



PARENTSPEAK

Dates to remember:	October 11 - Parent Council meeting, 7pm, in the school library November - Yard cleanup and Ski/Skate sale (stay tuned for details!)
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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Amy Hannah is enjoying getting to know Hopewell's teachers, staff and families. After a hectic first day, she and VP Trish Stogran are thinking ahead to how they can make next year's school start run more smoothly. Ms. Hannah understands that class reorganization can be a shock, and is working to handle changes as carefully as possible, in order to inform and support students and families as best possible.

Grade 7/8 students may now go off property 5 days a week. After the board required Hopewell to shift to a 5-day system, Ms. Hannah consulted with others on how to best manage lunch supervision and clarity for students going off property. Ultimately, occasional off property days would have been too confusing and difficult to manage, so students may now go off property 5 days a week. However, students can also now decide daily whether to go off property or to stay at school and use the dedicated gr. 7/8 room to eat.

Thank you to volunteers helping with cross-country running for grades 3-6. Touch football is also starting. As well, Hopewell has a renewed math strategy. Key point people within the intermediate staff will get special training and time to enrich math teaching at Hopewell.

CARING FOR OUR YARD

We are happy to see our new trees have survived their first year in our new playground! In order to keep the new trees growing and thriving for years to come, we ask that you please talk with your children about the importance of respecting the trees and surrounding yard infrastructure. There has been some damage to trees and their protective cages over the year, likely a result of students not understanding how much harm can come to a young tree from picking at leaves and needles, rattling cages and swinging on limbs. Please remind children that in a small yard filled with many students, many small actions can add up to damage the trees and cages. We need strong support from caregivers to make sure this message is communicated to children, especially after school hours. We appreciate your help in ensuring that many generations of Hopewell students can enjoy the yard that our community rallied so hard build!



BUDGET COMMITTEE UPDATE

We are recruiting Budget Committee members in order to review budget requests and make recommendations to council. Please come to October's meeting to join this important committee, which helps shape council priorities for this year! At September's meeting, treasurer Karen Goodrich gave an overview of fundraisers and expenses. **Fundraising:** Pizza and Subway are Hopewell's key fundraisers, and on track for this year. Volunteers have also stepped up to sell grocery cards this year - families purchase gift cards to



spend on groceries and Hopewell PS gets 5%. Some other ideas: E-Waste collection, beach party event, book sale, ski-skate-bike sale, Subway spring fundraiser, Fury/67s fundraiser. **All of these great ideas need people power to make happen!** We will discuss possible ideas at future council meetings, and advise how you can help to make things a success.

Expenses: Our schoolyard requires regular maintenance, which sometimes requires more funds than the board provides. For example, while we have basic cages around newly planted trees, the yard committee suggests purchasing better cages to help protect trees in the busiest areas. As well, compost and watering will help ensure healthy trees and plantings.

Parent council also supports curriculum enrichment at Hopewell PS. Each division decides together how to spend part of parent council's contribution; in the past, funds have gone to support things like guest educators, field trips or art supplies. Council funds have also traditionally supported Hopewell's Grade 5 Cross-Country ski trip, which has been enjoyed by students, teachers and parents alike, as well as Gr. 8 graduation, year-end breakfast, and other minor expenses.



Please email Lindsay Lemon at lindsaylemonyukes@hotmail.com to help deliver pizza to hungry kids. No need to commit to an entire year - simply add your name to the volunteer list and help when you can!

Thanks very much to last year's co-chairs, Daphne Gilbert and Sue Top!

Welcome to this year's parent council executive: Co-chairs, Deborah Gomes-Schultz and Daphne Dumbrille, Treasurer, Karen Goodrich and Secretary, Elina Hill. Please come to our next council meeting, and find out how you can get involved! There are a number of open positions, for example:

Hopewell needs a new Co-Treasurer, preferably someone who might be willing to learn the ropes from Karen and serve as treasurer in future years.
This is Karen's last year at Hopewell.



Hopewell's Safe and Caring Committee is looking for members to help plan events and initiatives for 2016-17. Please email Heather at shnbarrett@gmail.com to learn more.

REMINDER from safe arrival callback volunteers: Please call 613-239-2218 when your child is absent or late, even if you have sent a note to the teacher, to help make things easier for volunteers.

If you haven't already, email us at ParentSpeak@gmail.com to receive upcoming newsletters.