



May 3rd, 2021

Hello Stingers and Cecil B. Stirling Families,

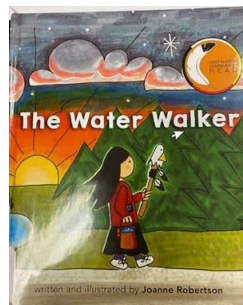
Where did April go? Suddenly, April showers have given way to May flowers and we're seeing more sunshine and warmer temperatures! Something to smile about!

I hope this message finds you and your family well. Self-care during these challenging times is so important. Exercise, healthy eating and social interaction (physically distanced) are vital to maintaining a positive and productive stance through this pandemic.

This week, elementary students entered their third week of online learning since the Spring Break in April. I want to thank staff, students and parents for a herculean effort put forth sustaining the learning momentum. As I visit classes, I am so pleased with the online lessons created by teachers and the engagement of students. THANK YOU!!!

Please remember, our school day remains the same, with learning starting at 8:45am and ending at 3:05pm. The day includes two 40 minute Nutrition Breaks for students to eat, recharge and walk away from their devices. Teachers will be engaging students with both synchronous (225 minutes - connected) and asynchronous (independent) learning each day using MS Teams and The HUB. Teachers are sharing their daily classroom schedule via email or posting to their online classroom. If your child has a technical issue, forgotten their login credentials or you have a question about their learning program please connect with the classroom teacher via email or a phone call. If your child needs a device to engage in remote learning, please call the school (905-385-5374) or email the school cecilbstirling@hwdsb.on.ca.

The learning students engage in during this period of remote learning is important and it is an expectation that students attend and engage in their online lessons. Student attendance will be taken and their learning will be assessed.



This week, CB Stirling students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 started a school-wide book study of The Water Walker by Joanne Robinson. The book has an environmental message about the importance of protecting our waters while sharing Indigenous culture and worldviews. Classes will engage in the text through grade-appropriate curriculum connections in Language Arts, Science, Social Studies and The Arts.



HWDSB



Also this week, students across the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board will have the chance to share their voice through HWDSB's Student Census. Families with students in Kindergarten to Grade 4 will receive an email link to the census to complete on behalf of their child. Older students (Grades 5 to 8) will have a link sent directly to their school email account and will be given class time to complete the census. If you have questions about HWDSB's Student Census please visit <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/equity/we-all-count-hwdsb-student-census-2021/>.

For families with students in Grade 8, please know that we are starting to plan this year's graduation celebration. The HWDSB has given schools two scenarios to consider; a small in-person celebration if schools reopen and a full remote option if schools remain closed. When the situation and details firm up, graduates and families will be notified.

If you have any questions about your child's classroom program or questions about Cecil B. Stirling, please call (905-385-5374) or email me (dschroed@hwdsb.on.ca). All the best during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Dave Schroeder

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