



Gator Gazette

March 2026

Principal's Message

Hello Billy Green Families,

This month, our staff is continuing to focus on small-group guided math instruction, an approach that helps us meet students exactly where they are in their learning. This work aligns with the Ontario Math Curriculum's emphasis on building strong number sense and confidence with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Families can support this learning through simple, everyday routines. Check out page 2 of our Gazette for easy at home ideas to support playful math moments at home. We are also continuing our school-wide work on student voice, identity, and belonging.

A special thank-you goes to our Bling Committee, whose student-designed displays add creativity and warmth to our school. Check out their display for this month!

We are excited to be recognizing Rock Your Socks day to celebrate World Down syndrome Day AND the Great Big Crunch to support Tastebuds nutrition programs that is supported through donations. Consider donating a small amount here: <https://www.tastebudshamilton.ca/>

Thank you for your continued partnership. Your involvement helps our students grow as confident learners and valued members of our Billy Green community.

Sincerely,
S. Beatrice
Principal



Upcoming Dates March

March 16- 20: March Break

March 23rd: Rock Your Socks Day to Support Down Syndrome Awareness



March 26th: The Great Big Crunch

March 30th: Dental Screening, Jk, Sk, grade 2

On going throughout the month:

- Popcorn
- Intramural Soccer

From the Bling Committee:

Ramadan and Lent

The Bling Committee highlights two important days of significance: Ramadan and Lent. Check it out:



Equity Corner: Belonging and Resilience

At Billy Green, we are committed to ensuring that every student feels a strong sense of belonging. This aligns with HWDSB's Equity and Inclusion Policy, which focuses on creating inclusive, anti-racist, culturally responsive environments where all students feel safe, respected, and valued. Our work includes reflecting student identities in our spaces so every learner can thrive.

Mental Grit & Belonging at Home: Mental grit—perseverance through challenges—is closely connected to student well-being. We emphasize the importance of supportive, respectful, and inclusive environments to build confidence and resilience. Families can help by having simple chats at home:

Talk about challenges: "What was tricky today, and how did you keep going?"

Celebrate effort: Reinforce learning from mistakes.

Share stories of perseverance: Books or family experiences that highlight resilience.

Highlight inclusion: Recognize moments when your child shows kindness or speaks up—key ideas reflected in HWDSB's human rights and equity initiatives.

Together, we can help students build the grit and sense of belonging they need to succeed..





Gator Gazette

March 2026 Continued

Math at Home: Building Number Skills

A strong foundation in number skills—such as understanding quantities, comparing numbers, and knowing addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts—helps students solve everyday math problems with confidence. The Ontario Math Curriculum places major emphasis on developing these essential number skills from Grades 1 through 8, including mastery of multiplication facts (0×0 to 12×12) and related division facts, along with mental math strategies that support flexible thinking. The Ministry also highlights the importance of family involvement: simple conversations about math and regular practice at home significantly boost children’s confidence and success. [ontario.ca] [edugains.ca]

Below are easy ways families can support number learning at home—no worksheets required!

★ Grades 1–3: Building Early Number Sense

Count everything: steps, toys, snacks, or items while shopping.
Compare and estimate: “Do we have more apples or oranges? How many do you think are in the bag?”
Practice addition and subtraction facts to 20 through quick games, flashcards, or mental math challenges.
Play number games (cards, dice, board games) that encourage adding, subtracting, or recognizing patterns.

★ Grades 4–6: Developing Fluency

Practice multiplication and division facts regularly, especially multi-digit operations.
Use real-life math: cooking (doubling or halving recipes), shopping (estimating totals), or tracking time.
Talk through strategies: Ask “How did you figure that out?” to build reasoning and mental math flexibility.

★ Grades 7–8: Strengthening Number Reasoning

Work with integers and rational numbers: compare temperatures, bank balances, or sports stats.
Encourage estimation before calculating, supporting stronger number sense.
Discuss proportional reasoning (e.g., discounts, recipe scaling, map distances).

Why Number Practice Matters?

Regular practice with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division helps students build automaticity, meaning their facts become more effortless. This frees up mental energy for more complex thinking—like problem solving, fractions, algebra, and real-life applications. The Ontario curriculum highlights number fluency as a foundation for success, connecting it to confidence, mathematical identity, and the ability to tackle everyday math challenges. Family involvement—talking about math, making it visible, and supporting positive attitudes—plays a major role in developing strong number thinkers.

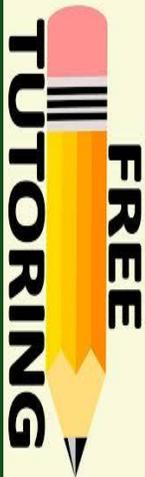
School Council

We want to say a big thank you to everyone who supported our Big Box Fundraiser! Because of your generosity, we sold 99 boxes — an incredible result. We’re so grateful for the support of our school community.

We also had a great time celebrating Pancake Day in February, and we loved getting the chance to cook pancakes for all the students. It was such a fun way to spend the day together! Next Meeting: **School Library April 7th**

Did you know that TVO offers **FREE Math Tutor support?**

TVO Learn Mathify provides **FREE** online math help for Ontario students in **Grades 4-12**. Access our math tutoring website from any digital device, whenever you need the help. For access visit: <https://mathify.tvolearn.com/>



Congratulations to our Be You Be Excellent Award Winners

In **February** we celebrated students who demonstrated compassion: care, understanding and humbleness. Congratulations to all those who modelled what it means!

Mazin Hamid	7A	Ayse Ozsumer	JSA	Maaz Khan	23A
Delilah Carr	12A	Misha Karki	JSA	Taj Al Sarajbi	5A
Ruby Page	12A	Gi Gi Bruce	67A	Savanna Szoke	5A
Yaana Karki	12B	Maxim Pyett	67A	Rowan Page	JSC
Liam Harris	12B	Elliott Carruthers	34A	Kataleja Kovacevic	JSC
Zainab Khan	45A	Jayda Meas	34A	Moyifin Giwa	8A
Katana Fitzsimmons	45A	Liam Leal	JSB	Sokai Keoun	8A

