



Highview Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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March 18th, 2019

Parents and Guardians,

Throughout this week at Highview, we will be sharing some information about Down Syndrome each day over the announcements and will also be acknowledging World Down Syndrome Day on Friday by asking students and staff to **wear blue and yellow**. On Friday, we are also asking students **to bring in a loonie or toonie**, if possible, in support of the "Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton" and all of the work they do to support both children and adults with Down Syndrome. Please see the following information regarding Down Syndrome from the Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton website (<https://www.dsah.ca/down-syndrome/>).

- Do you know that Down syndrome, also known as Trisomy 21, is a naturally occurring chromosomal arrangement that has always been a part of the human condition?*
- Do you know that the occurrence of Down syndrome is universal across all races and genders, and it is present in approximately one in 800 births in Canada?*
- Do you know that Down syndrome is **not** a disease, disorder, defect or medical condition? It is wrong to refer to people with Down syndrome as "suffering from" it. There are some medical conditions that are more commonly found in people with Down syndrome, but advances in diagnosis and treatment have greatly reduced the impact of these.*
- Do you know that while individuals with Down syndrome do have some physical features in common, they resemble their family in appearance and temperament much more than they do each other?*

So thanks in advance to all students for wearing blue and yellow on Friday, and if possible, for also bringing a loonie or toonie in support of the Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton.

Thanks,

Mr. Pellizzari (Principal)

Mr. McLean (Vice-Principal)