



W.T. Townshend Public School

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September 5, 2017

Dear Trailblazer Families,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! I hope that you and your family have had a fun and enjoyable summer filled with many happy memories. My name is Mrs. Lori Briscoe. I have been an administrator at various schools with the Waterloo Region District School Board and I am thrilled to be the new principal at W. T. Townshend School.

We are so excited to share the journey of this coming year with your family. This year brings us many opportunities to grow and to improve on our learning. It takes a lot of practice to become accomplished at something. In fact, scientists have proven that the only way to learn and improve is to try something new and not give up on the task...even if you make a lot of mistakes. Don't be afraid to try something because you think you will not succeed. Instead, we encourage everyone to adopt a "Growth Mindset" to the challenges we face in school and in life. Keep practising and say to yourself, "I just don't have it... yet". Easy is boring. Effort is what makes you excel! We know that every child can excel this year at WTT Public School.

Communication with our families is important to us at W.T. Townshend! Please go to our website at <http://wtt.wrdsb.ca/> and where it says "Get News from this Website", subscribe to receive all WTT website posts directly in your email inbox. You will also need to sign up on our website for **school-day** for field trip information, classroom teacher communication and online payments. If you don't have access to a computer/the internet, please inform the office. In addition, school "start up" packages contain many important information items as well as many forms that need to be returned to your child's teacher by the end of the week.

We are excited that we will be using a new program called WITS. Check out the website for more resources <http://www.witsprogram.ca/families>. This program and common language will be used by all staff and students to help with solving problems. It stands for **W**alk Away, **I**gnore, **T**alk it Out and **S**eek Help. Parents may find it helpful to ask their children to use their WITS, at home, too.

Staff has been very busy getting ready for the new school year. I hope you will make it to the **Meet the Staff** night on **Thursday, Sept. 7**. Food Trucks will be on site from 5:30-7:00 pm, if you wish to purchase dinner. We invite you to join us in the school from 6:00-7:00 pm to meet our dedicated staff. We look forward to seeing you!

Together, let's make 2017-2018 a great school year!

Mrs. L. Briscoe
Principal

