your children through social media.

TIPS:

- Share digital skills and online tools
- Know the basics of social media safety
- Help your children deal with online relationships
- Assist your children to manage their online identities
- Reach out for help if your child is impacted by cyber-bullying or sexting

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

Coin de l’immersion/Immersion Corner

How can you help your child learn French?

Help your child become an imaginative and analytic thinker. Thinking is the key to effective communication. Much of the focus in literacy skills instruction at school is on helping students learn to think critically and analytically, and to understand how their thinking supports their learning. All children, including those in French immersion, benefit from opportunities to deepen and strengthen these skills by using them in their own language outside school.

Imaginative and analytic thinking skills are crucial to help students meet today’s high standards for literacy. Nurturing your child’s natural curiosity is important in supporting the development of those skills. Let your child observe you thinking about solutions to problems. Encourage your child to question what he or she sees and hears, and reads and views. Get your child involved in considering different ways of thinking about everyday situations. You can also help your child become an analytic thinker by encouraging him or her to pay attention to detail and by discussing cause and effect (What happened when...? Why do you think...?)

A variety of subjects, including mathematics and social studies, may be taught in English or in French as part of the French Immersion program, but the concepts are separate from the language being used to communicate them. Children can think about mathematics and deepen their understanding of it by thinking and working in any language. When children become used to thinking imaginatively and analytically, they will bring these habits to discussions in French or English at school.

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

Used Book Sale



It’s time for École Confédération’s 6th Annual Book Exchange!! Students will have the opportunity to bring books to school to exchange with other students and help the environment. We will be weighing the books and figuring

out how many trees we have saved by exchanging books!

Your child will receive a ticket for each book, up to 10 tickets max. The books need to come in on Tuesday, March 7th and the book exchange is Wednesday morning March 8th. Students can bring in more than 10 books ~ additional books will be sold for 25¢ on Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 after the ‘exchange’. The monies raised will go towards the greening of our school!



Carnaval Celebrations

Thanks to everyone who was able to come out for our Carnaval celebrations. It was a fun event for all. Thanks for your generous donations. All funds raised will help cover the costs of new playground equipment.



Inspiring Your Child to Love and Learn Math



You can motivate your child's math learning! Here are a few simple steps that convey an important message: math is important and math homework has value!

Homework Tool Kit

Dedicate one drawer in the kitchen for a math homework tool kit. Plan the contents with your child: pencils, erasers, rulers, a tape measure, scissors, construction paper, graph paper, counters (beads or beans), a calculator, and glue. The drawer can grow with your child by adding specialized tools (a compass and protractor, for example) as required by the curriculum.

Have a math routine

Encourage positive attitudes and work habits by scheduling math homework time at the same time and location every day. The kitchen or dining room table is best.

Be available to help

Make yourself available during homework time. Being together with your child encourages natural conversation and interaction.

Be relaxed and positive

Remember that you are not expected to act as the content expert or teach the content. Your one-on-one attention will have a positive effect if your focus is on a natural conversation and two-way communication.

(Inspiring Your Child to Learn and Love Math... C.O.D.E- The Council of Ontario Directors of Education)

Playground Supervisors Needed

We are looking for adults to join our supervision team. Duties include supervising students before school and during the first nutrition break (eating and outside on the playground). This is a paid position. All supervisors must have a valid police check with vulnerable sector screening within the last 6 months, and cannot be a current member of our school council. If you are interested please contact Mme Smith in the main office.



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.

At all times, cars may not be parked under signage that marks a fire route. 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 not riding a bus 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.



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.schoolcashonline.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:

Month	Milk Orders Due by...	Hot Lunch Orders Due by...
April	March 23	March 24 Pizza
May	April 20	April 21 Pizza
June	May 18	n/a



For the month of March only, we will be offering a snack shack during hot lunch days (first break on each Tuesday. For \$2, students can purchase a bag of chips or a drink (pop or fruit juice). All profits will go to our school council funds supporting our playground equipment purchase.

Monthly Assemblies

During the month of March, we will be looking for students to demonstrate excellence in the habit of Synergize. Synergy is valuing differences and then working together to create a better solution than what anyone could do alone. Students will be recognized at our assemblies on March 31.

School Council

The next school council meeting will be on March 22 at 6:00 in the library. All are welcome and childcare is provided.

Visit our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/726910140658231/>

This is a place to see upcoming school events, fundraisers and general information. A safe place to ask Parent Council and fellow parents questions regarding the school and school activities.

Spirit wear is now on sale. Sample sizes for hoodies are available at the main office. Orders are due by March 10. An order form is attached. Payment and ordering is also available through school cash online.

Participation 150 Challenge

To help celebrate Canada's 150 years of Confederation the school has set out a challenge for it's students and staff. To help the school be successful in this challenge we are asking students to participate by choosing an activity from the Participation 150 list, snap a photo, and send it to confederation150@gmail.com. This activity can be completed individually, with a friend, team, or as a class. Get involved, have fun, and help your school achieve this goal!



Student's Council

On March 10th Students Council has organized a "Weird and Wacky Day". Once again we're asking for \$1 donations to go towards the playground equipment. March 8th is the CAGE basketball tournament in Simcoe for the boys and girls intermediate teams.





54 Ewing Drive, Brantford, ON N3R 5H8

Phone: 519-751-2891 Fax: 519-751-3851



YOUTH	ITEM	COLOUR	XS (2-4)	S (6-8)	M (10-12)	L (14-16)	XL (18-20)	TOTAL AMOUNT	RETAIL PRICE	TOTAL \$
	T-SHIRT	BLACK							\$15.00	
		WHITE							\$15.00	
	HOODIE (PULLOVER)	BLACK							\$25.00	
	HOODIE (ZIP UP)	BLACK							\$25.00	

ADULT	ITEM	COLOUR	S	M	L	XL	XXL	TOTAL AMOUNT	RETAIL PRICE	TOTAL \$
	T-SHIRT	BLACK							\$15.00	
		WHITE							\$15.00	
	HOODIE (PULLOVER)	BLACK							\$30.00	
	HOODIE (ZIP UP)	BLACK							\$30.00	

SWAG	ITEM	COLOUR	DESCRIPTION	QUANT	TOTAL AMOUNT	RETAIL PRICE	TOTAL \$
	CINCH BAG	BLACK	Non Woven Drawstring Backpack			\$5.00	
	BAG TAG	BLACK	Crown Logo With ID Area On Reverse			\$4.00	
	PENCIL	BLACK	Regular Wooden Pencil W/Eraser			\$1.00	

ALL ITEMS ALSO AVAILABLE ON SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

ALL ORDERS DUE BY FRIDAY MARCH 10th

ORDER
TOTAL

MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO ECOLE CONFEDERATION
CASH ORDERS MUST BE EXACT

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

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.



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

