



QUEEN VICTORIA

OCTOBER 2020

NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

School & COVID Update:

Hello families. What a great couple of weeks we have had at Queen Victoria! First, I would like to say how proud the staff and I are of all the students. They have adapted to the new routines beautifully! We are impressed at how students are following the **4 keys to keeping ourselves and others safe** (washing hands multiple times a day, maintaining physical distancing, wearing a mask properly, and telling an adult if they feel unwell). Staff are also doing an excellent job of teaching and monitoring our new routines and safety protocols. We cannot let our guard down and we shall continue to monitor and create a safe learning environment for everyone. Parents and guardians, please continue to monitor your children for COVID related symptoms in the mornings and please do not send your children to school if they are demonstrating any of the symptoms or are feeling ill. We are strictly following all public health and HWDSB protocols to help keep all our students and staff safe. If you have any questions regarding our COVID protocols, please contact the office and ask to speak to administration and we would be happy to discuss any questions or concerns you may have,

Parent Portal:

Please check out the Parent Portal for you child(ren). There are several on-line forms that need to be completed as soon as possible. These forms include iDigital Tools Permission forms, Annual Media Consent, and Nutrition Break Program guidelines.

Ipads:

During the spring shutdown of schools, many Ipads were loaned to families to support on-line learning. We are asking that all Ipads, charge cords, and charging blocks be returned as soon as possible. These Ipads belong to the school and are needed to support classroom learning and to create Ipads kits for each classroom.

Nutrition Program:

Our morning nutrition program will be starting up again very soon. Due to COVID restrictions, we must make changes to our nutrition program. We are working closely with Public Health and Tastebuds to provide nutritious food choices (grains, dairy, fruit/vegetables) but most items will be pre-packaged food items to reduce food handling as much as possible.

Cell Phones:

We understand that with parent permission and guidance, some students may come to school with a cell phone. Once students are in the building, cell phones are expected to be put away and out of sight until the end of the day. If a student ever needs to call home, it is expected that they ask permission and use the school phone to contact home. We also ask parents to contact the office in case of emergency. We appreciate everyone's cooperation with this.

Food Deliveries & Forgotten Items:

Due to COVID protocols, we have had to restrict parent entry into the building and we appreciate your understanding. We know that sometimes a lunch or another item has been forgotten at home. If you need to drop off something to the school, please ring the door bell and someone in the office will assist you as soon as possible. We are also asking that parents do not send or order food to the school as the office staff cannot accept this at the door. We are doing our best to limit outside contact and reduce as many touchpoints as possible.

Remote/In-person Transition:

The original date for transitioning back to school or into remote learning has been delayed until November 3rd. The Board sent out a communication message to all families on September 30th regarding this issue. Parents/guardians will be able to choose their intentions starting Monday October 5th in the Parent Portal. More information will be shared about this procedure as we receive it.

Mask Table:

A very special thank you to parents Kate Melville and David Halls for organizing our community mask drive. They will be at the corner of Ferguson and Forest on Thursday mornings from 8:00-8:30am. You can pick up a mask at the table and are also looking for donations of new sewing fabric for masks. Thank you to the Carlisle United Church Sewing Circle for making and donating hundreds of masks to our school.

Terry Fox Run:

Queen Victoria School is pleased to be participating in the 40th anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope run on Friday October 9th, 2020. Each class will participate in the walk/run during a scheduled time during the day. We are asking each student to wear a green shirt to promote school spirit. No money will be collected at the school this year for the run. Families can donate on-line if they so choose.

School Council:

Parents are important members of a school community. We are looking for interested parents/guardians that would like to be members of the Queen Victoria School Council. The time commitment for this is approximately 2 hours per month to attend a monthly School Council meeting. Your voice is important to us and if you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Principal, Kelly Sweeting, at ksweetin@hwdsb.on.ca More information will be coming out shortly about the School Council Handbook, information on elections for executive positions, and meeting format and dates.

Make sure you are following our twitter account [@qvhwsb](https://twitter.com/qvhwsb) for important updates and school news. You can also subscribe to our **school website at www.hwdsb.on.ca/queenvictoria/**

Thank you again to our fantastic parent community! We couldn't do this without you and we appreciate all your support. We look forward to another fantastic month together. Stay safe.

Mrs. Kelly Sweeting & Mrs. Sue Pasion
