

The Millgrove Chronicle

February 2018 Edition

Now that we are well into the New Year, February will be a productive month keeping our staff and students busy!

Students in grades 1-5 will be receiving their First Term Report Card on February 13th, and students in JK/SK will be receiving their Communication of Learning on February 15th. We kindly ask that you please take the time to review the Report Card with your child and work through the Student/Parent Comment Section of the handout that will be sent home with the report. Please complete the form and return it with your child.

On behalf of the Millgrove staff, we hope you enjoy time off with one another on Family Day and let's hope for some enjoyable outdoor weather!



Thank you to our Parent Council who generously donated funds to pay for our Jillian Jiggs Presentation. It was an amazing way to begin our week! The actors were very entertaining and kept our students and staff engaged throughout the entire production! What a great opportunity to continue to bring the Arts to Millgrove School!!

February

Dates to Remember:

- Every Monday is Pizza Day
- Every Wednesday is Lunch Lady
- Every Friday is Popcorn Day
- Feb 2 – Hot Dog Day
- Feb 5 – Kindergarten Registration Begins
- Feb 7 – Parent Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- Feb 13 – Term 1 Reports Sent home for Grades 1-5
- Feb 14 – Valentine's Day Cake Raffle
- Feb 15 – Communication of Learning Sent home for JK/SK
- Feb 16 – Hot Dog Day
- Feb 19 – Family Day (no school)
- Feb 28 – Parent Information Session @ 6:30 pm
- Mar 2 – PD Day
- Mar 7 – Parent Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- Mar 9 – Hot Dog Day
- Mar 12-16 – Winter Break



Abby M, Brayden S, Luke L, Jaydin S, Sophie B, Abby K, Teagan G, Victoria F, Ryan L, Everett S, Mirissa C, Taylor T, Audrey W, Cole C, and Travis L

Winter Weather

Bus cancellations and school closures

How does HWDSB decide on bus cancellations and school closures?

- When bad weather is expected, Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS) carriers check weather reports, road conditions and road clearing, starting as early as 4 a.m.
- Based on this information, the Director of Education makes the decision in conjunction with Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board.
- For clear communication, HWDSB **does not** announce when schools are open – we only announce when schools are closed.



When do we make decisions?

HWDSB will announce the cancellation of school and board operations by 6 a.m. based on the best information at the time.

The HWDSB Rule:

**Inclement weather
+ Bus cancellation
= No school**

When HWDSB cancels busing due to inclement weather, we have deemed the roads unsafe and this triggers the closure of schools. Some boards have different procedures.



= No school

HWDSB

Snow-clearing at HWDSB Schools

A responsibility shared by Board staff, contractors and the City of Hamilton



HWDSB Staff

Clear, salt and/or sand...

- walkways from the city sidewalk to the school
- school steps and portable steps
- walkways to the portables
- ramps to schools and portables
- area outside entrances and Fire Exit Doors
- Fire Exit stairs & ramps



HWDSB Contractors

After 5cm+ of snow, will...

- Plow parking lots and sidewalks when HWDSB Facilities staff deem it necessary
- Salt and sand the parking lot before school starts
- If required, Head Caretakers may also salt or sand parts of the parking lot



City of Hamilton

Responsible for clearing...

- Snow and ice from sidewalks directly in front of schools, a top priority for the City.
- **Note:** It may take up to 24 hours after a snowfall for sidewalks to be cleared. Report a sidewalk fronting a school in need of clearing at **905-546-CITY (2489)**

What about playgrounds?

Playgrounds **are not** plowed or cleared. Head Caretakers inspect playgrounds and sand and/or salt areas made slippery by changing temperatures.

Students, take extra caution when walking or playing on school property that may be slippery. Principals concerned about weather or playground conditions may hold indoor recesses and lunch/nutrition breaks.





Benefits of outdoor play

Time spent outdoors is an integral part of the school day. There are great benefits when children experience **fresh air, exercise and time spent time outside**. Outdoor play is also a break from the structure of the classroom.

Preparing for the outdoors

It's important that children come to school **prepared for the cold**. This means boots, mittens/gloves, hats and even extra mittens and socks in case they are needed.

Countdown to KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten registration begins on **Monday, February 5, 2018**, for the 2018- 2019 school year! Please come into the office and see Miss Marrone to fill out a registration package or complete your registration on-line.

Only parents or legal guardians can register their children for school. The following documents are required:

- **Proof of age (child's birth certificate or passport);**
- **Proof of address (identification that shows parent/guardian's current home address);**
- **Proof of immunization;**
- **Verification of date of arrival/immigration documents (if the child was not born in Canada).**
- **Completed Student Registration Form - available at the school or online at www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten**

Drop off/Pick-Up

If your child is late or returning from an appointment, please drop them off at the office and we will direct them to their classroom. Please do not go to your child's class without signing in at the office first. This applies with our pick-up procedure as well.



Staffing Announcement

We would like to extend a warm welcome back to Mrs. DiToro who has been on maternity leave. Her first day back will be Monday, February 5th.

As a result of this, we would also like to say good bye to Miss Jackson who was the Long Term Occasional Teacher in Mrs. DiToro's absence. Miss Jackson has been part of our staff since September and has contributed so much to our school community. We will truly miss her enthusiasm and joy of teaching.



Hotdog Days

Hotdog Days are back! The grade 5's will be holding four Hotdog Lunches between February and March. These dates will be: February 2nd, February 16th, March 9th, and March 23rd. The money raised from hotdog sales will help offset the cost of the grade 5 overnight trip to Cave Springs Camp in June. Please note if you missed the first Hot Dog Day you can still order for the others. Forms are in the office!



Remind is a fantastic way to keep you notified of important events and reminders in our school!

Join our Millgrove School Parent Community! Download the Remind App to receive school reminders directly to your phone. To join, simply go to:

<https://www.remind.com/join/millgrove>



MEDICAL ALERT

Just a reminder that Millgrove is a NUT FREE School. We have both staff and students with severe life-threatening allergies to peanuts and tree nuts. Do not send any nut products to school with your child. Thank you!



HWDSB Launches Parent Voice Survey to Gather Input for Improvement

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) invites parents, guardians and caregivers to participate in a Parent Voice Survey to share what you think HWDSB is doing well, and how might HWDSB improve its education services. Parents, guardians and caregivers play an important role in HWDSB and we value your opinion. Your feedback helps us make decisions about how we deliver school services for students. HWDSB has made a commitment to partner with its parent/guardian and caregiver communities, and to work together to help students learn and grow to their full potential. This survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. There are no right or wrong answers. All data collected in this survey is anonymous and combined as a group. You can find the survey online at:

https://hwdsb.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3TKK1aKCPgO8e3j

If you would like to learn more about how we use the data and maintain your privacy, please follow this link: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/privacy-and-access/>

Thank you for taking the time for this survey and helping HWDSB with your feedback.

Valentine's Day Cake/Candy Raffle

The grade 5's will be holding a Valentine's Day Cake/Candy Raffle on Wednesday, February 14th. Grade 5 students will be selling tickets during 1st nutrition breaks beginning Thursday, February 8th and sales will continue until our event on the 14th. Cost for raffle tickets is \$1.00. Anyone interested in donating a store-bought or homemade baked item to our raffle table is asked to contact Mrs. Nedelko at the school. Money raised from this fun event will help offset the cost of the grade 5 overnight trip to Cave Springs Camp in June.

Please note that all products MUST BE nut free!



Out-of-Catchment Process and Application

Millgrove School is OPEN to OOC for the 2018-2019 School Year. Please refer to these important dates:

- **Week of January 29, 2018** - OOC process including applications and a list of closed/open schools to be posted on HWDSB website.
- **February 23, 2018 by 4:00 p.m.** - Due date for OOC applications for start of school year consideration. NOTE: applications may be received after this date but will not be reviewed until the week of September 18, 2018.
- **March 9, 2018** - Due date for notification for families of decisions.

Airband

Millgrove's 13th Annual Air Band Competition will take place this Spring. Auditions will be held on February 27th and 28th and are open to any child or group of children in grades 3, 4, and 5. There will be a meeting of interested participants on Friday, February 2nd (first nutrition break) and more information will be handed out at that time. Group and song choices must be made and approved by February 14th. Please see Mrs. Nedelko or Mrs. Price as soon as possible if you are interested in auditioning but will miss or missed the meeting.



Piano Party

Attention all piano students: it's time for our third annual, **student only**, amazing piano party!

We'll see you Wednesday, February 21st, second break, in the library!



Oral Communication Festival for our Grade 4 and 5 Students!

As part of our Language curriculum, over the next few weeks, each grade 4 and 5 student will be preparing for and participating in the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board's Oral Communication Festival. For this Festival, which is a public speaking contest, the students will be responsible for the writing and delivery of short, researched speeches. The first stage in the competition is at the classroom level where students present their speeches to classmates (the week of February 26th). Three winning speeches will be selected from each participating class to compete at our school competition on March 6th. One winning speech will be selected to move on and compete at the next level (Family of Schools). They will compete against other students from within the same Family of Schools. Two winners per division are chosen and the winners from each Family of Schools will then proceed to the final Board level. Judges at the Board level will select a first, second and third place winner for the Junior and Intermediate speeches.

Public speaking is a skill which is used throughout our lives for interview situations, work presentations, etc. It is hoped that through participating in the Oral Communications Festival students will learn how to present themselves and speak in a confident and knowledgeable manner.

Thank you in advance for your support of this learning experience. We recognize this may be a first-time experience for many students; we will support them in the challenges they encounter.



**DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT MATH,
READING AND TECHNOLOGY AT MILLGROVE?**

You are invited to attend a parent information session on
Wednesday, February 28th, 2018 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
in our Learning Commons.

Please join Katherina Macartney (Reading Specialist), Saira Wasseem (Elementary Program Consultant), and Andrew Kelly (Digital Program Consultant) as they outline the importance of reading, the Renewed Math Strategy and the effective use of technology at Millgrove.

We hope to see you there!

