

# Brier Park Public School September 2016

Volume 1, Issue 1

Newsletter Date: September 2016

## **From the Principal's Desk**

Welcome back for another great year at Brier Park. We hope that everyone has had a relaxing and fun summer as we begin a new journey at Brier Park. A great big welcome to any new families in our school and community, as well as to all the familiar faces. We want to remind all of you that our student handbook, school plan, and school newsletters, are all posted on the school website. There is also a "Staff" section where teacher newsletters and class information will also be posted. Please make sure to visit our school website for ongoing communication. The website is: <http://granderie.ca/brierpark>.

**Please be advised that only the first newsletter will go out in paper form. All others will be e-mailed to you and posted on the website.**

Welcome to our new staff members: **Ms. Belanco**, French and Prep teacher; **Mrs. McGrath**, grade 3/4 teacher; **Ms. Veber**, DECE in Kindergarten and **Mr. Torelli**, our custodian.

## **Dates to Remember:**

|            |                                   |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sept. 16th | PD Day (No School)                |
| Sept. 22nd | Meet the Teacher<br>(5:30 - 7:00) |
| Sept. 27th | Photo Day                         |
| Sept. 29th | Terry Fox Run                     |
| Oct. 7th   | PD Day (No School)                |
| Oct. 10th  | Thanksgiving<br>(No School)       |

## **School Volunteers - Police Check Requirements !!!**



Please be aware that there is a Board policy with regards to volunteers. This pertains to anyone who comes into contact with the students in our schools: classroom helpers, drivers, etc ...

The Board requires everyone to have a police check, including the vulnerable sector portion. A letter from the school will be provided for you to take to the closest police station to request such a check.

The school will require to see the original copy and will keep a photocopy at the office. The police check is valid for two full years, at which time it will need to be completed again.

Make sure to get these done as soon as possible. Any further questions or the letter for a police check, please contact our secretary, Mrs. Baxter.

## **Grand Erie District School Board Harassment Policy**

The Grand Erie District School Board of Education requires us to review the harassment policy with the community on an annual basis, most commonly done through the school newsletter.

The Ontario Human Rights Code defines harassment as: "...engaging in a course of vexatious comment or conduct that is known or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcome."

Harassment may include comments or conduct by a person towards another person which are intimidating, annoying, hurtful or malicious. Any person who persists in such behavior, based on prohibited grounds, which he or she knows or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcome may be guilty of harassment.

We have a procedure in place for our staff to follow, including the issuing of a trespass citation if harassment persists. As community members it is very important that we deal in an appropriate manner with our staff. They work hard to care for and teach your children.

# Meet Our Staff

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Grade 7/8</b>             | <b>Mr. Nicholson</b>   |
| <b>Grade 7/8</b>             | <b>Mr. Petersen</b>  |
| <b>Grade 6/7</b>             | <b>Mr. Neeb</b>  |
| <b>Grade 6</b>               | <b>Mrs. Coulis</b>   |
| <b>Grade 5</b>               | <b>Mr. Sturgeon</b>  |
| <b>Grade 4/5</b>             | <b>Mrs. Genge</b>  |
| <b>Grade 3/4</b>             | <b>Mrs. McGrath</b>  |
| <b>Grade 3</b>               | <b>Mrs. Piovesan</b>   |
| <b>Grade 2/3</b>             | <b>Mrs. Vanka</b>  |
| <b>Grade 1/2</b>             | <b>Mrs. Martyniuk</b>  |
| <b>Grade 1</b>               | <b>Mrs. Dietrich</b>   |
| <b>Kindergarten</b>          | <b>Mrs. Herron &amp; Ms. Veber<br/>Mrs. Halabecki &amp; Mrs. Etherington</b> |
| <b>French</b>                | <b>Mme. Turkoski</b>   |
| <b>French and Prep</b>       | <b>Ms. Belanco</b>   |
| <b>Learning Resource</b>     | <b>Mrs. Rypma</b>  |
| <b>Teacher-Librarian</b>     | <b>Mrs. Cowan</b>  |
| <b>Custodial</b>             | <b>Mr. Torelli &amp; Mrs. Head</b>   |
| <b>Educational Assistant</b> | <b>Mr. Moya, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Powell</b>                                     |
| <b>Secretaries</b>           | <b>Mrs. Baxter</b>   |
| <b>Principal</b>             | <b>Mrs. Magnani</b>  |



## School Day Schedule:



|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>8:30 a.m.</b>  | <b>Staff on yard duty</b>                         |
| <b>8:40 a.m.</b>  | <b>School day begins</b>                          |
| <b>10:40 a.m.</b> | <b>Nutrition Break &amp; Recess<br/>(40 min.)</b> |
| <b>11:20 a.m.</b> | <b>Classes resume</b>                             |
| <b>1:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>Nutrition Break &amp; Recess<br/>(40 min.)</b> |
| <b>1:40 p.m.</b>  | <b>Classes resume</b>                             |
| <b>3:00 p.m.</b>  | <b>Dismissal</b>                                  |



## PLEASE RETURN PROMPTLY !!!

This week, we will be sending home student information and inclement weather forms. Please make any necessary changes, sign and return to the school as soon as possible. Remember to notify the office if any of this information changes throughout the year. Please remember to include more than one contact number in case of emergencies.



- If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, please call the school and leave a message. The answering machine is on twenty-four hours a day. Please call **519-759-8682**.
- If your child has an appointment, please call the office in advance or send a note or e-mail your child's teacher. You can contact teachers through the school website. This will help to eliminate calls to the office and class disruptions.

**We have a very busy office so please minimize the calls to our office for urgent circumstances only. Our secretary cannot deliver personal messages to classes. After school arrangements need to be made with your children in advance.**

**Thanks for your assistance in advance !!**



## Accident Insurance Requirements for Students

Student accident coverage is recommended and voluntary for parents to consider for their child. It is important for parents to understand that the Board does not provide insurance for students against any accidental death, disability, dismemberment or medical expenses that might occur as a result of accident during school activities, including sporting events and field trips.

Insure My Kids protection plan is made available to parents, at low cost, to provide benefits for dental injuries and other accidents which may occur through participating in high-risk activities. In fact, there are options in the package for coverage outside of school hours including holidays and weekends. Please see the brochure for information or visit [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com).

Many parents may have accidental coverage as part of their employers benefit plan. It's important for parents to review their plans to make sure they have the necessary coverage for high-risk activities. Parents may want to consider purchasing additional personal coverage to reduce the anxiety associated from an injury to their child.

Grand Erie District School Board requires that all parents declare whether or not they have accident insurance. A declaration form is being sent home at the beginning of the school year for parent/guardian review and signature.



## Sign-In Policy

When you enter the school, you must sign in at the office and be sure to wear our visitor pass when in the school.

This assures students and staff that the adult in the building has permission to be in the school. If you do not wear a visitor pass, staff will ask you to go to the office to sign in.

We have these policies in place as we make every effort to keep your children safe while at school.



# Meet The Teacher Night

We look forward to seeing you on September 22nd from 5:30 to 7:00 for our BBQ and meet the teacher event. This is a great way to meet the "Creature" who will be teaching your child this year and to see your child's classroom for the year.

To make this event more manageable, we have Strode's who will B.B.Q for us. Hamburgers will be \$4.50, hot dogs \$3.50 and drinks \$1.00.

**This is a celebration of a new beginning and we encourage the whole family to partake in this fun night. The school will once again be open as we will be showcasing your children's classrooms throughout the night.**

**We hope to make this event an exciting one for parents and children.**



## Monthly Newsletters Available Online and E-Mailed

In order to be environmentally-friendly and to better communicate, all teacher and school newsletters will be posted on the school's website and/or be e-mailed to you directly. If you wish to receive the newsletters via e-mail, **please fill out and return the form below.** Our website is: **<http://granderie.ca/brierpark>**



The school newsletter and teacher's classroom websites can be found with the above link. School newsletters will be on the website during the first week of every month.

If you do not have access to the internet and require a paper copy, please contact our secretary, Mrs. Baxter.

Cut here and return form below

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### Newsletter and Teacher Contact Information

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher's Name:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Your E-Mail Address:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Homework

With the start of the new school year, many students will notice a slightly increased workload contingent upon their new grade at school. As parents, you can help them with the discipline required to focus on their studies. Following are a few tips that may be helpful:

- Set a regular time for homework
- Provide a quiet space for study
- Remove distractions - including the phone and TV
- Make certain your children have the support and resources they need to study. These might include a ride to the library, access to a computer, or special supplies.
- Help your children with their homework- but don't do it for them.
- Read to your children - especially when they're very young. Studies show that children whose parents read to them, do better in school.



## Behaviour Code and Dress Code

Please take the time to read and review the behaviour code and dress code with your child throughout the year. They are located in the student agendas as well as on the school website.



Rules are in place in order to keep your children safe and to allow us to promote a learning environment where children thrive.

Our goal is to provide the best education for your children. We want to equip your children with the skills they need to become good citizens in life.

## Student School Agendas

All of our students, from Kindergarten to grade eight will receive an agenda. They will be different in content and size, depending on the division. **The cost for agendas is \$4.00. We encourage you to pay using School Online Banking.**

Agendas are used to inform parents of events, homework, and is a useful communication tool between parents and teachers.

Please make sure to check these nightly and please sign, if requested by the teacher to do so.



# Kindergarten Parking

Please be advised that there is NO drop-off in the staff parking along the fence. Staff parking will strictly be for **STAFF ONLY**. Drop-off is at the front of the school in the roundabout. Since our roundabout will be a drop-off area, we ask that you please park along the roundabout, have the students get out of the car right onto our sidewalk and that you walk your child right to the gates and sign them in or out quickly so that other parents may do the same.



# ONLINE PAYMENTS IS HERE!

For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of Cash & Cheques coming into our school. School related expenses are now available online for you to make payment. This process allows you to go online and view our hot lunch orders, your child's field trips, and you can easily pay for all these with only a click of a button.

Please take the time to sign up as we have many school items already on there for our September start-up.



**Parents please register!**

Here's how:

- Step 1: Go to this website: <https://106.schoolcashionline.com>
- Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following 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.