



Balaclava Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

280 10th Concession E
Freelton, Ontario L8B 1H6
Phone: 905.659.3396
Fax: 905.659.0901

EMAIL: balaclava@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: K. Keery Bishop
kkeerybi@hwdsb.on.ca
www.hwdsb.on.ca/balaclava

End of Year Message for Balaclava **June 2024**

Principal's Message

After weeks and months of making lunches and studying and helping with projects and encouraging your child to get to school, we've made it to the end of another school year.

Balaclava is a wonderful school and a terrific place for students to learn and grow. I hope all of our students and families have a wonderful summer filled with adventure and smiles.

For those of you moving to new schools, we wish you well and hope you leave with fond memories of Balaclava. For those who are returning, we'll see you again in September!

Thank You!

The staff at Balaclava are very thankful for the support Balaclava families provide throughout the school year. Thank you to School Council Chair Jacky Small and to all of the School Council members for their guidance and support this year. Thank you to Home and School Chair Lyndsay Petican and all of the Executive and General members, as well as the scads of volunteers who plan and help out with all of the Home and School events, such as the weekly food days, special food days and Fun Fair. And thank you to all of the parents, grandparents, retired staff and other volunteers who support our students throughout the year on trips, in classrooms and transporting to events. We couldn't do it without you and you make our school so much better!

School Start Up Reminders

Our **grade 1 to 8** students will begin school on **Tuesday September 3, 2024**. Our bell times will remain 9:15 to 3:35. Playground supervision will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Students moving into **Senior Kindergarten** will have their first day on **Wednesday September 4, 2024**, again with regular bell times and supervision.

Our incoming JKs and new-to-school SKs will come for scheduled visits on Tuesday September 3 and begin regular attendance on Wednesday September 4.

Class Placement Information

Class placements will continue to be worked on over the summer. Watch for HWDSB messaging about how to access that information the week of August 26th.

Transportation Information

The transportation department works throughout the summer to plan routes and schedule buses. Look for information to be sent to your home address with information about your child's route and times in mid-to-late August. We strongly encourage all families to sign up on the transportation portal to receive updates regarding late bus notifications so that you are aware when your child's bus might be late.

HWDSB
BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.



Balaclava Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

280 10th Concession E
Freelton, Ontario L8B 1H6
Phone: 905.659.3396
Fax: 905.659.0901

EMAIL: balaclava@hwdsb.on.ca
PRINCIPAL: K. Keery Bishop
kkeerybi@hwdsb.on.ca
www.hwdsb.on.ca/balaclava

School Office

The school office will be closed beginning July 1 and will re-open on Monday August 26th. If you need to register your child, please contact the board office at: 905-527-5092 or email register@hwdsb.on.ca or go to the website: <https://hwdsb.info/register>
For general inquiries, please email info@hwdsb.on.ca for information this summer.

Changes Coming Regarding the Use of Technology in School

The provincial government recently enacted PPM 128 which will require changes in schools beginning in September with regards to the use of technology at school. More information will be shared by HWDSB over the summer. It is very important for families of students who have, in the past, brought a personal device (phone, smart watch, ipad) to school to read and understand this information very carefully when it comes out. Significant changes to what will be permitted in the school day will occur, beginning September 3rd. More information will be shared on the school website in August as well.

Parking Lot Changes

This summer, the school parking lot and bus lanes will be completely revamped. At this point, we anticipate that the project will be completed for September 3rd. If you are driving to the school in the fall, though, please watch carefully for the signage indicating our new entry and exit to avoid any parking lot mishaps.