

Hadley Junior High School Philemon Wright High School

NEWSLETTER #2

October 29, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians,

IMPORTANT DATES for Hadley and Philemon

October 30 th	Halloween Dance 1:30 – 3:30 Hadley Only
October 30 th	End of Term 1
November 2 – January 22 nd	Term 2
November 12 th	Report Cards & Parent Teacher Interview sheets will be sent home with Students – Hadley Only
November 13 th	Report Cards & Parent Teacher Interview sheets will be sent home with Students – PW Only
November 16 th	Photo Retake Day
November 18 th	Parent Teacher Interviews (5:00 p.m – 8:00 p.m) both Schools
November 19 th - 20 th	P.D. Days both Schools
November 19 th – 20 th	Work Completion Day for students both schools

End of Term 1: October 30th, 2009 is the last day of Term 1. All work needed to be handed in must have been submitted by this day. It is essential that students and parents use the feedback in our first report card to decide on a path for remediation and/or assistance to insure progress in Term 2. It has been a great start to the year and we look forward to a great Term 2. Please refer to the attached Student Support Team document outlining services available to all students, parents and guardians.

H1N1: In order to keep the virus from spreading to more people, if your child becomes ill with fever and symptoms such as cough, sore throat, headache, significant fatigue or muscle aches and pains, we are asking that you **keep your child at home for a period of 7 days after the onset of these symptoms. Also, any children presenting these symptoms at school will be sent home.** For this reason we recommend that you ensure arrangements are made to plan for emergency child care and that we have your updated contact numbers. There are proven ways to help stop the spread of the virus. **Keep children who are sick at home.** This will effectively reduce the number of members of our community becoming sick. **Teach your children to wash their hands several times a day** with soap and water for 20 seconds, especially before eating and after going to the bathroom. There are posters in all of the schools' washrooms instructing students on how to most effectively wash their hands. **Teach your children to cover coughs and sneezes** with tissues or by coughing into the inside of their elbow. There are posters in every classroom with instructions on these techniques. Most viruses are transmitted from a sick person to a healthy person. For this reason, during times of heightened sickness, we are recommending that you **encourage your children not to share food, water bottles and any other products (make-up, clothing, pens, etc.).**

Communications will be posted on Board (www.wqsb.qc.ca), school websites. For more information about the influenza A(H1N1) virus and on how to help prevent its spread, we encourage you to visit the *Pandémie Québec* website (www.pandemiequebec.gouv.qc.ca).

Attendance: We are very proud that we have improved our absentee rate from last year and Hadley & PW look to continue to improve student attendance rates. We strongly believe that regular attendance at school is the first priority for all students. To verify/validate a student's absence please email attendancehadleypw@wqsb.qc.ca or call the school at 819-776-3158 ext. 2307. Please email/call the day of the absence in the morning before 9am. When leaving a message or sending an email, please make certain the message contains: clearly pronounced student's name, parent's name, the school or grade level and the date and reason of absence. We thank you in advance for your cooperation. It is imperative that parents/guardians contact the school to report student absences.

Students to be Picked-Up: If parents/guardians need to pick up a student for an appointment during school hours, please confirm arrangements before students arrive at school.

Students That Are Sick at School: Should a student become ill while at school, parents/guardians will be contacted to come to pick them up. Unfortunately, there is no area for sick students to wait so students exhibiting flu like symptoms or any student requiring transportation home will be required to be picked-up immediately. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardian to insure arrangements for transportation home are made. **Please ensure that we have parent/guardian up-to-date home/work telephone numbers in case of an emergency regarding a student.** The school does not provide bus tickets or give money to students to go home if they are ill. Please email emergency contact information to Debbie Morrison at dmorrison@wqsb.qc.ca

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Area: parents/students are asked not to park in the roundabout at the front of the school entrance because it is intended to be used by parents/guardians in the morning and in the evening to drop-off and/or pick-up students from both schools.

Drug and Alcohol Policy: A reminder to all students and parents/guardians that any use or possession of alcohol or drugs on school grounds and/or during schools hours will result in an Out-of-School Suspension for a minimum of 10 days (this includes all school activities). A second drug or alcohol related suspension within a student's career in our board will result in a suspension and a Discipline Committee hearing scheduled with expulsion from the school board recommended. A suspension will be levied for all Drug paraphernalia which includes rolling papers, etc...

After School Activities: Only students participating in after-school activities may remain at school. Parents and students are reminded to please confirm your transportation arrangements with each other prior to the activity. Students are also reminded that because there are several hours between lunch and the time you will arrive home, it is important to pack a nutritious snack for your after-school activities.

Student progress and success is carefully tracked at Hadley/Philemon. To insure students reach their full potential, we have put supports in place to help students complete their assignments to their best ability.

Student Support Center- Some students have been scheduled into the Student Support Center if teachers have identified them as needing academic support and would benefit from small group instruction. The teachers who are supervising the center could support students with a concept or skill that needs to be further developed, they might organize and schedule the students into mandatory remediation or supervise work completion.

Co-Teaching -At Hadley, we have implemented a Co-teaching model. Co-teaching is an approach that involves two professionals teaching the same class together by sharing their expertise with the students and ensuring that all students' needs are met.

Lunch and Learn – At Hadley, a Lunch and Learn intervention is for students who have not completed their homework. At lunch the students are to bring their lunch to the designated room and stay there for the Lunch period to work on their assignment.

Academic Suspension –Teachers are asked to communicate the most important assignments that need to be completed for them to make a judgement on their competency level throughout the school year. A teacher, youth worker, resource teacher or supervisor will collect the work, the student will be taken out of classes and brought to a quiet room where they can complete their assignments with support if needed. The student will return to class when their assignments are completed.

Work Completion Days - September 25th, October 13th, November 19th, November 20th, February 15th, April 16th, and May 21st have been designated as Work Completion Days. Students who need to complete outstanding assignments will be asked to come to school from 9:00 to 4:00 on the above dates to complete their work.

School Fees: Students who have not paid nor have made arrangements to pay school fees will not be eligible to participate in school activities. Philemon student fees are due by October 30th, 2009.

Bus Conduct: Students must always behave appropriately on school and city buses. We ask that all parents/guardians speak to students regarding their behavior on the bus. Students are asked to stay seated at all times while the bus is in motion. We also remind parents/guardians and students that a student is not permitted to take a bus that he/she is not formally assigned.

Luggage/Large Items: are not allowed on school buses. Article 519.8 of the highway safety code stipulates that students traveling on a school bus may only carry hand luggage that will fit on their laps in order to:

1. Guarantee the driver's freedom of movement and safety at the wheel.
2. Keep all exits clear,
3. Protect all passengers against injuries caused by falling or mishandled articles on the bus.

Children's luggage is the parent's responsibility. The luggage dimension should not exceed (23x40x55 cm) (9x16x22 inches) and there should never be objects protruding out of the bag.

<p>Electronic Devices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will restrict the use of all portable electronic devices (i.e. iPods, cameras, PSPs) and cell phones inside the school. • Parents will reinforce the notion of responsible use of electronic devices with their children. • School staff will model appropriate use of electronic devices and monitor the student use of these at school. Parents will be contacted when necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A student who violates the electronic device policy will have his/her device confiscated. The student will have the device returned after their parents call the school. • A student who repeatedly violates the policy risks having their device confiscated by administration for an extended period of time, the end at which the parent(s) will be asked to retrieve the device at school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suspension of privileges (ie. noon hour, extracurricular activities). • Suspension (Internal/External)
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Special Education Advisory Committee –The SEAC Committee is mandated through the Education Act and advocates on behalf of students and parents of children with special needs. SEAC may advise the School Board on issues which affect children who have a variety of special needs. Next meeting will be held Monday November 2nd @ 7:00 p.m 15 Katimavik St. Gatineau, QC (attached to Symmes/D'Arcy School). Parents of all students with special needs are invited to attend!

Philemon Information

Greece 2010 - There are still a few spots left for this year's March Break trip to Greece. This 9-day trip begins in Athens and will take us around the country to visit the land of the Olympics, olives and Greek gods! The fee includes airfare, private bus, hotel, daily breakfast and dinner, as well as all entrance fees to attractions. If you are in grade 10 or 11 and are interested, please contact Mr. Khan in room 232. He can be reached by email at rkhan@wqsb.qc.ca or by phone at 819-776-3158 ext.2731. Don't miss out on this life changing experience! The deadline to apply is November 10.

Junior Boys Soccer -The Junior Boys Soccer team completed their season on October 23rd. The team had a great season and were competitive in every game. Mr. Falasconi and Mr. Snooks would like to thank all the players and their parent's for all their hard work and support this season.

Cross Country Running 2009 -The Philemon Wright Cross Country Running Team is wrapping up another season. Though we were not able to race in Ontario this year due to lack of numbers, we had a good turnout for the Regional's in Papineauville. Our runners placed extremely well at Regional's with four PWHs runners qualifying for Provincials in Chicoutimi. The runners who qualified for Provincials were Chris McMahan, Carey Pomeroy, Ryan Fahey and Duncan Tommy; all graduating Grade 11's. Hopefully next year we can develop some Grade 9 and 10 runners to take the place of these athletes who have had great running years here at PW. Good luck at Provincials!

