

**Meet the Newest Addition to Our School Community!
Baxter the Certified Service Dog!**



Your student will be bringing home information with their report card in early February regarding the addition of a certified service dog in our school setting to help one of our students. The certified service dog will be in our school effective February 21st, 2019.

Certified service dogs are trained and recognized by a recognized training facility, and are able to assist with many of the routine activities, which pose challenges for some students. The student's right to have a certified service dog is protected under the Ontario Human Rights legislation and other laws, as listed in board guidelines.

Students and the school community will be advised on the integration of the certified service dog via announcements and posters around the school. Students in the classroom with the certified service dog will also receive more direct instruction and training as to the proper procedure and conduct when around the certified service dog.

It's extremely important to remember that a certified service dog is a working certified service dog and not a pet while at school.

Certified Service Dog - Dos and Don'ts!

Do:

- Speak to the owner/handler rather than the dog
- Treat the owner/handler with sensitivity and respect
- Inform the owner/handler if the certified service dog approaches you

Don't:

- Touch or pet the certified service dog
- Offer food to a certified service dog
- Assume a napping certified service dog is off duty

**If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Principal,
Mrs. K. Ferguson at (905) 227-1188.**