

Essex / Hawthorne Post - September 5, 2025 edition

Wonderful First Week

The first week back has been wonderful. It was full of excitement for students as they engaged in community building activities with new and old friends in their classrooms and outdoors. The energy was positive and vibrant, with high levels of responsible citizenship demonstrated by students.

There were two Meet and Greet events this past week. One was held after school in the library on Thursday, September 4, 2025 whereby Hawthorne School Council met Hawthorne faculty. A special thank you to the Hawthorne School Council for hosting and providing light refreshments. The treats were a hit with faculty!

The second Meet and Greet happened Friday, September 5 whereby Essex and Hawthorne FDK families had an opportunity to meet the faculty and other families with children attending FDK. It was wonderful to see students playing with one another while their parents engaged in networking activities. A big thank you goes out to the Essex and Hawthorne parent councils for hosting this event.

Gymnasium Construction Update

The construction team has been working hard to ready the gymnasium for Monday, September 8. Unfortunately, the team has encountered unexpected delays; the source of the delay is the securing of approvals for the space to be ready for occupancy; it therefore means the gymnasium will be available hopefully later in the week.

Safety Drills

Student safety is a priority at Essex/Hawthorne, and as such, students will practice emergency preparedness procedures, namely fire drills and lockdown drills. We will be having three fire drills in the fall, and three in the spring. There are two lockdown drills, one in the fall and one mid-winter.

The events will be supported by way of PA announcements that inform the students ahead of the actual drill. That is, admin will go on the PA system, and tell students when the drill will happen and that they are safe (as it is a drill).

These drills are scheduled to happen in late September.

Start-Up Forms

As a friendly reminder, families are asked to complete the online start-up forms. This action is needed to ensure that school records reflect the families' direction (e.g., consent for their student to participate in community walks with their class). Thank you for your assistance.

EH Cross Country Team

The Essex Hawthorne Cross Country team will start next Thursday, September 11th. All interested students in Grades 3-8 are welcome to join! We invite family members to join us in running as well! The practices are every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8:00 am to 8:45 am. We are training for the cross-country meet in October. Please meet at Wildwood, by the West Basketball Courts, where teachers will take attendance. We will stretch, walk to Christie Pits, run around the park and return to school for the bell. For more info or to volunteer, please get in touch with erin.corcoran@tdsb.on.ca, eugenie.steyn@tdsb.on.ca, or sonia.artinianaugsburger@tdsb.on.ca

Grade 7/8 Lunch Time Routines

Grade 7 and 8 students have the privilege of enjoying lunch off campus. In support of this process, a form is being sent home so parent/caregiver permission can be granted for their student to leave campus (at lunch). It is ideal if this form was returned to the student's teacher by Monday, September 8.

Grade 6 students will have an opportunity to enjoy lunch off campus on Fridays following March Break 2026. This timeline reflects the importance of the Grade 6 students consistently demonstrating responsibility on campus so that their lunch experience off campus is as positive as it can be.

Correction For Entry and Dismissal for Gr 1-8 Students

Supervision	8:35 am
Morning Entry	8:45 am
Instructional Time	8:50 am
AM Recess	10:10 am – 10:25 am

Lunch	11:35 am – 12:35 pm
Afternoon Entry	12:35 pm
PM Recess	1:55 pm – 2:10 pm
Dismissal	3:20 pm

Entry and dismissal for kindergarten remain the same