



Dundana Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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February Newsletter

“Those who say it can’t be done are usually interrupted by others doing it.”

James Baldwin

Events

February	Black History Month
February 5 & 6	Niagara Art Gallery Visits Grade 1-5 Classes
February 12	100 th Day of School
February 14	Valentine’s Day Dance
February 16	First Term Reports go home
February 19	Family Day – No School
February 28	Pink Shirt Day
March 1	PA Day moved; Regular school day

Principal Message

I am excited to be here at Dundana covering for Ms. Calvano. In the few days I have been here so far, it is clear to me that the staff and students of Dundana are a tight knit community. I feel privileged to be a part of the school community for the next few weeks. Parents and guardians, feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. - Mr. S. Malcolmson

Change to School Year Calendar

On Monday, April 8, a [total solar eclipse](#) will cross North America, passing over southern Ontario. The City of Hamilton is expected to experience a deep partial solar eclipse, with the timing of this event presenting a concern for school dismissal. The solar eclipse will begin at approximately 2 p.m. and end around 4:30 p.m. As a result, HWDSB Trustees approved a change to the 2023-24 [School Year Calendar](#). The Professional Activity (P.A.) Day previously scheduled for all elementary and secondary schools on Friday, March 1 has been moved to Monday, April 8. This change means that HWDSB students and staff will attend school as a regular day on Friday, March 1, 2024. There will be no school for elementary and secondary students on Monday, April 8, 2024 while staff engage in professional learning.

Report Cards

The first Term Report Cards will be sent home on Friday February 16th. Please review, sign and return the appropriate page with the envelope. Please address any questions with your child’s teacher.

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB



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Intramurals

During February, intramural activities will be Skittles and Dance Club. Students should listen to announcements for schedules. A great thanks go out to all the staff who help run the intramural activities throughout the year.

Black History Month

February is Black History and Heritage Month Canada. In December 1995, the House of Commons officially recognized February as Black History Month in Canada following a motion introduced by the first Black Canadian woman elected to Parliament, the Honorable Jean Augustine. HWDSB remains committed to promoting equity and inclusion in all schools and workplaces. As we begin Black History Month 2024, Anti-Black racism still exists in learning and working spaces. The HWDSB believes that honouring and sharing the rich cultural diversity within all communities will help lessen harmful biases and aid our understanding of each other.

Valentine's Day

There will be two dances organized. One will be for the downstairs classes. The other will be for the upstairs classes. My thanks go out to Mme Hawley and Ms. Frank for helping to organize these events. There will be individual activities in classrooms as well. Schedules and details will follow from individual classrooms.

Pink Shirt Day

In 2007, after a new student at their Berwick Nova Scotia school was bullied for wearing a pink shirt, two grade 12 students bought 50 pink shirts and encouraged their classmates to wear pink. The next day they went to distribute the shirts and to their surprise the majority of students arrived wearing pink! With that act of kindness, Pink Shirt Day was born. Many countries now recognize specific days for raising awareness about the prevention of bullying and promoting kindness and inclusion. In Canada, many students have heard the Pink Shirt Day message from kindergarten through to their high school graduation. The movement continues to grow. On February 28th, we encourage our community to wear pink as a sign that Dundana will stand up to bullying.

"It is not your duty to be average. It is your duty to set a higher example for others to follow."

Lincoln Alexander