

January 2016



Hodge Huskies

Agnes G. Hodge School News

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Please visit our website:

www.granderie.ca/agneshodge/home



Principal's / Vice-Principal's Message:

Welcome to 2016! Our students and staff are off to a good start as we begin the New Year. We hope you enjoyed some family time over the holiday and everyone is slipping back into routines without too much difficulty.

With this newsletter we hope to provide you with the information you need for the next few weeks at Agnes Hodge. Should you have any questions, concerns or good news to share please do not hesitate to call.

We would like to welcome Mr. McGaghran to our Hodge Huskies Team, to start off our New Year in 2016. Mr. McGaghran comes to us from his role as System Learning Resource Teacher for students with Learning Disabilities. He has taught his entire career in West Brant starting at the old Ryerson Middle School, then Ryerson Heights, and finally at Walter Gretzky. We are looking forward to working with Mr. McGaghran as Vice-Principal at Agnes G. Hodge.

We would also like to welcome Ms. Attwell, who will be our new day custodian for 2016.

Monthly Newsletter

Winners

Remember to sign and return the bottom part of the newsletter for a chance to win a prize!

Do you have a Growth Mindset?



Achievement

Help your child set and achieve New Year's learning goals

January is a good time for you and your child to review her progress and set goals for the rest of the school year. So encourage your child to make some learning resolutions. Even better, help her learn how to achieve her goals.

When your child thinks about goals, help her choose one she can reach fairly soon. It should also be specific. For instance, "Be smart in social studies" is too broad. "Learn Civil War facts," on the other hand, can be observed and measured.

Then have your child follow these steps:

1. State the goal. "My goal is to learn my Civil War dates and terms by February." She should write her goal down and post it where she'll see it.
2. Plan how to meet the goal. "I will make flash cards and study them for 15 minutes every night. I will ask Mom to quiz me on Fridays."
3. Talk about the goal with others. Your child should tell her teacher what she plans to do. This strengthens her commitment to the goal.
4. Follow each step in the plan. If problems arise, she can brainstorm solutions with you. For example, if she's too tired after homework time to review flash cards, perhaps she could study them over breakfast, instead.
5. Motivate and celebrate. Encourage your child to take pride in each step she takes toward her goal. She could say, for example, "I'm proud I studied my Civil War facts today. I'm going to do it tomorrow, too." When she achieves her goal, celebrate that her efforts paid off!

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Help Children and Youth set Realistic Goals

Children and teens are more motivated to succeed when they set their own goals. Guide them to make sure their goals are not too easy or too hard. Encourage them to create a step-by-step plan. With plans to realize goals, it is easier for children to identify where things go wrong. Problem solving with your children empowers them and gives them the confidence and strength to feel less discouraged. Reaching doable goals builds self-confidence.

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

Environment

A Note From Your School's Public Health Nurse...

Head Lice

Head lice are tiny insects that live and breed on the head. They can be a nuisance and can spread quickly whenever there is close head-to-head contact. Anyone can get head lice. They are found more often in children between the ages of 3-10 and their families.

What do they look like?

Tiny, wingless insects that move quickly and are difficult to see.

1-2 mm long and greyish brown in colour.

Nits (eggs) can sometimes be mistaken for dandruff. They lie close to the scalp and are commonly found around ears, forehead and nape of the neck.

Signs of head lice

Tickling feeling of something moving in the hair.

Itching, caused by an allergic reaction to the bites.

Irritability.

Sores on the head caused by scratching. These sores can sometimes become infected.

Dear Parents:

As you may be aware, *Ryan's Law, 2015*, was passed by the Ontario Legislature. This piece of legislation is an important step to support the well-being of students with asthma in Ontario schools.

Over the course of the next school year, Grand Erie District School Board will be working to implement the requirements of this legislation.

In the meantime, if your child has asthma, we ask that you immediately contact the main office to provide information about your child's asthma medication. With your permission, your child will be allowed to carry their asthma medication.

By the next school year, a more formal process to identify students with asthma and their asthma medication will be put into place to better support the needs of your child.

The Ministry of Education website has resources on asthma that can be found at:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/healthyschools/anaphylaxis.html>

As a best practice and to support your child, please let the school know if your child has a medical condition so that the school is aware and can keep this information on file. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely, Mrs. Knill-Griesser

Agnes G. Hodge is located in ZONE 4.

In the event of bus delays, cancellations or school closures:

- **visit: www.stsbhn.ca**
- **Visit: GEDSB website**
- **Listen to CKPC 1380 radio after 6:30**



Environment cont.

Leader of the Pack:

This month's character education trait is **Fairness**. We look forward to being introduced to and learning more about **Fairness** from Mrs. McGrath's, Mrs. Paul's and Mrs. Wildey's classes. The Leader of the Pack Assembly where we will celebrate those students who have demonstrated '**responsibility**' will be held on **January 8th at 2:00 pm**. All parents are welcome!



Fairness is : Play by the rules • Take turns and share • Be open-minded; listen to others • Don't take advantage of others • Don't blame others carelessly • Treat all people fairly - equal doesn't necessarily mean fair.

Home and School Update

Engagement

How to Register Your Child for Kindergarten

Children eligible for Junior Kindergarten must be 4 years old by December 31st to enroll in Kindergarten. Arrange a visit to Agnes Hodge today to learn more. The following information will be required when you register your child:

- A document to confirm Canadian Citizenship and birth date (one of the following): Canadian Birth Certificate, Canadian Citizenship Card, Permanent Resident Card, other documents to verify status in Canada
- Your child's address including: 911 civic address (fire number), lot, concession, county and postal code
- Parent contact information, work and home
- Emergency contact person and telephone number
- Custody information, if applicable
- Doctor's name, address and telephone number
- Medical information - a "Request for School Assistance in Health Care" form, which is provided by the school, must be filled out if medication needs to be administered by school personnel

Contact our secretary, Linda Schut at (519)756-4950 if you have any questions.

Good minds stand up for those around them.
Good minds stand up and tell bullies to stop.
Good minds stand up when no one else will.
Good minds stand up and refuse to react to anger.
Good minds stand up for those who can't for themselves.
#goodmindsstandup

Engagement cont.

Chocolate Bar Sales

A special 'thank you' to those students who took part in our chocolate bar fundraiser! First Prize of an overnight stay in Niagara Falls including a visit to the water park went to a Kindergarten student in Ms. Buczynski's class! Second Prize of a \$125.00 gift card to Best Buy went to a student in Ms. McComb's class. Please return all money and chocolate to Mr. Mcgaghran ASAP.

Attention Grade 8 Parents

On January the 14th, BCI is having its Grade 8 night. This is an excellent opportunity for you to visit the school that your son/daughter may be attending next year. It's a great way for students to visit the classrooms and see what the school has to offer. On January 21st, Tollgate Tech. will be hosting its Grade 8 night. Again, this is an excellent way to see all of the opportunities that Tollgate offers.

<p><u>AGNES G. HODGE MORNING SNACK</u></p> <p><u>PROGRAM</u></p>
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Dates to Remember:

Jan. 4	First day back to school
Jan. 6	Epiphany'
	School Council & Home & School Meeting
Jan. 7	Orthodox Christmas
Jan. 8	Leader of the Pack Assembly
Jan. 13	Grade 8 Night at NPC, PJ
Jan. 14	Grade 8 Night at BCI
Jan. 15	Makar Sankranti
Jan. 18	Martin Luther King Day
	P.A. Day
Jan. 25	Tu B'Shevat
Jan. 27	Family Literacy Day
	International Holocaust Remembrance Day