



April Edition

Well,
Hello
Spring

Spring Break!

After a long winter, I know we are all ready for spring and all the wonderful things that come with it. We are all excited for our April Break which begins on April 12. We know that we will come back refreshed and ready to continue with all the wonderful learning that happens at Cootes Paradise on April 19th!



Spirit Days

- Hat Day – April 7
- Day of Pink – April 8
- Rock it out Day – April 9

Picture Day

- Smile 😊 Picture day is scheduled over 2 days
- JK-1/2 April 22
- 2-5 April 23



Day of PINK

On Thursday, **April 8**, staff and students across HWDSB will wear pink on the International Day of Pink.

We do this because we want to make a statement that we stand against all forms of bullying. It also reminds us that if we stand up and speak out, we can make a difference.

The International Day of Pink began in Nova Scotia when two high school students saw a classmate being bullied for wearing a pink shirt.

The two students intervened, but wanted to do more. A few days later they were able to get their entire school to wear pink. That school sent a message that together we can stop bullying.

We know that bullying is a problem in our schools and in our wider community. Bullying can happen to anyone, anywhere. Collectively, we can stand up and speak out against bullying.

We will continue to support anti-bullying efforts that make our schools safe and welcoming places for all of our students.

Please wear Pink on Thursday, April 8th to show your Support!



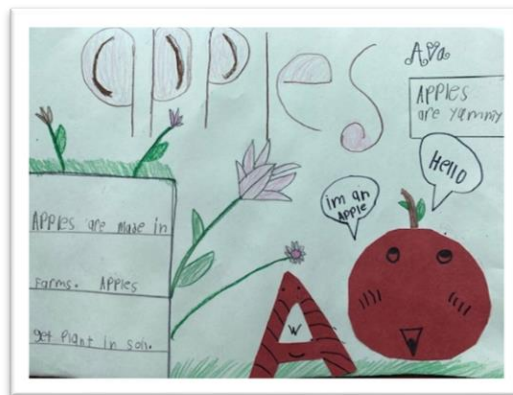
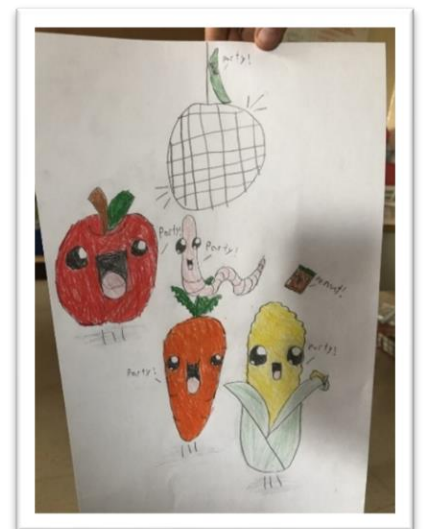
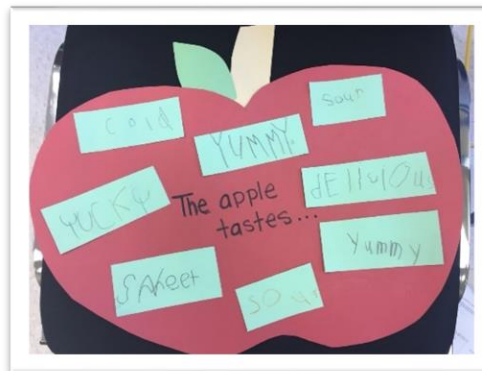
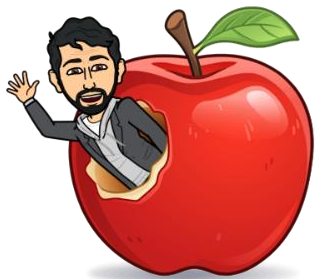
Secure School Information

During the second term, Cootes will be required to conduct at least 3 Fire Drills, 1 Lockdown Drill and 1 Evacuation Drill so that students are prepared in the event of a real emergency. Please do not be alarmed if your child tells you that the alarm went off at school. This is all part of our Emergency Plan of Action.

The BIG Crunch!

March 22 - 26 was Big Crunch Week at Cootes. Throughout the week students explored various curriculum expectations linked to healthy snacking and apples. Every day during nutrition break we counted how many students brought at least one fruit or vegetable in their lunch. Our total for the week was 1759 times! Well done families! On Friday, each student received an apple courtesy of Tastebuds, our student nutrition program provider. The apples came from Drummond Farms which is located just North of Waterdown. With a countdown over the PA, we all bit into our apples at once to make noise for healthy snacking. The apple cores were taken to a local farm by Mme Trepanier for the farm animals.

Thank you to Mrs. Mackenzie for leading this amazing initiative!





Bell Time Change

As you may be aware, Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS) is the student transportation consortium established between the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDSB) to administer transportation services for both boards to eligible students residing in the City of Hamilton.

Over the past three years, the current school bus driver shortage has resulted in daily late pickups and drop-offs for approximately 25 to 35 routes, which impacts students' time learning in school.

In December 2019, both school boards approved the parameters of a School Bell Time Study. The study looked at all school bell times across the district in both Boards, with the possibility of adjusting school bell times to make the routes more efficient and reduce the number of buses on the road.

Our school was included in this review, and the findings result in a change to our start and end of day bell times.

Beginning in September 2021, our school will start at 9:15 a.m. and end at 3:35 p.m.

While the new bell times will change the pick-up and drop-off times for students on buses, the amount of time they are on the bus will mostly remain the same.

As with previous years, all students eligible for transportation services will receive a letter in early August, outlining the service details for the upcoming school year.

Administrative Professionals' Day

On April 28 we celebrate Administrative Professionals' Day! We want to extend a big thank you to Ms. Marrone, Ms. Stableford and Ms. Sabina who work so hard to make our office so warm and welcoming!



Class Placements 2021/22

With a new school year approaching, many parents wonder about who their child's teacher will be. This process for organizing classes will soon be underway. When creating classes, teachers meet with each other and school administration to discuss the needs of each student. Some of the issues that are considered are:

- Balance of ability, interests, and talents
- Balance of males/females
- Learning styles of students
- Teaching styles of teachers
- Resources and remedial needs, enrichment needs
- Students to be kept together or separated because of the positive/negative influence on each other's learning.

We appreciate your trust in our professional judgement in balancing the considerations mentioned above. The final decision for class placements is the responsibility of the principal. If you have further information regarding your child's learning needs that we should consider, please send me an email or note with the specifics. **We will not entertain requests for specific teachers.** Please consider the bullets listed above. We will do our best to accommodate your child so that we can maximize their learning opportunities and be successful. **Please note that all requests are due to Mr. Fede by May 19th , and that class placements are tentative until the end of September.**

Earth Day – April 22

Our connection to Earth and nature is undeniable: our planet's gain is everyone's gain.

Healthy nature makes our life better by providing us good food, clean air, and fresh water - but it is all under the threat of climate change. We need to raise awareness on the important role of nature in our lives and the benefits nature provides, from good food, clean air, fresh water, to so much more.

The global theme for Earth Day 2021, Restore the Earth, brings hope that all people can come together to heal the planet.

On April 22, please consider how we can Restore the Earth!



Out of Catchment Requests

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is soon approaching. For the 2021/22 school year, both Cootes Paradise & Dalewood schools are closed to any families who live outside of the catchment area.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all of our Out of Catchment families that presently have children at Cootes Paradise that they will have to be registered at their home school for the 2021/22 school year. Please contact your home school to inquire about any Information that might be available to help with this transition.

If you are unsure of your child's home school, please use HWDSB's School Locator found at:

www.hwdsb.on.ca/find/



Elementary Learning: Human Development & Sexual Health

The Ministry of Education has introduced a revised Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education Grades 1-8, (2019) to replace the interim 2018 document. There is also a new Program/Policy Memorandum 162: Exemption from Instruction related to the Human Development and Sexual Health Expectations, Grades 1–8, (2019) to accompany the updated curriculum document. This memorandum outlines the process for communicating with families about Strand D: Growth and Development and Sexual Health and the process for parents/guardians to exempt their child(ren) from this learning.

HWDSB is informing elementary parents/guardians that learning on Strand D: Growth and Development and Sexual Health will occur between May 3 and June 20, 2021. Here is what families can expect as we approach these dates:

A board-wide Parent Information Night via Teams Live (in lieu of school sessions) will be held on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Details about this session will be communicated soon.

An exemption form will need to be completed if parents/guardians want their child(ren) exempted from this learning. The form is now available and can be accessed through Parent Portal. Paper copies and/or phone calls to schools will also be accepted if Parent Portal is not an option.

Teachers will send individual letters regarding classroom activities and learning to parents/guardians in May.

For additional information ahead of these events, parents/guardians can view HWDSB's Health and Physical Education Parent Guide and the Ministry of Education curriculum document below. We have also included the Human Development and Sexual Health Expectations for Grades 1-8 to give families a better understanding of the material that will be taught at each level.

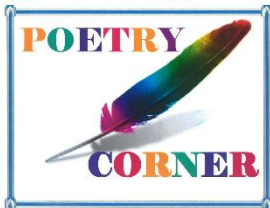
ONLINE SAFETY IT STARTS WITH **YOU!**

Grade 4 & 5 students learn about Cyber Safety!

On March 29th our grades 4 and 5 classes virtually, welcomed Paul Davis. Paul Davis is a renowned expert on cyber safety and screen time health habits. His presentation was outstanding focusing on areas such as risks of social media, ways to avoid being a victim and practices that will help students be safe when on-line.

The students spent one hour with our guest speaker through a synchronous learning opportunity where they participated together in real-time. There was also a period for questions and answers which left a lasting impact on both staff and students.

Should you wish to learn more about Mr. Davis, please visit his website at <https://socialnetworkingsafety.net/sample-page/>.



With
Mrs. Dumitru's
class!

*I'm myself. My power is to be kind
and to be in the right place at the
right time, doing the right thing.*

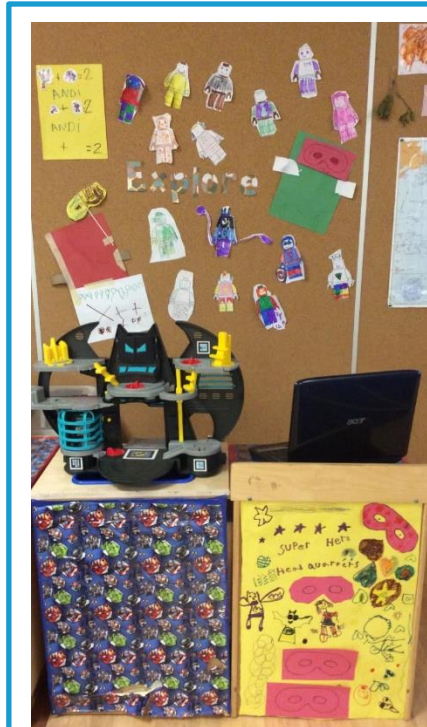
by Abdallah

*Superpowers are peace and love.
They are the thoughtful powers that
everyone needs. Peace is calm.*

Love is being together.

Both make heros.

by Keyanna



**Celebrating
Super Hero
Week
In
Mrs. Berdula's
&
Mrs. Harper's
Class!!!**



True Colours Week in Mme Trepanier's Class!

True Colours Week was all about positive messages.

The students in Mme Trepanier's class took the message of the day and created a page each day for their book. They wrote about what the message meant to them, their classmates and friends, and how they could continue to spread the message in their everyday actions.



The Royal City Soccer Club

The Royal City Soccer Club, a registered non-profit organization, is excited to host our 29th annual summer soccer day camps to all children aged 5 to 13. There are full day and morning sessions available during any of the weeks in July and August. Our program is designed to encourage and promote personal development, team building and life skills in a fun, safe and inclusive environment. Our Hamilton locations are: Sir Allan MacNab SS and Huntington Park (details available on our website). For any questions or to register visit our website at royalsoccer.com or contact us at 1-800-427-0536 or by email at info@royalsoccer.com.



School photos *are coming!*

Thursday, April 22nd and Friday, April 23rd, 2021

JK to Grade 1/2- April 22nd and Grade 2 to Grade 5 - April 23rd

How it works:

- Your child will be photographed at the school. Please don't bring money to the camera.
- Proofs will be sent home after photo day. Sign up for notifications at edgeimaging.ca/photoday so you know when to expect them.
- Review your images and make your purchase online.



Please do NOT wear green on photo day

Questions? For details on our COVID-19 safety procedures, visit edgeimaging.ca/FAQ.
For anything else, please contact our customer care team at 1-888-416-3343 or customercare@edgeimaging.ca

H-REMTRA-21



WORLD AUTISM DAY SWAG BAG DRIVE THROUGH

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2021

Beginning at 12:00 noon
(rain or shine)

Come and pick up your Free Family Swag Bag to celebrate Autism Awareness in our Community!

**LOCATION: HAMILTON WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD PARKING LOT
20 EDUCATION COURT, HAMILTON, ON
(NEAR LIMERIDGE MALL)**



Families must register online through Autism Ontario (<https://bit.ly/3rWphgn>) to receive their time slot between 12 & 3pm for curbside pick-up. Participants will not be exiting their cars and strict COVID-19 protocols will be put into place.

Limit of 250 give-away bags available so register soon!

Registration deadline: April 10, 2021



waadfreefamilycarnival



@WAADFFC

