
NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message

What a busy fall we are having! Choir Clubs, Volleyball Teams, CMS News Crew, Yearbook Teams and Grade 5 & 6 Mini MAC (Making a Change) are all in full swing! And our spirit week was a lot of fun with many students dressing up in super creative outfits!

Fundraiser - Our first fundraiser of the year is starting! We will be selling Bothwell Cheese. The fundraiser will be going towards the ongoing development of our playground. The cheese fundraiser begins on November 6 and will run to November 21. We expect the cheese to be delivered on December 9, just in time for Christmas Break!

Lost and Found - Our Lost and Found is overflowing! Students and parents who are wondering where that pair of shoes, waterbottle or jacket went are encouraged to check out all the items that we have laid out in our Town Square area! We hope to reunite these items with their owners.

Parent Teacher Conferences - Parent (Caregiver) Teacher Conferences will be held on the evening of Wednesday, November 19. These meetings are held before Term 1 report cards are sent home. We want to have the opportunity for parents/caregivers to hear about their child's learning so that encouragement and conversations with students can occur and have impact prior to report cards. Parents/caregivers will be invited to sign up on Parent Portal for an in person meeting. We will send out an email to all parents/caregivers when the system is open for your bookings. Meetings on this evening are short, 10 minutes in length. As always, if you have questions or concerns before the Parent Teacher evening, please connect with your child's teacher at any time.

Online Safety - As children spend time online, parents are sometimes left wondering how to support them in a way where they can remain safe. [Protectkidsonline.ca](https://www.protectkidsonline.ca) is a resource set up by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection and it has some good tips for parents. Another resource that can help parents understand more about the apps and games their children are using is [Raising Digitally Responsible Youth: A Guide for Parents and Caregivers](#). We do sometimes hear that students are connecting with strangers online through Roblox, Minecraft, Discord, Snapchat and other apps. Sometimes these interactions are concerning. We also have heard that students can create multiple SnapChat accounts or Instagram accounts. Their parents know of one account (and monitor that one), but the other accounts are secret. We encourage parents to have a safe space in the house for your child's electronics to be stored in the overnight periods (other than their child's bedroom). Many parents have found this has a positive impact on their child's sleep and mental health.

Assembly - We are looking forward to our Remembrance Day Assembly on November 7. Unfortunately, with 600 students plus staff in attendance, we don't have space for parents/caregivers and families to attend. Our apologies.

Concerts - Christmas Concerts are being planned! Our Gr 7 & 8 band concert will be on Wednesday, December 3 at 7:00 pm. Our Grade 5 concert will be on Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00 pm. There will be an additional concert in the afternoon of December 10 for the extended families of Grade 5 students. More information will be sent home regarding the start time for the afternoon concert.

Merrilee Plett - Principal
Candace Campbell - Vice-Principal

Important Dates:

Nov 6 Bothwell Cheese Fundraiser begins
Nov 7 Remembrance Day Assembly (not open to the public)
Nov 10 PD/Admin Day - no classes
Nov 11 Remembrance Day - no classes
Nov 19 Parent/Teacher Conferences
Nov 21 Bothwell Cheese Fundraiser ends
Dec 3 Band Concert at 7:00 pm
Dec 5 Term 1 Report Cards available on Parent Portal
Dec 9 Bothwell Cheese Delivery
Dec 10 Gr 5 Christmas Concert (in the afternoon and at 7:00 pm)
Dec 19 Last Day of Classes
Jan 5 First Day of Classes

School Information:

Biking and Walking Safety - We have a crossing guard at the Hespeler/Barkman/Ashford intersection at 8:30 a.m. Please ask your child(re) to time their walk to school in order to arrive at that intersection after 8:30 a.m.

Lost and Found - We have an ever growing collection of sweaters and jackets in our lost and found. Students and parents are invited to check out if any of those belong to them!

Communication - It is always a balance between communicating too much (and filling up your in boxes) and not enough. We try to find the right balance. You can also find school information on:

Our School Website - www.cms.hsd.ca

Our Instagram Feed - [clearspringhsd](https://www.instagram.com/clearspringhsd)
