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mai-May 2018

Dear École Confédération Families;

We are rapidly entering the home stretch of our academic year. The month of May will include many enriching activities for our students. We would like to thank all of our volunteers and visitors who make this possible.

During May 7-11, Education Week will be celebrated province-wide. Here at École Confédération, we are looking forward to primary musical presentation of "Toy Story", as well as our annual Book Fair.

During the month of May, students in grades 3 and 6 will participate in the EQAO provincial assessments. Grade 3 dates are May 23, 24 and 25 and Grade 6 dates are May 29, 30, 31. We ask that families make every effort possible to have children present at school on these dates. The assessment will take place during the first instructional block (9:10-11:10) and will continue into the second block (11:50-1:30). During these times, we will need cooperation from our entire school community in order to minimize disruptions to learning.

Happy Mother's Day to all moms on May 13. Victoria Day is on Monday, May 21 and the school will be closed. We wish all of our families a restful and relaxing long weekend.



Yours in cooperation,

Mme A. Smith
Principal

M. I. Ségura-Rômero
Vice-Principal

Dates to Remember:

May 1-Choir to Music Festival
May 8-Fresh from the Farm orders will be sent home with students, Book Fair
May 9-Wrestling Tournament, Toy Story Musical presentation, Book Fair
May 10-Book Fair, Toy Story Musical
May 11-Patrollers to Galaxy Cinemas, Storybook Character Day, Gr. 4 (Mme Danielle) Chalk It Up activities
May 14-Gr. 7 & 8 Art Show and Café
May 15-Courage Assembly-wear spirit wear
May 17, 18, 19-Gr. 7 & 8 Trip to Brock
May 21-Victoria Day-No school
May 22-Gr. 3 Swim to Survive
May 23-25-Gr. 3 EQAO
May 25-Track and Field for Gr. 4-8
May 28, 29-Chef à l'école for Gr. 2-4
May 29-31-Gr. 6 EQAO
May 29-Gr. 3 Swim to Survive
May 30-Gr. 7 immunization
June 1-School Council Movie Night

School Attendance

School attendance for all students is tracked for absences and late arrivals. A Grand Erie District School Board attendance counselor works with our school to track student attendance. A letter is sent to individual parents when children have accumulated a significant number of absences and/or lates. Absences of 15 consecutive days can result in the removal of the student from the school's registration. In all other cases of attendance concerns, a notice is sent to parents from the school indicating the total number of lates and absences for a child prior to involvement with the Attendance Counsellor.

Please note that if you are planning a family trip or have a reason to take your child out of school for 3 consecutive days or more, you are required to complete a "Request for Absence from School" form from the office (and signed by the principal) prior to the absence. This is a GEDSB policy. This form can also be found on the school website.

Student Absences or Lates

Please ensure that you call the school prior to 9:00 am if your child will be late or absent. Our voice mail system is available to receive messages 24 hours/7 days a week.



A Note From The Public Health Nurse... Water Does Wonders

Healthy brains need to stay hydrated to learn and concentrate. Encourage your child to drink water throughout the day by sending water in a reusable

bottle. Remind them to rehydrate after being outside to play or gym class.

Sugar sweetened drinks like pop, juice, and fruit drinks might sound fun but they don't do the same job when it comes to staying healthy and hydrated. Water is always the best option!

For additional ideas, tools and resources to make water more available at school, check out www.brightbites.ca – [Water Works](#).

Adapted from Ontario Dietitians in Public Health, www.brightbites.ca

Parking Reminders

Thank you for helping to keep our students safe and allowing traffic to flow smoothly each morning between 8:50am and 9:10am. A few reminders about the drop off zone:



- **Adults stay with the vehicle:** We expect that students who are dropped off on the sidewalk are able to walk to the gate with their backpack on their own. If your child requires your assistance to do this, please park on the street and walk them to the gate. If you need to visit the main office, you cannot park in the drop off zone; you must park on the street.
- **Students exit the vehicle on the passenger side of the car:** The safest way for students to use the drop off zone is to have them exit the vehicle using the passenger side so that they are directly on the sidewalk.
- **Students exit vehicles only in the drop off zone:** This prevents students from having to go between vehicles or in front of school buses that may not be able to see them.
- The loop at the back end of the parking lot is for buses only. Please do not use this area.
- The parking lot is for staff parking only. We do not have enough spots for the staff who work here. The only exception are the 2 accessible spots for those who have permits.

We need everyone's assistance in following the rules to ensure student safety. If student safety continues to be at risk in the drop-off zone, we will have to close the area down. Student safety remains our top priority.



Student's Council

On May 11, student's council will host "Storybook Character Day". Dress up as your favourite character from a book. A final dance for Jr and Intermediate students is being planned for a date later in June.

Pets on the Playground

Families should be aware that pets are not allowed on the playground or in the drop off or pick up zone. There are students with allergies and the possibility of students hurting pets or vice versa are our primary concerns. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Book Fair

The Scholastic English Book Fair is coming to our school and you are invited to come and share in this celebration of literacy with us!

Now more than ever, reading is vital to leading a better life. Knowing how to read is just the beginning. Motivating young people to keep reading, comprehend what they read and develop the ability to think creatively are the end goals. With your involvement, we can inspire children to practice reading and read more often. Together, we can make a difference in their lives that will last a lifetime.

One great way to ensure our children get keep on reading all year long is with the Classroom Wish List program. Each teacher was asked to fill-in their "book wish list" prior to the Fair. Look for your child's teacher's name on the display. It is their wish that these books become a permanent part of the classroom library.

Your support can help a classroom blossom with new and exciting adventures in reading, stimulating young minds for years to come.

Book Fair hours are:

Tuesday May 8 – Preview Day
Wednesday May 9 – During school hours (except nutrition breaks).
Evening 5:30pm-8pm
Thursday May 10 – During school hours (except nutrition breaks).
Evening 5:30pm-8pm
Friday May 11 – During school hours (except nutrition breaks)

Parent Council

The next school council meeting will be on April 19 at 6:00 in the library. All are welcome and child minding is provided. Thanks to all who purchased spirit wear. Garments have been sent home with students.

School Council continues to conduct fundraising to support a variety of opportunities for students. Our Fundscrip gift card fundraiser continues. Purchase a gift card between April 1-May 31 to be entered into a draw for a \$25 gift card. We are currently raising funds to have a sound system installed in the gym.



A note about pizza days...We are experiencing a high number of students who bring cash to school on pizza days to purchase pizza. Please note that we do not order extra pizza for this. Once all of the pizza orders are filled, if there is any pizza left over, we are able to sell it on pizza day. Because of this, there may not be enough pizza for all who wish to purchase it on pizza day. The only way to guarantee pizza lunch is to place an order in advance. Ordering is done through the school cash online system for a month at a time. Ordering for May is now closed. If you are sending your child to school with cash to purchase pizza, we recommend that you also send some food for them to eat in the event that there is not enough pizza available. We will have one additional hot lunch day in June, which will be our annual BBQ. Details will be shared soon. Ordering will be available through school cash online. If you are not able to access school cash online, please contact the main office.



Fire Drills and School Lock Down

In accordance with the Fire Department and GEDSB Policy on School Lock Down, we will be conducting 3 Fire Drills in the Spring months and one additional Lock Down practices.

A School Lock Down requires that an announcement be made to staff to secure our students in their classrooms behind locked classroom door.

Families should not be surprised if your child arrives home from school describing their experience in this process to you. A notification on the date of practice will be sent via the REMIND app.

Peanut/Nut Aware School

A few reminders about food policies at École Confédération:

- * This is a peanut/nut aware school. Please do not send peanut based products, peanuts, or any nut/soy products that may contain any of these items to the school. The safety of other children depends on this.
- * Peanut butter substitutes are not allowed in elementary schools in GEDSB.
- * Food is not permitted on the school playground at recess and at lunch. Students are permitted the opportunity to eat their snacks and lunches prior to going outside or immediately following the morning and afternoon recess periods.



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.**

While parking is available on Coronation St. across from the school, please be respectful of our neighbours when parking there. Obey all posted signage. Parking is not permitted within the first several metres of the intersection. Please do not park in these spaces as it makes it very difficult for our crossing guard to see, as well as for those turning from Coronation onto Ewing drive. Do not block driveways and remember that there is a city bylaw prohibiting parking within 1 metre of a driveway.

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.



Playground Equipment Rules

The Ontario Physical and Health Educators' Association (OPHEA) provides safety guidelines for all physical activities at school. Playground equipment used during the school day is included in these guidelines. Students in Gr. 1-8 will be allowed to play on the equipment at recess following a schedule. A staff member will be on duty to supervise play. Kindergarten classes will only use the equipment during their classroom outdoor instruction time, supervised by their educator team.

We will review the rules for playing safely on the equipment with students throughout the year. We encourage families to remind their children of the rules we are required to follow to play safely on the new equipment:

General Rules and Expectations

Students must:

- Use playground structure only when the teacher is present.
- Listen to and follow instructions from the teacher.
- Wear appropriate shoes that are secured/tied (no sandals or flip flops).
- Tie back long hair.
- Travel safely when near the playground structure— i. e. they must walk, not run when on the structure.
- Take turns.
- Keep their hands to themselves at all times.
- Keep their feet on the structure. Climbing or sitting on the railings is not permitted.

Students must not:

- Wear garments with loose drawstrings, bicycle helmets or backpacks.
- Jump from unsafe heights (i.e. any height higher than their chest).
- Eat while on the playground structure.
- Play tag games near or on the structure.

Specific Activities Rules and Expectations

Climbing Structure - Steps:

- Walk (not run) and hold the hand rails.

Climbing Structure - Platform:

- Walk at all times.
- No jumping from the platform to the ground. Use the steps, slides or ladders.
- Keep your feet on platform at all times. Do not attempt to climb onto the railings.

Slide:

- Wait your turn. Keep your hands to yourself. No pushing or shoving at the top of the slide.
- No sliding headfirst, lying down or backwards.
- Check that no one is at the bottom of the slide before sliding down.
- Once at the bottom of the slide move away.
- No walking/running up or down the slide bed.





How To Register For An Account

1) Go To www.fundscrip.com

2) Click On Support a Group (Top Right)

Français About Help News Contact Login



3) Fill In Your Personal Information

4) Check Your Email & Confirm Your Account

5) Confirm Your Preferences

6) Start Shopping

Our Exclusive School Code

B3S8YP

Payment Options

1. Electronic Funds Transfer (Direct Withdrawal) **Preferred Method of Payment**

- Fill Out EFT Application Form & Attach Void Cheque
- Send To Fundscrip via Email, Fax, Or Mail Using Info On Bottom Of Application

2. Online Banking - **Preferred Method of Payment**

- To Use This Payment Method You Must Add "Fundstream/Fundscrip" As A Payee In Your Online Banking Portal. To Do So You Will Need An Online Bill Payment Number Which You Will Receive After Placing An Order

3. Credit Card – **Least Preferred Method of Payment**

- Visa or Mastercard Payment Only
- Credit Card Processing Fees Are 1.99%, Therefore an offer of return of 5% will be reduced to 3.01% return