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Wow! September just flew by. We had an exciting September with our Terry Fox run and Truth and Reconciliation Walk. Our Terry Fox donations reached well over \$2200.00, I believe Mr. Antoniulli is still counting. I am sure several teachers and I are looking forward to getting pies in the face for such a dedicated effort in raising money for cancer research.

Ms. Clement our grade 7/8 teacher has accepted a contract and will be leaving us. However, Ms. Petker has accepted the LTO position and will continue filling in for Ms. Harper while she is off.

All school agendas have finally arrived, to recoup some of the cost we are asking families to pay \$5.00/agenda or \$10.00/family if you have more than one child at the school. You can pay by School Cash Online or send cash into the school.

**Important Dates:**

Monday October 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Junior Soccer Tournament
Tuesday October 4 <sup>th</sup>	PA Day: Young Canada Day in Norfolk County, no school.
Wednesday October 5 <sup>th</sup>	MacMillan's order forms go home
Thursday October 13 <sup>th</sup>	School Photo Day, retake day November 18 <sup>th</sup> .
Wednesday October 19 <sup>th</sup>	J/I Cross Country Meet and Primary School Cross Country Mini-Meet
Wednesday October 19 <sup>th</sup>	Individual Education Plans go home
Monday October 31 <sup>st</sup>	MacMillan's orders due
Monday October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Halloween Festivities: Kindergarten Costumes, Grade 1-8: Black and Orange
Thursday November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	COPE Meeting
Friday November 4 <sup>th</sup>	Progress Report Cards go home
Thursday November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day Assembly
Thursday November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Teacher Interviews: Evening 3:30pm to 7:00pm, Teachers will contact you.
Friday November 11 <sup>th</sup> :	Parent Teacher Interviews: Morning 9:00am-11:30am, Teachers will contact you.

## **Attendance**

Parents are reminded that students are to be dropped off in the morning by the time the 8:50 bell rings, but no earlier than 8:30 when yard supervision begins. Students who are not prepared for class at this time are considered late and must attend the office to obtain an admit slip. Parents are welcome to bring their children in to the office. Students must sign in at the office before going to class.

Students who leave at some point during the day will be required to be signed out by the office. When picking students up, parents should ring the bell at the front door and wait for their child to exit the building. If someone other than a parent is picking a child up, **we must have notification in writing by email to [sandra.vandendriessche@granderie.ca](mailto:sandra.vandendriessche@granderie.ca) and copied to your child's teacher BY NOON, AT THE LATEST.** These practices are to ensure your child's safety.

Our attendance system is automated now, when your child is absent because they are sick or have an appointment, please use the SchoolMessenger app to report it. If the absence is not reported, you will receive an automated call from the school. Instructions are below on how to access it.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

1. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
2. Use the SafeArrival website, <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number **1-833-557-9420** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

Successful students have good attendance. The attendance counsellor will be contacted for students who are chronically late or absent.

## **Drop off and Pick Up Routine:**

**Please do not park in the front parking lot or block any of the entrances to the school.** There are two parallel roads that surround Courtland Public School. If you are dropping off young children that need a parent escort, please park on Queens St. and walk them to the fence line for drop off or meet them in the front parking lot. If you have older children that don't need your escort, you can drop them off and pick them up on James St. All pick up and walkers will exit through the front doors at the end of the day.

### Transportation:

If you would like to receive notifications when your child's bus is delayed or cancelled, please follow the instructions below.

**Option 1:** Parent needs to create a parent account at <https://transinfobhn.ca/Login>

a. This will provide email notifications

**Option 2:** Download one of the two apps Delays or Chipmunk

b. Parents will use their parent portal credentials to log into the Chipmunk app

Details on how to create a parent account or download either of the apps are available at : <https://stsbhn.ca/faqs>

### Daily Schedule

8:30 – 8:50 a.m.	Buses arrive and yard supervision begins. * Please do not drop your child off before this time*
8:50 – 10:50 a.m.	Instructional Block #1
10:50 – 11:10 a.m.	Nutrition Break
11:10 – 11:30 a.m.	Recess
11:30 – 1:10 p.m.	Instructional Block #2
1:10 – 1:30 p.m.	Nutrition Break
1:30– 1:50 p.m.	Recess
1:50 – 3:10 p.m.	Instructional Block #3
3:10 – 3:30 p.m.	Walkers are dismissed, recess for bussed students
3:25 -3:30 p.m.	Buses are loaded and dismissed

**Fundraising:** Fundraising is always optional for your family. We have a number of fundraising opportunities this year that COPE and our school will be hosting. Our two primary goals this year for fundraising are the Nutrition Program and the Learning Commons Project (Renovation of our library).

**October:** MacMillian's (Nutrition Program)

**November/December:** Jenson's Cheese(Nutrition Program), Country Home Candles(COPE), Poinsettias(COPE)

**January/February:** World of Chocolate (School: Learning Commons)

**June:** Father's Day Dominoes

### **Parent Portal:**

The GEDSB Parent Portal is a website that links parents to their child's school information. Here you can find, for example, attendance records and report cards. It also provides a link to your child's Brightspace. In order to access this portal, you require your child's unique ID and password, please email [ryan.tyndall@granderie.ca](mailto:ryan.tyndall@granderie.ca) to get your child's ID and password.

### **Allergies at School:**

We have children in the school who have severe, life threatening food allergies (anaphylaxis) to nuts and eggs. This includes food which contains peanuts, peanut oil, or any other kind of nuts or traces of peanuts/nuts/shellfish in them. Products which contain nuts like Nutella are not permitted. Our egg allergy is currently confined to our kindergarten classrooms. Anaphylaxis is a medical condition which causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes. This requires the attention of our entire school community to ensure students are safe. All our staff is aware of the situation and they have been instructed in the correct procedures regarding anaphylactic shock.

### **Paying for School Trips, Food Days, Miscellaneous Items:**

Grand Erie uses School Cash Online as a safe and easy way to manage payments for trips or food programs. This program eliminates the need for students to carry cash to school for such purchases. For safety and efficiency, Grand Erie is reducing the amount of cash and cheques coming to our school.

Through School Cash Online, you can pay for purchases and check out either through eCheque (which requires you sharing some of your banking information) or your credit card (like most online shopping experiences).

Visit [www.schoolcashionline.com](http://www.schoolcashionline.com) to register, and follow the process outlined on that site. There are flyers at the school outlining more detail about School Cash Online. For more information and support contact the Parent Help Desk at:

1-866-961-1803 or [parenthelp@schoolcashionline.com](mailto:parenthelp@schoolcashionline.com)

### **Gotcha Tigers**

Gotcha Tigers will resume in November's newsletter once we have all student information forms submitted and updated in our database. Gotcha Tigers is a photo page of students engaging in learning and extra-curricular activities at our school. If your child has "no media consent" selected on their information form we will place a tiger head on your child's photo in the Gotcha sections of the Newsletter.