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## Spartan Newsletter

### March, 2025

#### **Message from Administration**

It's hard to believe that we are already in March! As always there are many exciting things happening at Hillcrest. Please make sure you check your school messenger and teacher communication for upcoming events.

We would like to take moment to thank our school council for feedback regarding community communication. As new administration to the building, we are still learning more about the community every day and appreciate the advice and support. Starting this Friday, we will be sending out quick updates via synervoice and School Messenger. If you find that you are not getting the weekly updates, please contact us after the March Break so we can support.

March Break will be starting on March 10<sup>th</sup> this year. We hope that our Hillcrest Families get a chance to enjoy the break!

#### **Black History Month**

Throughout the month of February, we recognized and honoured Black History Month throughout the school. We engaged in daily announcements recognizing Black Excellence, held an assembly centering the voices of our Black students (led by our #BLM club), and invited in a spotlight speaker who uses art to uplift and recognize Black culture within the Hamilton community. Students also held a fundraiser where they sold donated items to raise funds for a local Black charity.

#### **Ramadan**

Ramadan marks the beginning of the most holy month of the Islamic calendar, Ramadan. Ramadan commemorates the Muslim belief that Allah gave the first chapters of the Quran to Muhammad in the year 610. As you are likely aware, many of the families at Hillcrest observe this holy month by fasting and praying. Students needing accommodations will be provided with an alternative space for nutrition breaks, as well as afternoon prayer.

#### **Crack the Code**

During the month of February Hillcrest students participated in our "Crack the Code" competition. Their mission was to use math thinking to try and solve a 4-digit code on a lock box. Over the announcements, students were given clues and were able to eliminate certain

numbers in certain place value spots. Students were engaged in math conversations and a joy with numbers was evident in our building

## **March Break**

There will be no school from **Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> until Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup>** as staff and students take a well deserved spring break. We hope everybody has the opportunity to relax and reconnect with friends and family.

## **Upcoming School Events**

- March 4<sup>th</sup> – Grade 6/7/8 Boys Soccer Tournament
- March 5<sup>th</sup> – Grade 7/8 Girls Soccer Tournament
- March 10<sup>th</sup> – March 14<sup>th</sup> – March Break. The school will be closed.

## **School Council**

- March 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:15

We hope that all of our families have a wonderful March Break!