



September 2011

Dear Parents and Other Important Adults,

Happy September! I hope everyone had a safe and relaxing summer. Welcome to Grade 1 in Room 22 at Howard Robertson P.S. Grade 1 will be a very exciting year of change and growth for your child, and I look forward to sharing in the excitement with you.

September is a busy month, with everybody getting back into the habit of attending school every day and learning new school routines. This letter will give you some general classroom information that I hope will assist you in making the transition to a new grade easier.

Entrance and Dismissal

Entrance and dismissal will take place at the Grade 1-2 doors (the double doors closest to the stairs). Children will line up when the warning bell rings at 8:53 a.m. for an 8:55 a.m. entry into the school. They will be dismissed after the bell rings at 3:15 p.m. These times are very busy and teachers' supervision of the children is a priority until 3:40 pm. If you would like to discuss your child's progress or any other concerns, please see me after students are dismissed. or make an appointment so that we can talk at greater length.

Classroom Supplies



All working materials such as pencils, erasers, pencil crayons, crayons, scissors, markers, etc. are provided for your child. We learn about community and team work through sharing these supplies. **I ask that any additional items remain at home.** If you would like to make a donation of school supplies to be shared amongst students in the classroom, these will be gladly accepted.



If possible, please send in one box of kleenex and a set of headphones for use at the listening centre and in the computer lab. (Your child's headphones will be used by your child only. Dollar store headphones are just fine.)

Personal Belongings

All removable clothing such as shoes, boots, coats, mittens, lunch bags and backpacks should be **labeled with your child's name**. Your child will need to be responsible for all of his/her own belongings. Your child is asked to leave a pair of indoor running shoes at school that they are able to put on independently. If your child is unable to do laces independently and quickly, we would ask that they wear Velcro or slip-on shoes until they have mastered this skill.



Accidents happen. If you would like to send a "just in case" bag of clothes to school, please make sure it is labelled with your child's name and we will store it in the classroom.

Mailbags

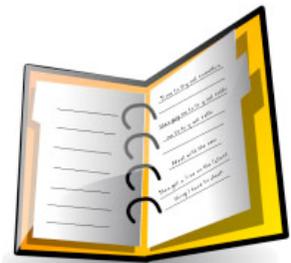


Each day your child will be bringing home a black zippered mailbag that will contain any notes from teachers or the office, completed work, planners and other important information. These folders will go home each night and must be returned each day even if they are empty.

Planners

Howard Roberston orders planners for all students in Grades 1 to 6. Each student is required to have a planner. Planners cost \$8.00. Please send in this money as soon as possible.

Planners are also an important school tool and will go home each night and be returned each morning in the mailbag. We will use planners to record important events, word wall words and also as a communication tool between home and school.



Please sign your child's planner each day so we know that you have seen any important notes or information coming home. *Even if there is nothing written on that date, please sign the planner. This helps keep us all in routine!*

If you wish to write a note, the best place for the note is your child's planner.

Money Sent To School

Please send all money to school with exact change in a sealed envelope or baggie marked with your child's name. This will ensure that we know who is returning money. The best place for money is in the clear pocket in the front of your child's planner.

Painting and Art



Throughout the year, students will be painting and completing craft projects in the classroom. I am collecting old button-down shirts for the class to use as art smocks. **Any donations of button-down shirts would be very much appreciated.** The paint used in our classroom will be liquid tempera. Tempera paint contains a water dispersible pigment and is usually easily removed. If your child comes home with the odd touch of paint on his/her clothing, allow the paint to dry and rub with a stiff brush. Do not try to sponge out. Rinse in cold water and wash as usual.

We will be creating collages at various points in the year. If you have any old magazines or miscellaneous crafting supplies (scrapbooking scraps, extra yarn, etc.) that you would like to donate, I will happily put these items to good use!

Physical Education

Gym days are Day 1, Day 3 and Day 5. Children are asked to wear comfortable clothing to school on gym days. Please make sure your child has running shoes at school every day for QDPA (Quality Daily Physical Activity). **Due to safety issues, your child will have to sit out if he/she doesn't have appropriate running shoes on gym days.**



Connect With Howard Robertson

Our school telephone number is: 519-748-6161
To report an absence, please use our automated attendance line: 519-570-8089 ext. 3396

Our classroom website is:
<http://buehlerclassroom.weebly.com/>
Our school website is: <http://how.wrdsb.on.ca/>



My email address is listed below. Please use written notes in the planner for any urgent communication, since I only check voicemail once per day and emails are often blocked by the school board's SPAM filters.

Enjoy this exciting time in your child's life! It is a year of tremendous growth and wonder. Your support and involvement is crucial and I am eager to work with you to ensure that your child is happy and secure as he/she progresses this year.

I look forward to meeting you soon. If at any time during the school year you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am so pleased to have your child in my classroom and I look forward to a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. L. Buehler Farrar
Grade 1 Classroom Teacher
Phone: 519-748-6161 extension 9096
Email: lyndsay_buehler@wrdsb.on.ca



Pleased To Meet You!

Hello! My name is Lyndsay Buehler Farrar, but in the classroom I go by "Ms. Buehler" (say "B'yoo-ler") or "Ms. B."

I am very proud to work with the amazing community of students, parents and staff at Howard Robertson! This is my sixth year of teaching and my fifth year of teaching Grade 1. I hold a Reading Specialist certification and additional qualifications in Special Education, Technology Integration, and Adapting Curriculum For Second Language Learners.

I live in Kitchener with my husband Dan and our two cats, Dante and Virgil. I like my books thick and my coffee strong. I love to travel and learn about other cultures. I love to make crafts and currently I'm hooked on crochet.