

# Prepare for new year...

*Continued from Page 1*

scores – we're still struggling with that – so it will continue to be a focus so we can improve our instruction to ensure that our students are successful," he said, adding that they are also looking at curriculum mapping to make sure there is seamless learning between one grade and the next.

In response to on-going concerns about safety and parking at Robert Little, work is now complete on the sidewalk at the front of the school and parking area at the rear of the school. Tadmán said additional parking is now available on School Lane, the cement block sidewalk that had been heaving was removed and the area black topped at the front of the school, and a student pick-up/drop-off zone has been created at the rear of the school.

Robert Little, with 365 students, has a total staff complement of 35 people including newcomers:

- Ken Mak who will teach a new Grade 2/3 French Immersion class
- Susan Milne, a SERT (Special Education Resource Teacher) who is a maternity leave replacement for Michelle Mattocks.
- Jennifer Wedgewood who will cover a maternity leave for Grade 2 teacher Kristen Parker until December.
- Marianne Regis, filling a new part-time staff position providing primary and junior coverage, and,
- Sharon Foster, a retired Literacy Resource Teacher, who will spend half her time as a SERT and the other half in the Kindergarten.

## MSB school

At McKenzie-Smith Bennett School, students will be greeted on Tuesday with fresh paint, some new staff and an emphasis on character education, described by Principal Sharon French as a program to encourage good citizenship and developing character.

"Last year we started using a book called The School of Belonging in our home base program and started using something called collaborative problem solving and we saw a huge decrease in discipline situations. Our suspension rate went way down and we were able to solve a lot of issues just by being proactive and building a better character program," French said on Monday.

French said they are geared up for Tuesday because the first day is the most important day of the year.

"Getting kids off to a successful start is so important, so we are really focussing on making kids feel welcome, making kids feel safe and that they belong and really placing the focus on good character development and academic achievement."

Staff changes at MSB that has 692 students include:

- Kindergarten teacher Monica Churchill fills in for Barb Harris who is on maternity leave
- Art teacher Tabitha Holman will cover for Mairghread Johnson who is on maternity leave
- Music teacher Brad Neufeld will fill in for Jenna Liebert who is on maternity leave
- Sue Vander Kooij will teach a new Grade 7 French Immersion class
- Anita Medeiros is back from maternity leave to teach Grade 7 and 8 French
- Caroline Hamilton will do primary planning as a replacement for retired Judy Rose
- Karen Boisclair fills a part-time educational assistant position
- Emily Moxey replaces life skills teacher Jennifer Mitchell who has moved to a new school
- Lindsay Heyes is a part-time long-term occasional replacement for primary resource teacher Donna Louckys

• New vice-principal Erin Bedard, formerly with the Peel Board of Education, takes over for Carolyn Reist who is now principal at Stewarttown and joins VP Dan Albrecht.

## Acton High School

At Acton District High School Principal Bert O'Hearn said they would continue with literacy and numeracy initiatives.

The school is also offering several new programs this year, including a specialist high skills major in communications technology that will be taught by Wade Stark.

"This program can appeal to a number of kids across a broad range because there is a pathway for students going right to work as well as to college or university. It's a broad program that will appeal to students who are interested in any aspect of media/communications technology," O'Hearn said on Tuesday.

A new transitions program involves bringing Grade 8 students from McKenzie-Smith Bennett to the high school for part of the school day in order to ease their transition to high school the following year.

"The students are identified by MSB as needing a bit of a jump start to high school," he said, adding it will involve fewer than 20 students.

Staff changes at Acton High School include:

- Carlo Crechiola who will teach wood shop on a part-time basis
  - Keeley Fawcett who will teach Canadian World Studies, and
  - Jesse Wren who will teach physical education
- O'Hearn said staff would use professional development days on Wednesday and Thursday to get to know their students through profiles and to plan strategies to teach literacy and numeracy skills.



The Regional  
Municipality of Halton  
www.halton.ca

## Volunteers needed for provincial drinking water lead testing program



Halton Region is committed to providing residents and businesses with safe, clean drinking water. Halton has routinely tested for the presence of lead and historically there have been no issues with lead in our municipal drinking water. However, as legislated by the Ministry of Environment, Halton Region must test for the presence of lead in drinking water at consumers' taps. Halton Region is looking for residents and businesses to volunteer for this community-wide drinking water sampling program.

- We are looking for people who live in an older home who suspect they have a lead service connection or lead in their home's plumbing. (Homes built before 1952 may have lead service connections or internal lead plumbing, and homes built before 1990 may have lead solder connecting copper pipes.)
- Halton staff will require access to your property to collect a sample. Testing is free and the results will be shared with you.

Please register for this program by October 1, 2009. For more information call Halton Region at 905-825-6000 or 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866) or visit the website at [www.halton.ca/LeadInWater](http://www.halton.ca/LeadInWater) to register online.

## Halton Hills Labour Day

### Residential Waste Collection Notice Please Note Collection Day Changes

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Sept. 7	8	9	10	11	12
Labour Day		Collection moves		Collection moves	

Due to the Labour Day holiday, household waste collection services the week of September 7 will take place the day after your regular collection day.

Please place your waste at the curb by **7 a.m.** on your scheduled holiday collection day.

Please check your 2009 Waste Management Guide and Collection Calendar for your collection area details, or visit [www.halton.ca/waste](http://www.halton.ca/waste) to use our "Search by Address" tool.

### Halton Waste Management Site will be closed Monday, September 7, 2009

#### Regular Operating Hours

Open Monday to Saturday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
5400 Regional Road 25, Milton

Please check your 2009 Waste Management Guide and Collection Calendar or visit us online at [www.halton.ca/waste](http://www.halton.ca/waste) for more information.

1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario L6M 3L1

Dial 311 or 905-825-6000 • Toll Free 1-866-442-5866 • TTY 905-827-9833 • [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca)

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## ACTON SKATING CLUB

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