



NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Mary Hopkins Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

PRINCIPAL: Susete Bloom VICE PRINCIPAL (ACTING): Paula Thomas

HUMBLE

AMBITIOUS

WISE

KIND

STRONG

Principal's Message

This year, some of the school curriculum provided by the Ministry of Education in Ontario has changed. During our October PD day, staff engaged in further learning about the changes to the Grade 1-8 Language curriculum (2023), and well as honing their skills about the Mathematics 2020 curriculum. Additionally, staff development is occurring throughout the year around changes to the Grade 1- 6 Social Studies curriculum (2023). As a parent, you may see a few changes in what you see/hear at home from your child. Your child's teacher(s) can keep you up to date with units of study occurring in the classroom, but if you would like to learn more about the curriculum documents and changes that have occurred, a good source of information is the Parent Guides on the ministry website, which you can find here: [Parents \(gov.on.ca\)](https://www.gov.on.ca)

Remembrance Day

Last Friday, November 10th, we gathered in two assemblies to honour and remember the sacrifices made by our brave servicemen and women. Thank you to all those who were able to join us. Your presence made the event truly special and meaningful.

Our coming together provided us with the opportunity to reflect upon the importance of peace and respect. Our student performances, readings and artwork were a testament to their empathy, respect, and gratitude.

Lastly, we'd like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our staff and students who worked tirelessly to organize this event. A special thank you to Ms. Chambers, Ms. Kennett and Mr. LaPeare for leading this work.



Daily Attendance Reminders

If your child is going to be absent, needs to be picked up early or will be coming into school late, please make sure to record that information in Safe Arrival. There are multiple ways families can access Safe Arrival, for details, please see: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/secondary/supports/safearrival/>

Planned absences can be put in as far in advance as you are able. Same day absences, however, need to be put in the system by 10 a.m. for the system to pick them up.

Please note, while office and school staff do our best to call down children for early pick up, at times this can take some time for the student to actually arrive at the front door. Please also note that early pick ups result in the disruption of learning to your child and to the other students in the class, particularly the 3:00 to 3:30 pick-ups. Please consider these factors when determining when/if to pick your child up early.

Oral Health Screening

The dental team will be visiting the school to carry out the Ministry of Health (MOH) Oral Screening Program in grades JK, SK, and 2 on November 20 and 22, 2023.

To carry out the dental screening, a Registered Dental Hygienist will use a separate sterilized mirror to look in the mouth of each child. It takes about 30 seconds per child. Please send a note to the school if:

- You have a child in other grades that you would like to be seen, or,
- If you want your child excluded from the dental screening.

Your child will be sent home with a sealed brochure marked confidential with their dental screening results. Public Health Services offers dental programs and preventive services for children needing financial assistance. For more information please visit [Children's Dental Health | City of Hamilton](#)



Food Days

Pizza Days returned to Mary Hopkins earlier this month. A tremendous thank you to the volunteers who come in each Monday to distribute pizza to students. In the coming weeks, we are excited to introduce popcorn and cookie days. All purchases must be made through School Cash Online by November 26th.

Hamilton Foundation for Student Success [Foundation \(hwdsb.on.ca\)](http://Foundation(hwdsb.on.ca))

Looking Forward:

Nov 20 & 22 Dental Screenings (Kindergarten/Grade 2)

Nov 21 Picture Retake Day

Nov 23 School Council Meeting @ 6:30pm

Nov 24 Mary Hopkins Spirit Day (wear your MH swag and/or school colours)

Popcorn Day (pre-ordered)

Nov 30 Temporary Accommodation Review – Public Meeting @ 6:00pm (Mary Hopkins gymnasium)

Dec 1 Intertrain Bus Safety Presentations

Dec 1-12 Food Drive

Dec 8 Popcorn Day (pre-ordered)

Dec 15 Sweater Spirit Day

Terra Cotta Cookie Day (pre-ordered)

Schoolwide Assemblies

Dec 21 Winter Concert (9:30am and 11:45am) Details to follow.

Dec 22 Last Day of Classes for 2023

Popcorn Day (pre-ordered)

School Phone Number: 905.689.7905

Email: maryhopkins@hwdsb.on.ca

Twitter: @MaryHopkinsPS

Website: [Mary Hopkins Elementary School \(hwdsb.on.ca\)](http://MaryHopkinsElementarySchool(hwdsb.on.ca))

