



Dundana Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

23 Dundana Avenue
Dundas, Ontario L9H 4E5
Phone: 905.628.2622
Fax: 905.628.2699

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

April 2022 Dundana Newsletter

Principal Message

With spring finally creeping in, our thoughts turn to enjoying more time outside. Here at Dundana, we look forward to sprucing up some of our outdoor spaces to make learning outdoors more enriching for our students. Thank you to the many families who have donated to help fund our Outdoor Learning projects, including an outdoor classroom on our grounds. I am very pleased to report that the donations received already will allow us to begin the first phase of this project immediately and have work done on the grounds in the next few months to build our outdoor classroom. We are fortunate at Dundana to have such spacious grounds and we are all looking forward to using them more frequently during learning.

Other projects include additions to our Kindergarten play spaces (also begun this spring), and further equipment to expand physical literacy skills on our site, as funding allows. We will be continuing to accept donations care of the Hamilton Foundation for Student Success. See the attached flyer for details on how to ensure your donation is directed to Dundana.

Thank you, Dundana community, for all of your support!

Upcoming Events

As health protocols continue to evolve, we are beginning to plan some exciting events at Dundana that haven't been seen in the last few years. We're looking forward to hosting an Open House event in early May, as well as transition/orientation events for new-to-Kindergarten, new-to-French Immersion, and transition celebrations and events for our Grade 5 students for May and June. Once dates and details are confirmed, we'll pass these along to families. Our events may not look exactly like they did a few years ago, but we'll do our best to make them meaningful for our participants.

We also will have a gradual return of some activities, such as PlayDay, Track and Field meet, Scholastic book fair and other exciting events.

School Council

Dundana's School Council will have their next meeting on Wednesday, April 6th at 6:30 p.m. via MS Teams. The Council has been instrumental at getting the word out about the fundraising for our Outdoor Learning spaces and discussion is planned regarding support the school for Open House and future fundraisers. If you would like to join us for that discussion, please email kkeerybi@hwdsb.on.ca by Tuesday April 5th to receive an email invitation to the meeting.

Lost and Found has returned to Dundana!

We've been so proud of how well our students have done taking care of their personal items while we were unable to have a lost and found bin during periods of restrictions, but it can be frustrating when a child's clothing or personal item goes missing. We are pleased to report that the school's Lost and Found bin has been returned to use. It can be found just to the left of our front doors in the foyer. Families are welcome to encourage their child to go check the bin, or can come in and check the bin themselves, as needed. We still encourage families to label student items as clearly as possible to make sure items find their way back to your homes.



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Masking and Wellness Reminders

While protocols regarding mask wearing have been lifted by the Ministry and Province, it is important to note that HWDSB still strongly encourages students, staff and visitors to wear a mask in school when possible. Masks are available upon request in the school office for students and visitors.

The school has been provided some RAT Covid tests in 2 packs. If you require a testing kit for your child, please let your child's teacher know or call into the office. It can be sent home with your child or can be picked up by a parent/guardian from the office.

We do remind students and families to continue to monitor student health daily and complete the provincial online screener to determine whether your child can come to school. While absences can be difficult to manage for families, we appreciate that you continue to send your children to us only when healthy.

The school continues to post voluntary reports of student/staff COVID infections on the website. If your child does contract COVID 19 and you are willing to report it to be posted anonymously, please contact the school via 905.628.2622 or to dundana@hwdsb.on.ca

Umbrella Shut Down Reminder

A reminder for all of our Umbrella families: Umbrella will have a no-program day on Friday, April 22. Students cannot be dropped off at school before 8:40 when school supervision begins, and must be picked up from the school by 3:30 when supervision ends. If you are making arrangements on this day that would be unusual (e.g. picked up by a friend's parent/grandparent, etc) please inform your child's teacher in advance via agenda or email so we can ensure your child gets to the right spot with the right people.

Fro-Yo Fridays Begin April 22

Dundana PE department will be selling individual containers of TCBY frozen yogurt for students on Fridays, beginning with Friday April 22. A container costs \$4 and comes in four different flavours. While this is not intended to be a significant fund raiser, any profit occurring will be used to supplement PE materials purchased. If there is a student who would like to participate but requires a subsidy, please contact kkeerybi@hwdsb.on.ca and arrangements can be made. Students can bring their \$4 in cash on the Friday they wish to purchase a cup. Thank you to Mrs. Frank and our grade 5 Fro-Yo helpers for adding this fun to our Fridays!

Calendar of Events

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| April 6 | School Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m. |
| April 13 | International Day of Pink |
| April 14 | Spirit day – wear a funky pattern to school |
| April 15 | Good Friday, no school |
| April 18 | Easter Monday, no school |
| April 22 | Earth Day |
| April 22 | NO Umbrella Before/After School Program |