



# Sandwich West Public School Ecole Sandwich Ouest



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Principal: Mrs. L. Bates Vice-Principal: Mrs. T. Dempsey Secretary: Mrs. M. Fummerton Clerk: Mrs. J. Sekulic

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**Please note that there will be a follow-up Newsletter that will be sent home later this week. This newsletter will contain important information about school routines and programs**

### *From the Desk of the Principal and Vice Principal*

Bonjour and Welcome to Sandwich West Public School, home of the Spartans! We are looking forward to beginning another wonderful year at SWPS. On behalf of the staff, we would like to welcome all of our students and families back and extend a special welcome to the new families that are joining us this year.

We are very proud of our school motto that was developed by one of our Spartan families. We feel that our SWPS motto epitomizes our Spartan pride, "SWPS-Standing with Pride & Spirit". We are also very pleased to have our own student work displayed on our agenda again this year. Sandwich West student agendas are provided for students in grades 1 through 8. They are important communication tools between home and school and also provide you with an overview of our school procedures. Please review the

SWPS handbook with your child. If you have any questions regarding our policies and procedures, please contact us at 519-969-1750 and we would be happy to answer your questions.

At Sandwich West, we believe that it is essential to have a school community that focuses on enhancing the home/school connection and honouring our parents as partners in education. We look forward to another amazing school year.

Please know that our doors are always open and we invite you to come and speak with us, whenever you have comments or questions about your child's program or progress.

### Welcome to our New and Returning Sandwich West Spartans!

Mme. Gerges-JK/SK Immersion  
Mme. Barakat (in for Mme. DeLuca)-Grade 2 Immersion  
Mme. Yamashita-Grade 2 Immersion  
Mlle. Lypps-Grade 3 Immersion  
Mme. St. Pierre-Grade 3 Immersion  
Mme. Aiton-Grade 4 Immersion  
Mme. Gray-Grade 5 Immersion  
Mlle Kazoun (in for Mme. Jones-Fox)-Grade 7/8 Immersion  
M Haggarty-Grade 8 Immersion  
Ms. Querqui -EA  
Mrs. Lewis-EA-(in for Mme. Willis)  
Ms. Martin-DSW- (in for Mr. White)

Sandwich West Public School is looking wonderful and this is a result of the time that our staff has spent over the summer getting our classrooms into fantastic shape. We are very pleased about the updated lighting and the brand new bathrooms that were built this summer☺ We want to thank the contractors and Facility Services staff for making sure these were ready for back to school!

#### **A HUGE thank you to:**

- Our custodians Mr. J.P Belair, Ms. E. Lee, Mrs. T. Viens and Mr. K. Telford, for all of your outstanding work this summer to ensure that the school is in fantastic shape leading up to our school year startup..it looks magnifique!
- Our wonderful office team Mrs. M. Fummerton and Mrs. J. Sekulic for greeting our incoming students, staff and parents with a smile and making sure we are ready to start a fabulous school year!
- Our amazing staff for the time you have already spent in school and at home, preparing for our first day back

We look forward to a very fun-filled 2017-2018 school year at Sandwich West Public School, where we are actively engaging in **Building Tomorrow Together- "Every Learner, Everyday/Chaque Apprenant, Tous les Jours"!**

#### **Your Partners in Education,**

**Mrs. L. Bates**

**Principal**

**Mrs. T. Dempsey  
(congrats Ms. McDonald☺)  
Vice-Principal**

## What's Happening at SWPS?



### Classroom Placements for Our Students

Each year, great time and effort is put into determining the appropriate classroom placement for our students. Classroom placement considerations first begin by looking at the number of teachers/classes we will have. The class allotment is based on the number of students enrolled at the school in the spring of the previous school year. Once the staff have been tentatively assigned to the school, the staff along with administration compose the classes to include each student in a class.

Our teachers spent a considerable amount of time during the last few months of the school year discussing class placements and ensuring classroom placement decisions represent our best efforts to support student success.

Classroom placements are a school decision that are based on a number of factors. As a school we work together to ensure that we look at what will work best for all students involved. Students were placed into their new classes after careful thought and consideration by their sending and receiving teachers.

Considerations for placement include classroom dynamics, specific grouping needs such as academic and social, personalities, gender balance and the availability of support services, etc. We always keep in mind, **what are the needs of the children?** when determining which class students will go in.

Please note that class placement requests for a specific teacher or combined/non-combined classes cannot be accommodated at this time, due to the impact that various changes can have on the balance in the classroom.

Students and parents often have questions regarding combined classes. Please see the information attached for your reference.

### GECSB Re-Organization Day-Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Please remember, that there may be times when changes to class placements or teaching staff have to be made, due to the movement of students into and out of our school community. All classroom placements for any student should be considered tentative, until after the first three weeks of school are completed. Class placements will be confirmed the third week of September, when we have our re-organization day. A letter will go home within the first three weeks of school to inform you of any changes to our staffing allocation/classroom assignments.

## How Will A Combined Class Affect My Child?

With a focus on lowering class size and an emphasis on differentiated instructional techniques, the likelihood of combined classes' increases. Combined classes group children from two or more consecutive grades into one classroom. Schools combine classes to meet student learning needs and balance class sizes.

All classrooms include students with a range of abilities and skills. Combined classes are neither better nor worse than single-grade classes. They are simply one of the many ways schools meet students' academic and social development needs. All classrooms whether single-grade or combined, include students performing at a range of achievement levels. In every case, schools strive to create classroom environments that will support the needs of ALL students.

Several studies have found that students in combined classes do just as well as students in single-grade classes. In fact, some students actually do better in language and reading. Canadian studies show that children in combined classes have more opportunities for emotional and social growth. The rich social environment helps students:

- learn how to work on their own and as part of a team
- build leadership abilities as they work together and help each other
- develop decision-making skills and become more self-motivated and responsible
- learn in an environment that reflects the real world. The diverse ideas and opinions of classmates help expand student's perspectives.

If you would like more information about combined classroom settings please visit the Ministry of Education website for the Combined Classroom flyer:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/combinedClassrooms/index.html>

## CHARACTER COUNTS AT SANDWICH WEST PS



Stay Tuned for the date of our upcoming  
SWPS Spirit Assembly!

Parents are always welcome and encouraged to join us☺

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT THE SANDWICH WEST BOUNDARIES**

At Sandwich West Public School we have two separate boundaries for our students enrolled in English and French Immersion. Our French Immersion boundary extends to a larger area than the English program, going from the LaSalle/Windsor Border to Amherstburg (grades 1-8). For English, we share LaSalle with two other schools. These boundaries are not transferable. If, after enrolling your child in French Immersion, you decide to transfer your child to the English program (regardless of grade), the English boundaries must be adhered to and could result in a transfer to the home school in your area. For example, a child living at a certain address on Malden Road could come to SWPS for French Immersion, but may be in Prince Andrew or LaSalle school districts. Please note that there is no 'grandfather clause' nor is there the option of being out of English district when siblings may be in our French Immersion district.

A child in JK and SK English could move into the French Immersion program at SWPS, after careful consideration and consultation with the school, up to September of Grade One.

Before you move, change addresses, or move from one program to another, please consult the school. Also, please use the Geoquery tool, found on the board's website, to check your child's home school for English and for French Immersion.

Parents must make an informed and important decision on the type of language instruction for their children.



<http://www.buskids.ca/>

**Sandwich West Communication Tools**

Don't forget to stay connected to Sandwich West on the web by checking us out on Twitter @SandwichWestPub. Twitter provides you with a regular glimpse into what is happening at SWPS.



For school news updates, school blog and classroom info. check out our website: <https://www.publicboard.ca/school/sandwichwest/Pages/default.aspx>

Our School Council maintains a SWPS Facebook page, as well as uses REMIND to provide with updates!



Check it out for more information at Sandwich West Public School-Parent Council

**Allergy Aware School**

Within our school community there are several students and staff members who have **potentially life-threatening allergies (anaphylaxis)** . **Food allergies are predominately to peanuts, nuts, eggs, egg by-products, fish, berries, pet dander.**

We feel the best way to reduce the accidental exposure to these students and staff is to respectfully ask for the co-operation of the parents/guardians within this school community to **avoid sending peanut butter, eggs or products with peanuts OR nuts and egg by-products listed in the ingredients. We also ask that you keep animal allergies in mind and keep animals/pets at home.**

We appreciate your co-operation and understanding. For more information regarding allergy aware information please feel free to visit [www.anaphylaxis.ca](http://www.anaphylaxis.ca)



**Student Agendas**

This year we are very proud to once again include the unique SWPS agenda highlighting the winning entry from our Agenda Design Contest! This logo was designed by one of our newly graduated Grade 8 students as a part of our continuing focus on celebrating our school community and enhancing school spirit. We are pleased to continue to provide our students in grades 1-8 with these valuable tools. Agendas are our first tool of communication. These books contain important information about SWPS and help improve organizational skills.

