



**COMMUNITY LETTER: Community
News, Updates and Reminders
September 12, 2025.**



Principal: Kwame Djan

Vice-principal: Lynda Southon

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SAFE ARRIVAL LINE: 1-844-506-4350

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

Below are the updates for September 12, 2025.

Have a great weekend!

Regards,

Kwame Djan & Lynda Southon

School agendas

We are pleased to have provided school agendas to all students in Grades 1 through 8 to support organization and communication throughout the school year. To help offset the cost, we kindly ask for a **\$2.00 donation** per student. Contributions can be made through School Cash Online.

Thank you in advance for your continued support!

Parent council meeting and elections

School council elections will be held in-person on **September 23, 2025, from 6:30-7:30**. If you would like to be considered as an elected council member, complete the nomination form below. Forms are due no later than **September 19, 2025**. School Council involvement is a great way to support your child's education, and we look forward to working together. [Nomination Form](#).

Orange Shirt Day – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Tuesday, September 30th is both Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation Day. Students are encouraged to wear an orange shirt, if possible, to honour Survivors of Residential Schools and center intergenerational healing and wellness. By wearing an orange shirt on September 30th, we commit to the enduring truth that EVERY CHILD MATTERS, every day and everywhere.

Bicycle, scooter, skateboard safety

In Ontario, all cyclists under the age of 18, are legally required to wear a certified bicycle helmet as mandated by the province's Highway Traffic Act. Please ensure that your child is wearing a helmet if they are riding a bicycle, scooter, skateboard, etc. to school.



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Safety around kiss 'n' ride

- **Do** use the visitor parking lot to park your vehicle, and walk younger children to their designated waiting areas
- **Do** utilize the kiss 'n' ride, as a drop off, **ONLY** for students who can **independently unbuckle their seatbelts and disembark** from the passenger side of the vehicle, and walk or will be received by their teachers in their designated waiting areas
- Do **not** block the entry and exit way of the guest/childcare parking lot

Parking By-Laws

Stopping and/or parking is prohibited on the school side of Brigade Drive, whether inside the bus zone, or out. This extends from Bonaparte Way to Bastille St. These by-laws are in place to keep pedestrians and drivers safe. By-law officers will be on-site throughout the year to ensure compliance.

Volunteering in 2025-2026 school year

All applicants looking to volunteer are now required to present a Vulnerable Sector Screening **specific to HWDSB** before they will be able to begin their volunteer activities. An offence Declaration is required for the subsequent years until a new Vulnerable Sector is required (after 3 years). The Vulnerable Sector Screening is the property of the volunteer. A letter to be presented to the respective police department can be obtained through the office.

Continuing Education

September to June JK to Grade 8 International and Indigenous Languages program registration is open to all families. The below webpage link has all information you may need:

[International and Indigenous Languages Elementary | Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board](#)

Math At Home

To support and reinforce learning, we encourage families to spend time talking with their children about learning. Try this activity at home!

[Broken Calculator](#)



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Rules:

- Make the target number in as many ways possible using only the buttons on the calculator that are visible. Any buttons blocked with a blue square are 'broken' and cannot be used. For example, using the model on the next slide, you might create the following:
 - $6 \times 4 = 24$
 - $8 \times 3 = 24$
 - $38 - 14 = 24$
 - $30 - 6 = 24$
 - $13 + 11 = 24$
 - $14 + 10 = 24$
- *** Notice that broken buttons 2, 7, 9, or \div are never pressed to have the calculator display 24.
- You can move the blue squares wherever you'd like.
- You can also change the target number to whatever you'd like.
- Teachers can use this game in their classrooms to reinforce specific skills with students depending on which numbers they cover and what the target number is.

Broken Calculator

Uh oh! Some of the buttons are broken on the calculator. Using only the visible buttons, how many ways can you make the target number (24)?



Broken Calculator

Uh oh! Some of the buttons are broken on the calculator. Using only the visible buttons, how many ways can you make the target number ()?



It's time for our 2025 Terry Fox School Run!

This year's event will take place on Wednesday, September 24th, with a rain date scheduled for Thursday, September 25th. The students will be divided into two groups: Kindergarten to Grade 3/4, and Grades 4/5 to 8. Each group will meet in the gym for a brief assembly and pep rally, then follow our student leaders to the back field to run with their classmates and friends.

Fundraising... We need your help!

We will not be collecting *cash* donations this year, but there are two easy ways to contribute and support this important cause.

- ***Buy a limited edition, 45th Anniversary Terry Fox shirt.*** This year's logo is "Finish It", and shirts are available in Youth Sizes XXS (3T) to M (10). Adult shirts are also available, both long-sleeved and short-sleeved, in Adult Sizes SM to 3XL. All styles are available in French, and we are also



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selling French and English Read Aloud books, entitled ***"T is for Terry: An ABC of Courage."***

Merchandise is available in ***School Cash Online***, where you will also find pictures, prices, and measurement charts for sizing. If you have not set up an account, or if you need help doing so, please contact the office. ***Every single dollar from every single merchandise sale is donated to the Canadian Cancer Society on behalf of Helen Detwiler School.***

- ***Donate online.*** Every donation counts and every donation is appreciated! You can support our fundraising efforts anonymously, or you can include your name and attach a personal message or a dedication. Online donations can be made by clicking on our Terry Fox School Run link:

<https://schools.terryfox.ca/HelenDetwilerESHamilton>

Let's honour Terry Fox and celebrate his Marathon of Hope by making this our best event ever... Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support, HD!

FINISH IT.