



# Gator Gazette

## February 2026

### Principal's Message

Dear Billy Green Families,

As we begin a new month, we continue our school-wide focus on belonging, aligned with HWDSB's commitment to ensuring every student feels included, valued, and supported.

**EQAO:** We are also proud to share our EQAO results from last spring. Our students demonstrated hard work and perseverance, with strong achievements across both divisions. Our grade 3 math results continue to show a trending growth from 56% of students meeting level 3 in 2022-2023 to 63% of grade 3 students meeting provincial standards last year. Our grade 6 results show significant growth in all areas. 93% of students meeting provincial standard in Reading and 88% meeting provincial standard in Writing. Math results continue to trend in growth where 23% of grade 6 students met provincial standard in 2022-2023 and 58% meeting provincial standard last year. The data shows a need to continue to focus on strategies to support mathematics. Further information of our school annual plan will be shared in the upcoming month.

**Student Voice:** A heartfelt thank-you to our Student Voice Committee for leading a successful December Candy Gram fundraiser, and to our amazing staff for coordinating the dance, theme days, and many other community-building activities. We also appreciate our BLING Committee for helping decorate and add sparkle to our school environment.

**Warm Wishes:** This month, many families will be observing important days of significance, including Chinese New Year, the start of Ramadan fasting, and Ash Wednesday. We extend warm wishes to all who are celebrating. As always, if your child requires any accommodations, please contact the office—we are here to support you.

As the days begin to lengthen, we look forward to a month filled with learning, connection, and hopefully a little more sunshine.

Warm regards,  
Susanna Beatrice  
Principal, Billy Green Elementary School



### Upcoming Dates February

*These are accurate as of today's date.  
Always check our website for our most up to date events.*

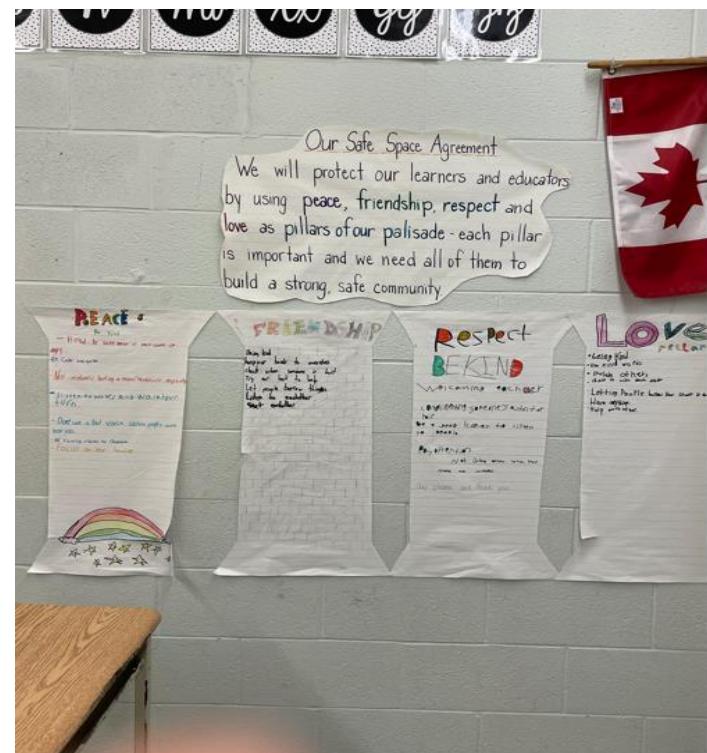
*Feb 1<sup>st</sup> – Box of Cards Fundraiser Opens  
Feb 5<sup>th</sup> – Lockdown drill  
Feb 10<sup>th</sup> – Grade 6-8 Cave Springs Info Session  
Feb 13<sup>th</sup> – Bonus Hot Chocolate Day  
Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentines Day  
Feb 16<sup>th</sup> – Random Act of Kindness Week  
Feb 17<sup>th</sup> – Chinese New year  
Feb 17<sup>th</sup> – Ramadan Begins  
Feb 18<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday  
Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> – Last Day for Box Of Cards Fundraiser  
Feb 25<sup>th</sup> – Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying)*

Ongoing throughout the month...

- Hot chocolate
- Popcorn
- Glow

### Equity Corner: Belonging at the Heart of Our School Community

At Billy Green, belonging is a key focus for our school community. Belonging means feeling connected to classmates, to staff, and to the environment around us—a sense that you are part of this place, and this place is part of you. In January, Mrs. Ott's and Mrs. Palmer's class explored what belonging means to students. Their conversations helped them revisit and adjust their classroom agreements to better reflect the kind of learning space they want to create together. Students also revisited The Pillars of the Palisade—peace, love, respect, and friendship---teachings from our Indigenous partners that guide how we care for one another. This work reflects HWDSB values of equity, inclusion, well-being, and student voice, and supports our commitment to creating a school where every student feels valued and connected.





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## February 2026 Continued

### A message from School Council

We hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing winter break and has settled back into the new year smoothly. We're excited to be back and continuing to serve our school community. Thank you to everyone who participated in our Krispy Kreme fundraiser in Nov/Dec. Because of your generosity and support, we are able to continue supporting our classrooms with new learning enhancements. Our next meeting will be held on **February 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. All are welcome!**

### We are STILL Needing YOUR HELP Billy Green Families!

At Billy Green, we depend on strong partnerships with families—and right now, we need more volunteers. Our small staff and dedicated School Council of 12 are working hard to support over 360 students, but many of our well-loved events and fundraisers risk becoming difficult to run without extra hands.

Volunteers make things like sub days, special food days, fundraisers, and community events possible. These activities enrich student life and help us fund important programs and resources.

Even a small amount of time makes a big difference. You don't need a large commitment. Just a willingness to help when you can.

If you're able to support, please contact:  
[billygreen@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:billygreen@hwdsb.on.ca)

Thank you for helping keep our school community strong!



# Learning in Action: Grade 6–8 Cave Springs Experience May 13th-15th, 2026

We are excited to announce a learning experience for students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 to Cave Springs Camp in Beamsville, Ontario.

This experience is designed to support learning connected to the application of classroom skills, including science, geography, visual arts, leadership, and collaboration.

The experience intentionally aligns with expectations from the Ontario Curriculum, providing students with meaningful, hands-on learning opportunities.

To support and maximize student participation, two trip options are available:

- **Option 1:** A one-day, extended day trip on Wednesday, May 13
- **Option 2:** A 3-day, 2-night trip from May 13–15

Because the learning opportunities for this experience are so rich and require significant planning and staffing, we are aiming for **at least 90% student participation** across Grades 6–8. High participation ensures that all students benefit from this shared learning experience.

## Join Us for an INFORMATION SESSION: Tuesday February 10th, 2026

We invite families to join us for a parent/guardian information session on Tuesday, February 10 at 5:30 p.m. in the library, where we will share details about the trip, including cost, activities, and learning connections.



**Cave  
Springs  
Camp & Retreat**

**75** CELEBRATING  
YEARS  
1951-2026

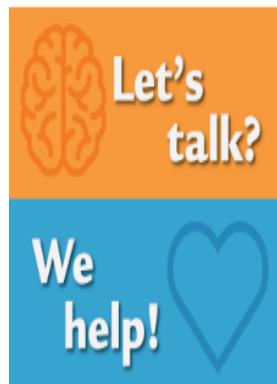


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## February 2026 Continued

### Supporting Mental Health & Well-being

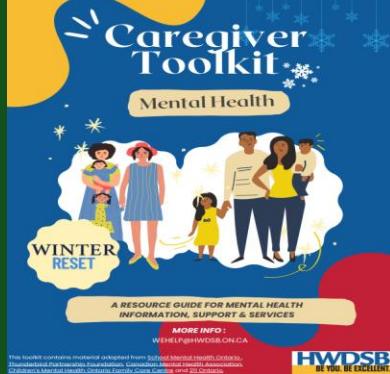
There are a number of FREE seminars that are scheduled to support a variety of mental health needs including anxiety, depression, emotional regulation and more! A spring session for student anxiety begins March 23rd, 2026 and these are virtual. These are offered at NO cost to families. For more information, please take a look at the following link: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/elementary/supports/mental-health-and-well-being/>



### Beating the Winter Blues?

Winter...the snow can be fun but the long dark days can be tough for everyone. The HWDSB has the Caregiver Mental Health Toolkit! This toolkit is here to support you with helpful information, practical tips, and trusted resources to help you care for your child's mental health. At the heart of the toolkit is a caregiver-friendly resource guide, filled with information and details about where to find support—both at school and in the community. Whether you're looking for guidance, services, or just reassurance, this toolkit is designed to help you feel more confident and connected as you support your child's wellbeing. Please see the following link for the winter edition:

[Caregiver Toolkit 2025/2026](#)



### We ROCKED Terry Fox: WAY to go GATORS!

Together as a team we raised **\$1138.10** for The Terry Fox Foundation. This year was extra special being the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Terry Fox Run. With heart, creativity, and determination, you showed what Terry's legacy is all about and made a real difference!

Thank you for all of your support!

### Be You Be Excellent December & January

Our core values remain at the center of our school. We are so thankful for our two grade 8 value leads: Khalil and Iman who remind our school about how to reflect the value of the month. For **December** we learned about **Dignity**. Congratulations to the following students for modelling being an ally, encouraging others, listening to others and being true to their words:

Ellia Salim	Arjeta Nasufi
Maya Bohra	Samraat Sarai
Nile Jordan	Savanna Szoke
Navreet Gill	Ward Matar
Amahra Salim	Olivia Sese
Ainsley Ferguson	Reyansh Mohan Kumar
Waed Al Sarajbi	Gage Daiken
Rawan Abdullahi	Tessa Hardy
Lilac Kullab	Kennedy Forester

For the month of **January**, our focus has been on **JOY**. Congratulations to the following students for leading with curiosity, fun and excitement:

Caleb Brown	Adelaide Peterson
Teodor Lucic	Deborah Opeyemi-
Salma Esa	Akinnagbe
Dhruv Patel	Vihaan Joshi
Camden Pedersen	Ammaar Shaikh
Noha El Dada	Ghazal Multani
Nathaniel Akinnagbe-Opeyemi	Rayhan Shaikh
Lilyan Awad	Soraiya Or
Hezha Mavrani	Owen Tunks
Tolani Mosuro	Jackson Kirk
Kyree Ban	Sahib Sidhu
Maddy Woodfine	Ayaan Ahsan Ul Haq
Auston Forester	Anthony Craig
Karmelo Powerll	Zachary Moffat
Eithan Kirk	Branko Misiv

**McDonald's is hiring in JSC!**  
JSC transformed their space into a McDonald's as they learn about foods, money, and customer service.

