



October 2025

Queen Victoria Elementary School Newsletter

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Phone: 905-667-5880

Upcoming Dates

Friday October 3rd

Re-org Transitional Day- First Day for students in their new classes (if applicable)
Blue Jays Day-Wear Blue, White or Jays gear

Thursday October 9th

Cross Country Meet
Fire Drill

Monday October 13th

Statutory Holiday - Thanksgiving

Tuesday October 14th

Grade 7 Vaccines

Thursday October 16th

Hold and Secure Drill
Meet the Teacher – 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Wednesday October 22nd

School Photos- Grade photos to happen later in the year

October 20th and 21st

Diwali - Happy Diwali to celebrating families !

Friday October 24th

PA day

Thursday October 30th

Fire Drill
School Council Meeting- 6:00 – 7:00

Friday October 31st

Sub day
Halloween

Volunteers Needed

Volunteering can be a great way to engage with your child's school, e.g. chaperoning field trips, food prep with the nutrition program or special events.

tinyurl.com/VolunteerHWDSB

For most volunteer roles within the HWDSB you must have a **Vulnerable**

Thank You For A Great Start !

Hello Everyone,

We want to thank all our Queen Victoria families for your support in helping students learn new routines and adjust to recent classroom reorganizations. Your patience, encouragement, and partnership have made a big difference in creating a smooth transition for our learners. Together, we're setting a positive tone for a successful year ahead.

We're excited to get our Checkers and Board Games Club started! To support this initiative, we're kindly asking for donations of board games—especially checkers sets. If you have any gently used or new games at home that you'd be willing to contribute, we'd greatly appreciate it. Your support helps create fun, inclusive opportunities for students to build focus, strategy, and teamwork.

As part of our commitment to student safety, we kindly remind families that parents and visitors are not permitted inside the school building during the school day unless previously arranged with staff. Also, just a reminder that school parking is for staff only. We truly appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we work together to maintain a safe and secure environment for all students.



The book mobile will be at Queen Victoria every Friday from 3:00 – 4:00. We hope you take advantage of this great opportunity from the Hamilton Public Library to secure some great books!

It was great to see QV staff and students united on Sept. 25th for our annual Terry Fox Run. Students chose to walk or run to honour Terry Fox and raise money for cancer research, showing support, courage, and community spirit. Our school raised over \$900. Way to go Vipers!

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.policesolutions.ca/checks/services/hamilton/>

Pizza and Sub Days

Pizza and Sub sandwich Days will be once a month in 2025-2026 . Payments through School Cash Online (SCO) close one week prior. Please see October dates above.

To register for SCO go to:
<https://hwdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Registration>

Blue Jay Day at QV

**Friday,
October**

3rd:

Let's rally
behind the
Toronto



Blue Jays! This week, we're encouraging all students to wear blue, white, or Blue Jays gear to show our support and help cheer them on. Whether it's a jersey, a hat, or just your brightest blue shirt, let's fill the halls with team spirit and positive energy. Go Jays go!

Indigo School Fundraiser Update: Indigo Adopt a School Fundraiser Success!

We're thrilled to share that our school has raised over \$15,000 through the Indigo Adopt A School fundraiser! Thanks to the incredible support from our community, these funds will be

Morning Drop Off / Arrival:

We encourage all students to be on time and prepared to learn each morning. Our school begins at 8:30am. Supervision is available from 8:15 to 8:30 AM. Any student arriving at or after 8:30 must check in at the office. Students engage in valuable learning during the first hour of school and it is an important time to come together as a class to set the days routines and events.

We remind all students to enter on their grade appropriate playground (Charlton Street / Walnut Street playgrounds) and avoid using the front door. We also send a friendly reminder to avoid stopping, or parking in the laneway each morning and at pick up – Please see city signage as these are no stopping zones. Drop off parking is available on Forest / Ferguson Avenue but be mindful of the bus area on Ferguson before / after school. Thank you for your continued cooperation to keep all community members safe.

QV Extra-Curricular Activities:

We already have so many amazing teams taking place at QV. Our **volleyball teams**, cross country teams, and swimming teams are all getting organized for their competitions taking place in October. A big thank you to the coaches (Volleyball) Mr May, Mr. Sackie, Ms Momone, Ms. Vahrmeier, Ms. Elder, Ms. McGinley, Ms. Boyle, and Mr Diggon. (Cross country) Mr. Fazzari, Mr. Diggon, Ms. Turk, and Ms James. (Swimming) Ms. Collins and Mrs Dykstra. Go Vipers – We know they will make us proud!

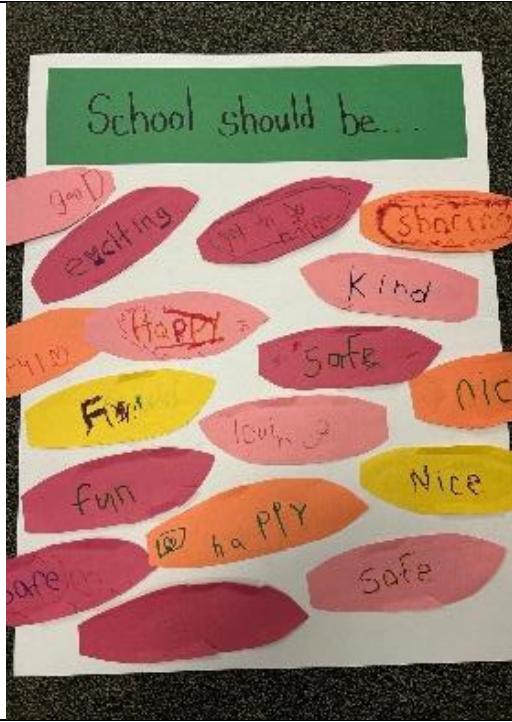
Halloween Reminder

As we prepare for Halloween festivities at school, we kindly ask families to keep a few important guidelines in mind. Please avoid costumes that include masks, weapons, or elements that may be culturally insensitive. We also ask that any treats sent in are peanut-safe to ensure the safety of all students. Individual teachers will be sharing more specific details about classroom celebrations soon. Thank you for helping us create a fun and inclusive Halloween for everyone!



used to purchase new books for our Learning Commons, helping to inspire a love of reading and learning in all our students. Thank you to Ms. Lolua for leading this initiative.

Ms. Dykstra's Class



Ms. Taylor's Class



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation- Orange Shirt Day



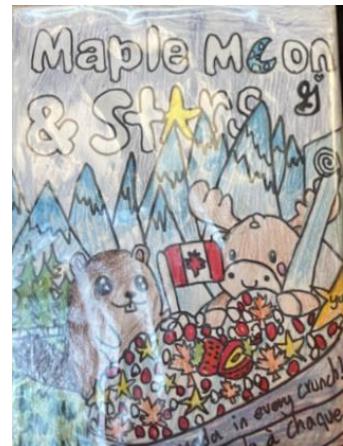
Orange Shirt Day, recognized on September 30, is a time to honour Indigenous children who were sent to residential schools and to acknowledge the lasting impact these institutions had on families and communities. At QV, many staff and students wore orange to show our commitment to truth, reconciliation, and creating a safe, inclusive environment for all. Students and staff took part in meaningful conversations and learning throughout the day.

Learning from Ms. Dykstra's class:

In Kindergarten, students read the book Phyllis's Orange Shirt. When Phyllis was a little girl, she was excited to go to residential school for the first time. Her Granny bought her a bright orange shirt that she loved, and she wore it to school for her first day. When she arrived at school her bright orange shirt was taken away. This is both Phyllis Webstad's true story and the story behind Orange Shirt Day which is a day for us all to reflect upon the treatment of First Nations people and the message that 'Every Child Matters'. Students made connections by brainstorming ideas of how they would like their school experience to be.

Learning from Ms. Taylor's class:

Over the past couple weeks, 78A students have been learning about Canadian identity and history, and in particular treaties, The Indian Act, and residential schools. In addition, they have been learning about healthy eating and advertising techniques (media literacy). In art we have been learning about the elements in art, particularly line, shape, texture, and space. Students have used inquiry and their creativity to create a Canadian-themed cereal to "be released" on Truth and Reconciliation Day that will educate the public about our Indigenous heritage.



Ms. Lolua's Class 6A

The Assignment: Write a Letter to a Leader

As part of the Adopt a School Grant program through the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation, students wrote a letter to various government officials calling for stronger support and funding for school libraries. The class was fortunate to receive a response from the office of the Prime Minister. Please see below:



Ref.: LM005743793

September 18, 2025

Queen Victoria Elementary School
166 Forest Avenue
Hamilton, Ontario L8N 0A6

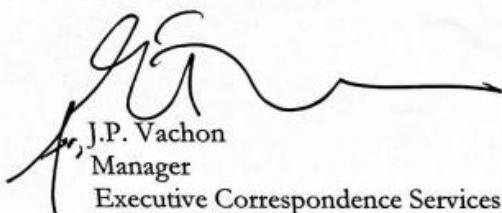
Dear Students:

On behalf of the Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 19, 2025.

Prime Minister Carney values feedback and suggestions from young Canadians, and he appreciates the time you have taken to share your thoughtful comments with him. Please be assured that your remarks have been carefully read.

Thank you for contacting the Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely,



J.P. Vachon
Manager
Executive Correspondence Services