

# The Panabaker Chronicle



## March 2025 Edition

Dear Families

As we welcome the month of March, we look forward to the exciting opportunities and growth this spring season brings. Our students are continuing to work hard and reach new milestones as they progress toward the end of the school year. March is a time for reflection and renewal, and we are proud of the perseverance and dedication our students have shown throughout this school year.

A special shout-out to our teachers and staff who are continuously providing engaging and enriching learning experiences for all our students. As always, we appreciate your support and involvement in your child's education.

Please remember that March Break will take place from **March 10th to 14th**, and students will return to school on **Monday, March 17th**. We hope everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable break!

March 17th, is also St. Patrick's Day! We encourage all students to wear green that day as we embrace the spirit of community, kindness, and good fortune.

Wishing you all a wonderful month filled with growth, happiness, and of course, a little bit of luck!

Sincerely,

Mr. D. Fede & Ms. S. Carter

## Upcoming EVENTS

March 4 – Pizza Day

March 10-14 – March Break

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day

March 18 – Pizza Day

March 21 – Shelter in Place Drill

March 25 – Pizza Day

No act of  
kindness,  
no matter how small,  
is ever wasted.  
-Aesop

## School Parking Lot

Just a friendly reminder that when dropping off or picking up your child please do not block the bus loading zone or park on the side of the road in the parking lot. These are all **NO PARKING ZONES**. Our school busses are having a very difficult time navigating between cars and this is causing a delay. By Law will be on school property to help navigate this situation. We want to ensure the safety of all our students as they are being transported to and from Frank Panabaker. Please leave all accessible parking spots free unless you have a valid permit.



## Weather and Outdoor Play

Time spent outdoors is an integral part of the school day. Children need fresh air and exercise and time spent outside affords students an opportunity to break free from the structure of the classroom.

It is important that children come to school prepared for all weather. During the spring the grounds are often muddy and wet. Please ensure that they have a change of shoes for the indoors. It is also a good idea to have an umbrella for light rain days. As always, Principals use their judgment in determining whether or not students remain inside during recess given certain weather conditions.



Kindergarten registration is now open for the 2025-2026 School year!  
Please complete the registration package online.  
<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/#register>

## MEDICAL ALERT



**Just a reminder that Frank Panabaker is a NUT FREE School. We have both staff and students with severe life-threatening allergies to peanuts and tree nuts. Do not send any nut products to school with your child. Thank you!**

## Out of Catchment

As you are aware, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board has created attendance boundaries for each of its schools. In some cases, families want their child to attend a school that is not within their catchment boundary.

Unfortunately, Frank Panabaker is staffed based solely on the projected enrollment of students in our catchment area. This means that there will not be space available for out-of-catchment students. We regret the impact this will have for families.

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board uses this protocol to make the most effective use of space and staff in all schools. All parents are urged to register their children at the school for their designated catchment area.

You can learn more on the HWDSB website's page detailing Out-of-Catchment school attendance at <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/find/>



## Class Placements

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
- 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 by email to D. Fede [dfede@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:dfede@hwdsb.on.ca) by May 9<sup>th</sup>. All class placements are tentative until the end of September.

Mrs. Froats' Grade 1/2 class, and Mrs. Turnbull's Grade 3 class celebrated **PINK SHIRT DAY** by discussing kind words and actions. The 2 classes worked collaboratively to design a message for our school.

How will you keep spreading kindness, Pumas?



### EQAO Math Night for Parents and Guardians

In this webinar, EQAO staff will discuss math questions that Ontario students encounter when they participate in Ontario's large-scale assessments. These assessments are taken by all Ontario students in Grades 3, 6 and 9. During the webinar, EQAO staff will show how these math questions help assess the skills students are learning in their math classes. Staff will also share valuable insights from the past three years of assessment results, which can help parents and guardians support their children's math learning.

Please register using the following link:

[https://eqao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_5puRqI8uQJyplaHgBYoBMw#/registration](https://eqao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5puRqI8uQJyplaHgBYoBMw#/registration)

We're excited to announce that Frank Panabaker staff and students will be taking part in the **Great Big Crunch** this year! Thanks to a generous donation from Drummond Farms, each classroom will receive apples to enjoy on March 6th. Our Student Voice team will lead the event over the PA system, ensuring that everyone "crunches" together at the same time. It's sure to be a fun and delicious way to celebrate healthy eating!



Dear Parents and Guardians,

On Thursday, March 6, 2025, schools across Hamilton will participate in **The Great BIG Crunch to celebrate Nutrition Month and promote local food**. Thanks to the generous support of **FirstOntario Credit Union**, students will receive fresh apples, provided by Hamilton Tastebuds in partnership with Drummond Farms—at no cost to schools.



Every school day, **Tastebuds** student nutrition programs serve nutritious meals and snacks at 123 programs across 110 locations in Hamilton. Tastebuds operates on a universal model, meaning all students are welcome to participate, regardless of their economic background. On average, more than 23,000 students access our nutrition programs daily. In 2023-24 school year, Tastebuds:

AVERAGE DAILY PARTICIPATION

23,455

TOTAL MEALS PREPARED

3,286,256

TOTAL SNP Sites

110

TOTAL SNPs

123

VOLUNTEER HOURS DONATED

71,059

One of our signature initiatives, the **Great Big Crunch**, is a special day of food education and community engagement. Since 2008, students and community members across Hamilton have participated in a synchronized apple "crunch" while learning about healthy eating and local food. We look forward to celebrating The Great BIG Crunch with your children and promoting the importance of nutritious food in their daily lives!

Sincerely,  
The Tastebuds Team  
info@tastebudshamilton.ca

**FirstOntario**  
CREDIT UNION



@HamiltonTastebuds



@TastebudsSNC



@tastebudshamilton



tastebudshamilton.ca





**Thank you to  
FP's Home and  
School Team and  
Puma families  
for supporting  
and  
contributing.**

## **Panabaker's Annual Valentine Treat Raffle**



**Together We Are Better!**







## Important Dates

April 8th - Home and School Online Meeting. All Welcome!  
For the link email:  
[frankpanabakerhomeandschool@gmail.com](mailto:frankpanabakerhomeandschool@gmail.com)

May 8th - Spring Open House with Ice Cream Truck

June 19th - Commencement Party @ Marquis Gardens. Tickets on sale early June

June 20th - Spring Carnival



# SAVE THE DATE



# Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Code of Conduct

## **Members of the school community will:**

- Treat each other with kindness and respect
- Support learning and keep distractions out of class
- Help others when they are in need

## **Members of the school community will not:**

- Bully, cyberbully, or encourage others to do so
- Harm others, including harm with the motivation of hate or discrimination
- Use a personal mobile device during class unless permitted by an educator
- Use, share or sell vape, cannabis, nicotine and/or tobacco products on school property

**Speak with a staff member if you or someone else needs help.**

Visit [hwdsb.info/school-rules](https://hwdsb.info/school-rules) to learn about the HWDSB Code of Conduct and Provincial Code of Conduct.



[hwdsb.info/school-rules](https://hwdsb.info/school-rules)

**HWDSB**

Ontario 