



**WELCOME BACK:** Robert Little Public School's new Principal Carolyn Reist greeted members of the Furzer family – including Sydney, Grace, Stuart, Geneen and Graeme – to a wet first day of class. – Marie Shadbolt photo



**ST. JOSEPH CELEBRATES:** Fresh off the school bus on Wednesday morning, these St. Joseph Catholic School students faced a full-day regular class schedule to kick off the new school year. – Ted Tyler photo



**WARM WELCOME:** Grade nine student Sam Kumbier, a member of the class of 2016, ran the gauntlet of welcoming Link Crew senior students at Acton High School on Tuesday. The Link Crew had a morning of fun activities for the Grade nines before the entire school population attended a lunch time barbecue. – Frances Learment photo

## Enrolment issues in Acton and area rural schools

Despite the overall declining enrolments in Acton and rural Halton Hills schools, the Halton District School Board made no specific plans or recommendations in its long-range accommodation plan. Even with total implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten, school utilization is below 93 per cent and declining at Robert Little, McKenzie-Smith Bennett, Glen Williams, Limehouse and Pineview Public Schools.

While Glen Williams, MSB and Robert Little show long-term stability according to the Board's report, enrolment is declining at Pineview and Limehouse, which has 66 per cent utilization rate

with 119 students, and is projected to be half-full by 2021 with only 92 students.

Although the Board report identifies Acton and rural Halton Hills schools as having an enrolment issue – due to projected declining enrolment and utilization – it does not contain any specific plans or recommendations for future school accommodations. The report said more portables are needed at MSB and Glen Williams.

Looking at secondary schools, overall enrolment is stable at Acton and Georgetown High Schools, with utilization rates above 100 per cent from 2012 to 2017, dropping to under 100 per cent in 2018.



# FALL CLASSES STARTING SOON!

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