



Senator Gibson Gazette

September 2016

From the Office

Welcome Back!

The Senator Gibson Staff would like to welcome back our returning students and families and offer a special welcome to our new students and families as they join our school community. We hope that everyone had a wonderful summer. A big thank you goes out to Mr. De Silva Piques and his team of caretakers, for getting the school in such great shape for school opening!

To keep you informed about the many activities and events at Senator Gibson, we will prepare a newsletter each month. In thinking GREEN, we will be posting the newsletter online, with paper copies available at your request. Please check out our website at <http://senatorgibson.dsbns.org/>. Please take a moment to write a note to the office if you wish to continue to receive paper copies of the newsletter.

We have an open door policy and encourage you to phone or come into the school and discuss any issues and/or concerns that may arise. We believe that our school should not only be a place where we educate your child but a place where we can come together as a community and support one another. In working together to ensure the success of all students and we are positive that we can accomplish great things. Have a great September!!!

Medically At-Risk Students

There are students who attend our school that suffer from **anaphylaxis**. Anaphylaxis is an allergic reaction that affects 2 or more organs, so severe that in some cases it can be life threatening. Its onset is so swift that from time of exposure to death can be as short as 15 minutes.

We have children with severe allergies to **peanuts, nuts and nut products, shellfish, bananas and eggs. Just touching or smelling one of these allergens can cause a life threatening anaphylactic reaction for students at our school.** Prevention is the best approach! We ask your cooperation in using discretion when sending food to the school. We also request that you speak to your child about these allergies and about the importance of washing their hands with soap and warm water.

As a staff, in accordance with the parents of these students, we have developed a plan to deal with this situation. We know that if we work together, we can help to create a safe learning environment for all of our students. If you have any questions about this request or about anaphylaxis, please call the school office.

On behalf of these students, their parents, and the Senator Gibson Public School staff, we thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Medication for Students

Any medication that is to be administered to students during school hours must have an authorization form completed by the parent/guardian AND prescribing physician, even if it is over the counter medication. These forms are available at the school office or on the school website and must be updated on a yearly basis. The medication must be sent to school in the original container with the label attached.

Senator Gibson
4944 John Street
Beamsville, ON
L0R 1B6

P (905) 563-7431
<http://senatorgibson.dsbns.org/>

Principal
Mr. Simon Hancox

Vice Principal
Mrs. Kelly Phillips

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Early Release Day

Friday, Sept. 16th
Students will be
dismissed at 11:55am

Book Fair

September 19th-23rd

Welcome Back BBQ

September 21st
...details to follow

Photo Day

September 28th

SAC Meeting

September 27th @
6 p.m.

Childcare is available

back to
School



Senator Gibson Staff

2016/17

Mr. S. Hancox - Principal
Mrs. K. Phillips - Vice-Principal
Mrs. G. Nelson - Admin. Assistant
Mrs. J. Guinan - Admin. Assistant
Mr. K. DeSilva - Caretaker
Mrs. E. Pitre - Fundamental Skills
Mrs. S. Bosnic - Kindergarten
Mrs. N. Bannister - DECE
Ms. J. Stayzer - Kindergarten
Mrs. S. Thomson - DECE
Mrs. C. Bogucki - Kindergarten
Ms. Lindsey Christie - DECE
Mrs. H. Nicitopolous - Kindergarten
Mrs. S. Brockwell - DECE
Mrs. T. Orlando - Grade 1
Mr. J. Haynes - Grade 1
Mrs. C. Kocis - Grade 1/2
Mrs. T. Troup - Grade 2
Mrs. C. Scott - Grade 2 (.75)
Mrs. K. Mills - Grade 2 (.25)
Mrs. J. Grosvenor - Grade 3
Ms. E. Vanderwal - Grade 3
Ms. S. Martinello - Grade 3
Mrs. S. Continelli - Grade 4
Mr. G. Rivett - Grade 4
Mr. S. Schneider - Grade 5
Mr. M. Pearson - Grade 5
Mrs. T. Lewis - Grade 6
Mrs. L. Sutherland - Grade 6
Mrs. S. De Silva Piques - Grade 7/8
Mr. S. Manfredi - Grade 7/8
Mrs. M. Brouwer - Grade 7/8
Ms. S. Pillay - LRT
Ms. N. Maheu - LRT
Mr. M. Bolibruk- Phys Ed. & Health
Mme. J. Poloniato - French
Mrs. D. Blaney - Music/Prep
Mr. B. Gooderham - Prep
Ms. A. Moyer - Prep
Mrs. A. Candler - E.A.
Mrs. C. Holubowsky - E.A.
Mrs. J. Klompaker - E.A.
Mrs. M. Ryan - EA.
Mrs. K. Barton - Instructional Coach

2016/17 Bell Times

****Please note that our bell times have changed this year.** Students will be supervised beginning at **8:20 a.m.** and the entry bell will ring at **8:35 a.m.**

8:35 a.m.	Entry Bell
8:35 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Block 1
10:15 a.m. - 10:55 a.m.	Nutrition/Fitness Break
10:55 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.	Block 2
12:35 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Nutrition/Fitness Break
1:15 p.m. - 2:55 p.m.	Block 3
2:55 p.m.	Dismissal
2:55 p.m. - 3:10 p.m.	Outside Duty

Information Sent Home

Over the first week, a considerable amount of information will be sent home to you. **Please carefully read over the material and return all forms promptly.** Thank you!

Please find a PERSONALIZED information sheet in the package. For our records and your child's safety, **carefully** check all the data on the form and make any necessary corrections/updates. Please return this form to school as soon as possible so your child's records can be updated.

Please note...we feel very strongly about the importance of the use of student organizers. These will be available to all students at a minimal cost of \$5.

Early Release Day

Friday, September 16th, all students will be dismissed at 11:55 a.m. Buses will arrive at 12p.m. There will be no afternoon classes for students. All staff will be involved in professional activities. Please mark this day on your calendar so day-care arrangements can be made if necessary.

Absences / Lates

To ensure the safety of all our students it is important for the school to know if a child will be late or absent from school. Please call the office (905 563 7431) prior to 8:30 a.m. and talk to Mrs. Nelson or Mrs. Guinan or leave a message on our answering machine which is available 24/7.

Entry / Dismissal & Student Pick-Up

Students will be shown which doors they are expected to enter and exit. This will become routine for students quickly in September.

If you are picking up your son/daughter from school, we ask that you **wait outside their exit door** or instruct them where to meet you. If older students are picking up younger siblings, they too are expected to follow these procedures. This is **for the safety of your children**. Also for safety reasons, doors will be locked after our morning bell and entry shall be through the main doors on the buzzer system. **All visitors must be acknowledged and sign in at the office.**

We appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Also, students are expected to go directly home once dismissed unless they have a written note. We want to ensure all our students arrive home safely. Please remind your children of this policy.

If you are driving to pick up your son/daughter, please adhere to the parking signs and laws. Be aware of bus loading zones. **Just one vehicle parked illegally can cause quite a back-up and jeopardize the safety of our students.** It may be safest to park your car and walk to drop your child off or meet your child upon dismissal. The church parking lot adjacent to the school yard is available for short term parent parking.



Class Placements

As a result of privacy regulations, we will not be posting the class lists before the first day of school. Students will be directed to gather in grade areas and their teachers will come out and organize students into classes at 8:25a.m. on September 6th. Please remember that class organization is tentative until the 3rd week in September and no changes will be made until that time.

MILK PROGRAM

Please note that our milk program will begin in October...more details to follow.

Kiss and Ride & Extra Parking

We have made some changes to our parking lot and added 12 spots at the back of the school. We have also added a Kindergarten Kiss N' Ride at the front of the school. This is for Kindergarten students only. The Grade 1-8 Kiss and Ride is still along the back parking lot at the stop sign. We will have staff directing traffic for the first few weeks to ensure a smooth transition. We hope that the extra parking and Kiss and Ride will help reduce congestion and improve safety and flow of traffic at the school.



School Cash Online

We know you have many different priorities competing for your attention each day. To respect your time, we'd like to help you save both time and effort. You'll be able to approve permission forms and pay for school items, such as field trips, food orders, Spirit Wear, etc., online. It takes just five minutes to register for this service. You can access the service by visiting our school web-site and clicking on "School Cash Online". You will need your child's OEN number to register. It can be found on their most recent report card. You can use School Cash Online with confidence; it is a safe and secure portal.

Using School Cash Online, you may never have to search for spare change again! Please contact the office if you require any support. Thank you!



Dear Gibson Families,

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! What better way to promote reading to our students than by supporting this important literary event.

We invite your entire family to participate by purchasing the latest and greatest in children's books. Your support of this vital literary event is a key part of helping promote a love of reading while allowing us to obtain new books and resources for our library and classrooms.

You'll find hundreds of quality books at our **Book Fair** with a wide assortment for all reading levels. Visit the Scholastic Book Fairs website at www.scholastic.ca/bookfairs to read reviews of the Featured Books. **You can also watch book trailers and author videos with your child on the BookTube page.**

You will soon receive a Book Fair flyer that provides a preview of only a FEW of the many books available to purchase at our Fair. **Scan the QR code on the front of the flyer with the QR reader on your device to get more detailed information about these books.**

Don't forget to mark the Book Fair dates on your calendar! We look forward to seeing you during our Scholastic Book Fair and thank you, in advance, for supporting this great literary event. Thank you for believing in books and the impact of reading on your child's future.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Phillips

Book Fair Dates: **Monday September 19th (afternoon) through Friday September 23rd, 2015**

Times: **Monday 3:00-4:00 pm and Tuesday to Friday 8:30 am - 4:00 pm**

Location: **Senator Gibson Library**

We accept cash, Visa, MasterCard and American Express. **Please note we can NOT accept debit cards.**



Save the date!

**Our Welcome Back BBQ will be
Wednesday, September 21st
from 5-7 p.m. ... more details to
follow!**

Student Photo Day



On Wednesday, September 28^h, Edge Imaging Photography will be coming to Senator Gibson School to take student and class photos. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar and **PRACTICE THOSE SMILES!!! Retakes will be done on Nov. 1st.**



Library Volunteers Needed!

Mrs. Phillips is looking for volunteers to help keep our library neat and organized throughout the school year. If you have some time to spare, please contact the office. Once volunteers are confirmed, you will be contacted about a schedule. Thank you!!

We love our volunteers and couldn't do what we do without them! As noted on the first-day packages, all volunteers must complete an information form that gives us contact and medical information. This applies to all volunteers including drivers to sporting events.



School-Based Immunization Clinics

Did you know that every year in Canada, 1,400 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and more than 400 will die from it?

Almost all cervical cancers are caused by a Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection. The HPV vaccine is an important medical advancement that makes cervical cancer a preventable disease.

Once again this year, the HPV vaccine called Gardasil® will be offered free to **all female Grade 8 students** through Niagara Region Public Health's school-based immunization clinics. In addition, the Hepatitis B vaccine and the Meningococcal vaccine called Menactra® will be offered free to **all Grade 7 students**.

Parent/student information packages will be coming home with your child in September. Clinic dates and times will be announced through the school office.

For more information, speak to your school nurse or call the Vaccine Preventable Disease Program at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7425.

School Advisory Committee (SAC)

Our School Advisory Committee is always looking for new members. Our first meeting is Tuesday September 27th at 6:00p.m. Most meetings are approximately one hour and all families are invited to come out and join us.

Student Accident Insurance

Each year a Student Accident Insurance Plan is made available for all students on a voluntary basis. The plan provides protection for **dental damage due to accidents, fracture benefits and other important coverages**, which are **NOT** covered under the Provincial Health Plan. Some parents may have Dental Plan coverage through their work but many of these plans are limited in one way or another, while this accident coverage is not. You should compare to make sure you have the coverage you need or desire.

Under the Education Act, the Board is not permitted to provide coverage for accidents to pupils, therefore, the Board recommends consideration of this plan to any parent who wishes to obtain this kind of insurance. Although the policy has all the advantages of a group plan, it is essentially a direct contract between the parent and the insurance company.



Details of these plans are described on the enclosed application form. If you require further information, you may contact **Reliable Life at Box 2046, Hamilton, L8N 9Z9 or call toll free at 1-800-465-0661**. If you wish to subscribe to this insurance, please complete the form and mail it *directly* to Reliable Life Insurance Company in the enclosed stamped envelope before **September 29th, 2014**. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.**

You may also enroll online at www.insuremykids.com

(for all plans except the \$3.50 basic plan).

If the enrolment form for the Student Accident Insurance Plan has not been received or it has been misplaced, please contact the school office.

September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>"You're off to great places, today is your day, your mountain is waiting, so get on your way!"</i></p> <p><i>~ Dr. Seuss</i></p>				1	2	3
4	5 Labour Day	6 	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 EARLY RELEASE DAY  Dismissal at 12pm	17
18	19	20	21 Welcome Back BBQ	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 PHOTO DAY ☺	29	30 Student of the Month Assemblies Primary 8:45 a.m. Jr./Int. 9:25 a.m.	

