



Queen Mary Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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September 2021

Dear Families,

Welcome to an exciting year of “Curiosity, Creativity, and Possibility” in HWDSB. Here at Queen Mary we have undergone some changes and we know there might be challenges, but we also know that there will be opportunities, growth, change, learning, and new relationships ahead. Personally, I am looking forward to working with both our new and returning staff, students and families as we start a new school year. I’d like to extend a special welcome to **Mr. Balal Ahmed, our new Vice Principal**, I know he is looking forward to getting to know the wonderful Queen Mary community.

Covid has been a difficult for many but we are here to support and **go forward together**. One of the messages we like to share with our students is the importance of our mindset. As we start to bring back some of the things that have been set aside over the past two years, a positive growth mindset will make a big difference. When we take risks and try new things, making mistakes or not succeeding right away is okay. Trying your best, supporting others, and developing resilience are all important. If issues arise, support your children to problem solve with their teachers, staff members or school administrators. Student voice is important and we want to give students the opportunity to develop self-advocacy skills to learn to ask questions and seek assistance when needed.

As parents, you are also encouraged to stay in contact with your child’s teachers. You can also call me at the school or email me at kemccror@hwdsb.on.ca. Subscribing to our website is another great way to stay connected through regular updates.

Important reminders:

- **First day of school in grade 1-8 is Wednesday September 8. SK students will start September 9, JK students will have a scheduled small group AM or PM meeting with the teacher.**
- Protocols and practices are ever changing under the direction of public health.
- **Parents please drop your children off at the gates**, only students and staff are allowed on the playground.
- **Masks are to be worn at school**; social distancing protocols are in place while at school
- Appointments can be made with teachers or school staff. Please call ahead to book meetings. Where possible, meetings will be held virtually.
- **Lunches are not to be dropped off at the school**. Students should bring their own litterless lunch to school with them. If you need support for food, please contact me at kemccror@hwdsb.on.ca
- Please know that we are finalizing class placements. **The class listed currently on the parent portal may be changed next week as we make adjustments.**

Queen Mary is a wonderful place to learn and grow. We look forward to working with you and your children.

Sincerely,

Mrs. K. McCrory, Principal

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB