



Dear Families,

As we step into spring, our school is buzzing with meaningful activities, special events, and opportunities to connect as a community. Please take a few moments to read through this month's updates and important reminders. We've organized everything to help keep you informed and involved.

Building Community Through Education and Inclusion

We're thrilled to welcome guest speaker **Aubrey Noronha** to Kanétskare this month thanks to the generous support of our School Council. On **Tuesday, April 8**, Mr. Noronha will speak with students during a school-wide assembly entitled "*Why Being Not Racist is Not Enough Anymore*". This important conversation will explore inclusion, ally ship, and how we can all contribute to a safer and more compassionate school culture.

Families are invited to join a **virtual parent session** with Mr. Noronha on **Tuesday, April 23**, from **6:45 to 8:00 PM**. This evening session will echo the messages shared with students and offer practical strategies for supporting equity and inclusion at home. A flyer with registration information will be sent out shortly.

Celebrating Earth Week

Our Healthy Action Team (HAT) has been hard at work preparing Earth Week initiatives that encourage us all to take better care of our planet. On **Tuesday, April 23**, classes will take part in a **campus clean-up** during Period 7. Gloves and garbage bags will be provided, and each class will help tidy a section of our school grounds. We'll wrap things up with some fresh air and outdoor DPA.

Then, on **Friday, April 25**, we will recognize **Earth Hour at School** during Period 2. To reduce our energy use, classrooms will turn off lights, unplug devices, and limit technology—a small but impactful gesture toward sustainability.

Important April Dates

April is filled with key moments for students and families:

- **April 15** – Graduation Photo Retakes will be held from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM.
- **April 18 & 21** – Schools will be closed for **Good Friday** and **Easter Monday**.



- **April 23** – A busy day! In addition to the campus clean-up and parent session with Mr. Noronha, our **School Council will meet** from 5:30 to 6:30 PM in the Library. All are welcome to attend.
 - **April 24** – Vaccine Clinic Grade 7 and 8 students
 - **April 28** – Our gym will be used as a polling station for **Elections Canada**. We will ensure minimal disruption to learning throughout the day.
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Celebrating Autism Awareness Month

April is **Autism Awareness Month**, and we're marking the occasion with our **Puzzle Piece Project**. Students are invited to decorate individual puzzle pieces with positive messages about diversity or submit class puzzle pieces that include autism facts or personal tributes. These will be proudly displayed in the front foyer to celebrate inclusion and understanding.

Holiday Happenings Around the School

Our **Easter Egg Hunt** is still underway, but the secret word remains unsolved! Keep searching—it's still anyone's game. We've also launched a **Passover colouring contest**. Finished pages can be submitted to the Celebration Committee. We look forward to seeing students' creativity in action.

Wheels in Motion: Scooter Safety Reminder

With the warmer weather, we're seeing more students arrive by scooter. We'd like to remind families that scooters must be stored **in student lockers** or locked **at the bike racks near the recreation centre doors**. For safety reasons, they cannot be kept in classrooms. Please note the school is not responsible for lost or stolen scooters.

Looking Ahead: Mark Your Calendars!

Spring Open House – Thursday, May 22 (5:00–6:30 PM)

We're excited to invite families to our annual Spring Open House. Join us to explore student club showcases—from Sewing and Crochet to Robotics and Game Club—and stop by our café, supported by our School Council. More details will be shared in the coming weeks.

Grade 8 Toronto Trip – Wednesday, June 4

Our Grade 8 students will be heading to Toronto for a memorable end-of-year trip. We are

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currently looking for volunteers to accompany the group. If you're available and have a valid Vulnerable Sector Police Check, please reach out to **Ms. Jenn Dickenson** at jdickens@hwdsb.on.ca.

As always, thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. We are so proud of the energy, enthusiasm, and kindness that your children bring to school each day. Here's to a joyful and meaningful spring season ahead.

Warmly,
Mrs. Hall
Principal, **Kanétskare**