

# The Panabaker Chronicle - November Edition

Dear Families.

November is well underway, and with it comes a sense of momentum and accomplishment across our school community. It's been a joy to witness our students settling into routines, engaging deeply in their learning, and showing pride in their progress.

We recently celebrated several student achievements, both academic and extracurricular, and I want to commend our learners for their dedication and enthusiasm. Whether in classrooms, on the playground, or through leadership opportunities, our students continue to demonstrate the values that make Frank Panabaker such a special place.

Progress Reports will be coming home shortly, offering a snapshot of your child's growth and learning so far this term. These reports are a great opportunity to celebrate successes and set goals for the months ahead.

We're also looking forward to Interview Night, where families and teachers can connect to discuss student progress and next steps. These conversations are vital in supporting each child's journey, and we encourage all families to participate.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Things are well on their way, and we're excited for all that November has in store!

Warm wishes, Mr. D. Fede & Mrs. T. Baggio



Every year, Canadians pause on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month to honour and remember the thousands of men and women who have sacrificed their lives in military duty.

On Remembrance Day, we take the time to think about all of the men and women who have served and continue to serve during times of war, conflict and peace.



If you dream it....you can do it!

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#### Responding

As a school, we will hold students accountable for the language they use. Everyone has the right to safe and inclusive spaces that are free from discrimination and harassment motivated by bias, prejudice and hate. It is our collective responsibility and obligation to stop, address and support when acts of bias, hate or prejudice occur. Behaviours or actions in school that intentionally or unintentionally harm others based on the person's ancestry, national or ethnic origin, race, language, colour, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression must be addressed. I am sharing a graphic that we use to address these issues. These acts are never acceptable and will result in progressive discipline which can include suspension.

All students, staff, parents/guardians/caregivers, and visitors at HWDSB have the right to safe and inclusive spaces that are free from discrimination and harrassment motivated by bias, prejudice and hate.

It is our collective responsibility and obligation to stop, address and support when acts of bias, hate or prejudice occur.

Behaviours or actions in school that intentionally or unintentionally harm others based on the person's ancestry, national or ethnic origin, race, language, colour, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression must be addressed.



#### 1: INTERRUPT

Stop the harmful act with a firm and fair tone of voice to show all present that the behaviour ibeing addressed.



#### 2: IDENTIFY

- Explicitly label the form of harassment and focus on the unacceptable language being used.
   E.g. "That comment is racist/transphobic/etc."
- Focus is on the language, not the individual.



#### 3: EXPLAIN and SUPPORT

- Ensure the immediate safety of the individual(s) impacted. Ask how you can support their well-being.
- Use emotion coaching to validate their experience and communicate their importance to the school community.



#### 4: ASK FOR CHANGE and REPORT

- Explain that the incident will be reported, and that the student should not use that unacceptable language again.
- Document and report the incident, and follow-up with all impacted.



#### 5: ENSURE ACCOUNTABILITY

- All HWDSB staff have an obligation to stop actions of discrimination and harassment, and to take proactive measures to create inclusive learning environments for all students.
- Ensure the above steps are followed, students are supported, and the incident is properly reported.

### Picture Re-take Day is coming!

Please smile on November 13, 2025



### **Progress Report Cards**

Progress Reports will be sent home on November 18<sup>th</sup>! This is a great opportunity for you and your child to celebrate their accomplishments, and review some next steps and to set some goals. If you have any questions about the progress reports, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher! Parent Teacher interviews will be held between November 20-21.

### **Bus Safety Presentations**

Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services, will be providing school bus safety presentations on November 4th! As many of our students ride the bus on a daily basis, this training is very important.

Our students were part of age-appropriate, interactive, 30-minute school bus safety shows. Students participated in an interactive and engaging presentation. Most importantly, they addressed many safety issues that must be followed when on the bus!



#### **Secure School Information**

Every year, school communities are required to engage in a number of Secure Schools drills to ensure all students and staff understand how to participate in the case of an emergency situation. These drills include: 6 fire drills (3 in the fall, 3 in the spring), 1 hold and secure drill, 1 shelter in place drill, 2 lockdown drills and 1 bomb threat drill. The dates of future drills will be posted on the school website at least one day prior to our scheduled drill. If weather conditions do not allow for a safe drill, the drill would be pushed to the next available school day.

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.

To learn more about HWDSB's approach to secure schools, please go to: <a href="https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/secondary/supports/secure-schools/">https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/secondary/supports/secure-schools/</a>



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### **Cognitive Abilities Test**

From November 10-14, 2025, all students in grade 4 will take the Cognitive Abilities Test<sup>TM</sup> (CogAT®). New this year, the CogAT will be administered electronically to all grade 4 students in their classroom.

CogAT measures students' learned reasoning abilities in two areas most closely related to success in school:

The Verbal Battery measures students' abilities to reason with words and concepts. These reasoning abilities play an important role in reading comprehension, critical thinking, writing, and virtually all verbal learning tasks.

The Nonverbal Battery measures students' abilities to reason with geometric shapes and figures. To perform successfully, students must accurately implement strategies for solving novel problems. The two separate batteries provide a broad perspective on each student's learned reasoning abilities, identifying cognitive strengths and weaknesses. Each subtest includes practice questions to help students become familiar with the content and format of the subtests. These practice questions help students gain familiarity with the item formats and how to complete the different reasoning tasks.

No practice is required beforehand.

#### **School Council**

Thank you to all the parents who attended our first meeting on October 9th.
This was a great time to exchange our ideas, ask questions, and create our new executive council!

Our next School Council meeting will be on November 20<sup>th</sup>! More information to follow.



## Coming Up!

November 13 – Picture Re-Take Day

November 20 – Parent / Teacher Interviews

November 20 – School Council Meeting @ 6:30 in the Learning Commons

November 21 – PA Day



## Follow Us!

Just a reminder that our school chronicle will be posted at the beginning of each month.

Our School Website is also always up-dated with new information. Once there, you can subscribe to have an email sent to your inbox whenever new information is posted to the website. Please visit our website at:

https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/frankpanabaker



#### 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



### Try This at Home!

Are you having a hard time getting information from your child about their school day? Instead of asking "How was your day?" consider one of the following:

- Tell me about the best part of your day.
- What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
- Tell me about what you read in class.
- Do you think math [or any subject] is too easy or too hard?
- What's the biggest difference between this year and last year?
- Who made you smile today?
- What new fact did you learn today?
- Who brought the best food in their lunch today? What was it?
- What challenged you today?
- If school were a ride at the fair, which ride would it be? Why?
- If one of your classmates could be the teacher for the day who would you want it to be? Why?
- If you had the chance to be the teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class?
- What is your teacher's most important rule?
- What is the most popular thing to do at recess?
- Does your teacher remind you of anyone else you know? How?



#### **Eco School News**

The Eco School committee has purchased candy wrapper recycling boxes from TerraCycle. The boxes can be found in the front foyer of both the North and South site. Please bring in any empty candy wrappers you collect and keep them out of our landfills. Boxes will be available for the month of November or until they are full!



Did you know:

Millions of Halloween candy wrappers are needlessly sent to a landfill every year?

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We can help change this!
We will be collecting candy wrappers
to be sent away to be upcycled into
new products.

From Now until Dec. 1st please send wrappers in a sealed bag to the school.

Please ask friends and family to save their wrappers as well!





- Deadline to Order: November 10, 2025 for Term 1 (November 18 2025 - March 10, 2026.
- Your pizza selection and number of slices will stay the same during the entire term (Nov 18 - Mar 10)
- Order on Cash Online
- Cheese or Pepperoni
- \$2.50 a slice

**Brought to you by School Council** 

# The Great Pumpkin Stroll

A big thank you to our Home & School Association for an amazing pumpkin stroll event! Students had a great time carving their pumpkins and shared how exciting it was to seem them all displayed during their stroll!





















# SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER



Go to: mabelslabels.ca/en-CA/fundraising/support and search Frank Panabaker

