



Queen Victoria Elementary School Newsletter

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March 2025

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday, March 4th

Dance Competition at Glendale HS

Wednesday, March 5th

Pizza Day

Phonics Academy 2:50 pm

Spark Program 3:00 pm

Thursday, March 6th

Phonics Academy 2:50 pm

Friday, March 7th

Viper Victory Assemblies

Monday, March 10th – Friday, March 14th

March Break – No School

Tuesday, March 18th

Junior Basketball Games @ home

Thursday, March 20th

Junior Basketball Games @ Benetto

Friday, March 21st

World Down Syndrome Day

Tuesday, March 25th

Jr. Basketball Games @ Kanetskare

Wednesday, March 26th

Spark Program 3:00 pm

Thursday, March 27th

School Council Meeting 6:00 pm

Friday, March 28th

Sub Day

Staff Shoutouts:

Dear QV Community,

Welcome to Our March Newsletter!

As we step into March, we're excited to welcome the season of spring—a time of growth, renewal, and fresh beginnings. This month also marks the start of the final term of the school year, a perfect opportunity for students to reflect on their accomplishments and focus on finishing the year strong.

With the final term ahead, we continue to put a special emphasis on literacy and math as we work to strengthen the foundation of these key skills. Whether through building core literacy skills, engaging math challenges, or exciting classroom activities, students are encouraged to continue developing their abilities and preparing for the next steps in their learning journey.

We look forward to an exciting and productive month as we embrace both the challenges and celebrations this final term brings.

Monthly Character Trait

This month, we are focusing on the character trait of *Integrity*, which is all about being honest, doing the right thing even when no one is watching, and staying true to one's values.

Integrity ties closely with allyship and advocacy, as it encourages students to stand up for what's right, support others, and speak out against injustice. When we act with *integrity*, we are more likely to be allies for those who need help and advocates for causes that promote fairness and respect.

At home, families can engage in discussions about what *integrity* looks like in everyday situations—whether it's admitting when a mistake is made, being a supportive friend, or helping others who might need it.

Thank you this month to.....



- Ms. Lo and Ms. Harrison for hosting our newcomer family engagement event
- Ms. Iavarone and Ms. Smith for supporting our Anti-Bullying workshops
- Ms. Elder / Ms. Lolua/ Ms. Vahrmeyer for coaching the Junior Girls Basketball Teams
- Ms. Dely for leading the QV Dance Team to their competition at Glendale Secondary School

Volunteers Needed

As the spring season slowly approaches, our teachers are thinking about class trips! If you are interested in volunteering with your child's class for any trip opportunities, please see the necessary paperwork to be completed:

[tinyurl.com/VolunteerHWDSB](https://www.tinyurl.com/VolunteerHWDSB)

For most volunteer roles within the HWDSB you must have a **Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC)** with Hamilton Police. The fee for a VSC is \$25 and can be reimbursed by the school if cost is a barrier. Processing time is 30 days.

To obtain a VSC from HPS, visit:

<https://www.policeresolutions.ca/checks/services/hamilton/>

Pizza and Sub Days

Pizza and Sub sandwich Days will be once a month in 2024-2025. Payments through School Cash Online (SCO) close one week prior. Please see this month's dates above.

To register for SCO go to:

Parents can also encourage children to practice advocacy by identifying a cause they care about and taking small actions to support it, like writing a letter to a local leader or helping a neighbor in need. By fostering *integrity* at home, families help build a foundation for students to become strong, compassionate allies in their communities.

🚩 **Human Development and Sexual Health Curriculum Update** 🚩 The Ministry of Education's 2019 Health and Physical Education Curriculum for Grades 1-8 will be taught between **March 24th and April 30th, 2025**. Parents or caregivers who wish to exempt their children from this part of the curriculum must complete an exemption form by **March 18th, 2025**. Forms are available in the Parent Portal or through the school office. For more details, visit the HWDSB website or contact your school principal.



As we approach the holy month of Ramadan, we want to support our QV students who observe this special time by providing prayer spaces and alternative spaces during eating times. We understand that fasting and prayer are important aspects of Ramadan, and we are committed to ensuring that our students feel comfortable and supported throughout the school day.

Designated areas will be available for prayer, and students who are fasting will have a quiet space to rest or engage in activities during lunch and snack times. We wish all our families a blessed Ramadan, filled with peace, reflection, and joy. Thank you for sharing this important time with us, and we look forward to supporting our students in any way we can.

<https://hwdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Registration>

A Message from our Nutrition Helpers

We are always looking for new volunteers in the Nutrition Program. Volunteers need to be available right after morning bell or before pickup and any amount of time you can spare is always appreciated. If you have any questions, just email us at

QueenVicNutritionProgram@gmail.com Don't worry if you aren't an expert in the kitchen, we have many tasks and always have volunteers to guide you.

Did you know that eating healthy foods and drinking lots of water can help you fight off viruses? This is especially important during the winter months when we spend more time indoors. Fresh fruits and vegetables, probiotic yogurt, nuts, eggs and fatty fish all contain ingredients that help us stay healthy.

Kindness Lesson in JSG

Ms. Shannon / Ms. Camerons class participated in Kindness week by completing the following activity:

We held our heart in our hands and then we said phrases like "you're not my friend," "you can't play with me," "I hate you," etc. Every time we heard something unkind, we wrinkled up a part of our heart. Afterwards we said sorry for the mean things that were said and tried to flatten and fix our crumpled hearts. We noticed that even though we said sorry we couldn't take those words back completely and that our hearts were still hurt/damaged by what was said.



QV Black History Month Highlights

Friendly Reminder

Attendance / Our school bell rings at 8:30am and supervision begins on the playground at 8:15am. Being on time for school is essential, especially to ensure that students don't miss out on the important literacy learning that happens during the first block of the day. This time is crucial for setting the tone for the day and engaging in activities that build reading, writing, and comprehension skills. Arriving on time helps students start the day focused and ready to learn, ensuring they get the most out of these vital lessons. Let's work together to make sure everyone is present and prepared for a strong start each day! Please let us know if we can support this in any way.



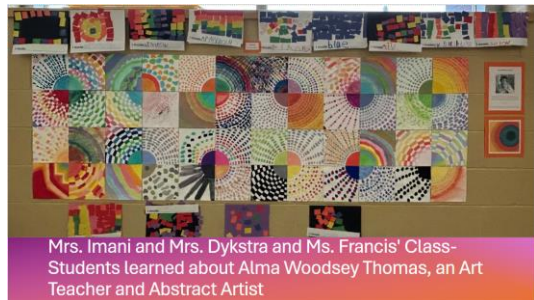
QV Parking: We continue to struggle with the parking situation at QV. We understand that parking can be a challenge. **Please avoid parking or dropping off in no stopping zones such as the Walnut Street bus zone and the school parking lot laneway.** Please remember to park ONLY in authorized parking spots. If parking is not available, simply park a little further away and walk your child in. Thank you for your cooperation to keep our students safe.

This is how QV has been recognizing Black History Month





Grade 6: Ms. Lolua- students spent the month examining various black Canadians who have made positive contributions



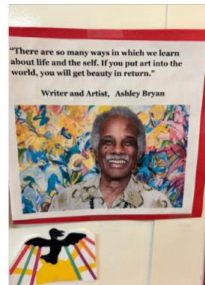
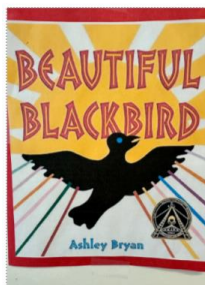
Mrs. Imani and Mrs. Dykstra and Ms. Francis' Class- Students learned about Alma Woodsey Thomas, an Art Teacher and Abstract Artist

Excel in Style Calling all Black and racialized textured hair youth in Hamilton! You're invited to a special event celebrating your beauty, culture, and identity. Join us on **March 15th from 10 AM to 6 PM at Bernie Custis Secondary School**. Get your hair styled or cut and learn about textured hair care and styling. Connect with 40+ Hamilton Textured Hair Expert Stylists and Barbers. Vibe with friends, connect with youth programs and community organizations 🌟

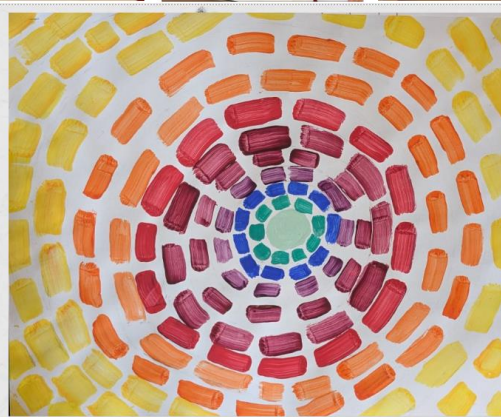


Grade 1: Mrs. Boudreau

The grade 1's studied some famous artists and writers for Black History Month. We read the story Beautiful Blackbird, an African legend where all the birds want to have black feathers. Blackbird shares his feathers but reminds them that true beauty comes from the inside. "Just remember, whatever I do, I'll be me and you'll be you".



Alma Thomas inspired art ~ Gwen Aliyah and Alina 8A and 7/8B



Remember the Past... Inspire the Future!



Ms. Mamone's grade 4/5 class learned about influential Black Canadian's who have made a lasting impact, like **Willie O'Ree** who was the first Black National Hockey League player!

QV Book Madness

We are excited to have Book Madness happening in the school. We will have a reading bracket for Primary organized by Ms. Groff and Junior/Intermediate by Ms. Lolua . Students will vote on their favourite books until there is one winner! Please see below.

