



106 Chestnut Street
Brantford, Ontario
N3T 4C6
519-752-8232
granderie.ca/dufferin

Principal

Andrea Smith

Office Staff

Melanie Banner

Donna Brown

octobre/October 2022

As September draws to a close, it is hard to believe that we have been back to school for an entire month! Thank you to our staff, students, families, support personnel, and community partners for helping us get the school year off to a great start! It was great to meet so many of our families at our Meet the Staff night. A special thanks to DPC for organizing the pizza.

As we approach the Thanksgiving weekend holiday, we hope you will all have the opportunity to relax, refresh and take a moment to reflect on all we have to be thankful for.

Yours in cooperation,

Mme A. Smith
Principal



October 5-World Teacher Day
October 6-Gr. 4/5 class to Norfolk Fair
October 7-PD Day (No school for students)
October 10-Thanksgiving Day (School Closed)
October 12-Immunization Clinic in the gym (gr. 7&8),
Pizza Day, Cross Country Meet, DPC virtual meeting at
6:30 p.m. (email Mme Smith for the link if you would like to join)
October 19-Pita Pit Day
Oct. 14-KGN to Brantwood Farms
Oct. 19-Pita Pit Day
Oct. 20-Crunch Day, Bus Evacuation Training
October 21-Gr. 1 and 1/2 to Brantwood Farms
October 26-Pizza Day
October 28-Photo Retake Day
October 31-Hallowe'en
Friday, November 4-Progress Reports go home



Health and Safety –COVID Updates

Following the latest guidance from the Ministry of Education, there are no COVID related restrictions in effect at Grand Erie schools. Staff and students are no longer required to complete the COVID-19 screening self-assessment prior to attending school or work; however, anyone who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms (see the Ontario self-assessment tool for a list), or symptoms of any other illness, should not come to school, but remain at home until well. Thank you to all families for their continued cooperation with this. Rapid tests are still available from the office upon request.

Puppies and Pets on the Playground

Families should be aware that pets are not allowed on the playground during school hours, including arrival and dismissal periods. Our primary concerns for safety include: students with allergies and the possibility of students hurting pets or vice versa. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in this matter.



Snack Program

Our snack program is up and running. Each day, all students have access to healthy snacks if they are interested.

We are thankful for the support of Brant Food for Thought for providing funding for this program. We will participate in Crunch Day on October 20th, as part of our fundraising requirements for the snack program. Each student will be provided with an apple for this event. Donations for this event, and general donations to the snack program can be made through School Cash Online.

Thank you to Mme Farrow and her team of volunteers for their contributions to the program. If you are available to volunteer with the snack program (before school), please contact the office.

We are also grateful to President's Choice who have provided a grant to purchase a new freezer for the program.

Dental Screening



The Brant County Health Unit will be conducting dental screening for students in JK, SK, Gr. 2 and Gr. 7 on December 2. Full details are included in the attached letter. If you want your child to opt out, please follow the instructions in the letter from the BCHU. You will need to communicate this directly with them.

Terry Fox Run

Thanks to all families who sent in donations for the Terry Fox Run. Despite our run being cut short by the rain, our students gave their best effort. Our school raised almost \$1700. Bravo!



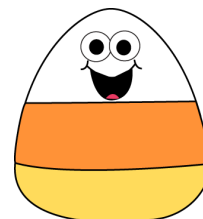
Help is Here

Our staff is always here to help work through any concerns. If you have a classroom concern, your first point of contact for support is the classroom teacher. The following link outlines the Concern Resolution process in Grand Erie:

<https://www.granderie.ca/board/familysupports/parent-concern>

Hallowe'en

Some classes may participate in Hallowe'en activities on October 31. Teachers will share plans for their class. A reminder that any treats sent to school must be nut free. In



addition, the Brant County Health Unit requires all food served in a school be prepared in either a commercial or health unit inspected kitchen. We are not permitted to share items that are baked/prepared at home.

Costumes: Students must avoid using identities and cultures as costumes. This includes appropriative costumes/cultural stereotypes (i.e., cultural garments), black/brown face, transphobic costumes (i.e., man dressed as a woman), body-shaming and objectifying costumes, and costumes that joke about situations that have caused harm (i.e., COVID pandemic). Such costumes perpetuate stereotypes and can cause harm that can further marginalize and oppress community members. As an alternative to a costume, students may also wear orange and black.

Parade: We will have the traditional parade through the school and around the playground. Families will be able to watch from outside the fence line (weather permitting). In the event of inclement weather, we will only do the inside parade and will not be able to accommodate viewing for families. Details regarding timeframe will be shared closer to the date.



Coin de l’immersion/Immersion Corner

Learning in and Early Immersion Program:

Just as reading in one’s mother tongue depends on the ability to understand and to use that language orally, so must immersion students first develop a basic knowledge of French. In the beginning years, there is a strong emphasis on developing oral language skills (understanding of oral French, which will lead to production or speaking some French).

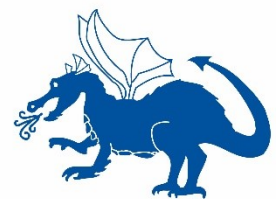
As students develop and strengthen their oral language skills, they will be able to apply these to reading and writing. Even if you do not speak, read, or write French, you can still support your child at home. Here are some basic phonics comparisons between English and French:

- most consonants have the same sound in English and French
- vowel sounds differ significantly between English and French

- h is always silent in French
- an s at the end of a plural word in French is silent
- qu sounds like K (and not kw as in English)
- th is pronounced t
- ch is pronounced like English sh
- l is pronounced like long e in English (as in bee)
- y sounds like yes, even at the end of a word
- eau and au have the same long o sound
- accents change the sounds of vowels

As you support your child in developing their abilities as a reader, you might consider talking about the similarities and differences in the languages. The ability to identify similarities and differences between sounds and the sequence of sounds within a word is an important skill in learning to read and write.

(Adapted from “Yes, you can help? Information and Inspiration for French Immersion Parents, Alberta Learning).



Head Lice

Parents are asked to check their child's head regularly in order to keep head lice under control. The Grand Erie District School Board recognizes pediculosis is not a health or education issue but is a community concern and a social nuisance. Pediculosis needs to be managed in the best interest of students through the partnership of parent(s)/guardian(s), students and the school community. The treatment and eradication of head lice is ultimately the parent(s)/guardian(s)' responsibility. "Students diagnosed with live head lice do not need to be sent home early from school; they can go home at the end of the day, be treated, and return to class after appropriate treatment has begun. Nits may persist after treatment, but successful treatment should kill crawling lice." (Centres for Disease Control and Prevention). Brant County Health Unit website at: <http://bit.ly/2dxDj6s>

When a case of headlice is detected in our school, we will follow the procedures outlined in SO101:

[SO101: Pediculosis \(Headlice\)](#)

This procedure includes a checklist that families must complete and return to school whenever a case of headlice has been identified.

School Safety Procedures

We have conducted our 3 Fire Drills for the fall, following all COVID protocols. Thank you to staff and students for following our procedures for these. These practices are mandatory for all schools in GEDSB.

Information and Updates

All information and updates will be sent out through our *School Messenger* system. To ensure you are receiving information, please check you junk/clutter email.



Parking Reminders

The parking lot is reserved for staff only. **Drop off on site/in the parking lot is not permitted between 8:30 and 8:50 am. Pick up on site/in the parking lot is not permitted between 3:10 and 3:30.**

Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

Just a reminder when parking on the streets around the school, it is important to be respectful of our school neighbours and to follow the parking rules:

- on Chestnut St. (Main Entrance), parking and stopping are only permitted along 1 side of the road (along the sidewalk directly in front of the school)
- on Edwin St. (behind the school): keep the side of the sidewalk along the edge of the playground clear as this is our bus drop off zone. We currently have 7 buses that transport students in this area
- please do not block driveways or use our neighbours' driveways to turn around



PARENT AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION FAIR

Wondering about programs and services available in your community for your children and family?

Come visit the Information Fair, hosted by the Best Start Network, a group of community partners that are a dedicated part of a system of supports for children and families in Brantford and Brant County, to learn about programs and services available.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 6, 2022

3:00 -6:30PM

EarlyON, 30 Bell Lane Brantford

Fun for all to enjoy with lots of entertainment, activities and giveaways!

Transportation is available if needed. Please call 519-759-3833 for details.

Interpreters Are Available

If you require an interpreter at this event please fill out the registration form on the back of this flyer

This event is made possible thanks to the funding from the City of Brantford and the Brantford Immigration Partnership.



Registration Form for an Interpreter

Participants Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone Number: Click or tap here to enter text.

Email Address: Click or tap here to enter text.

Please check off which language you require an interpreter for:

Arabic

Punjabi

Tagalog

Spanish

Vietnamese

Ukrainian

Other Click or tap here to enter text.

Please email this form back to Barb Vanry at bvanry@eycbrant.ca