



www.hwdsb.on.ca/raylewis

Ray Lewis Legends Newsletter

27 Jessica Street
Hamilton, Ontario
(905) 318-3131



SCHOOL BELL

TIMES:

Entry Bell 9:15AM
1st Nutrition Break
10:55AM -11:35AM
2nd Nutrition Break
1:15PM-1:55PM
Dismissal Bell 3:35PM

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 22 - Meet the Staff
September 30 - Orange Shirt Day

PARKING REMINDER:

The front of the school building has No Parking/ Stopping signs. Please do not pull into the bus loading zone to drop off or pick up your children. The back parking lot is also a prohibited area as well.

SMOKE & VAPE FREE

SCHOOL: Smoking cannabis or tobacco & vaping any substance is prohibited anywhere on school property and in public areas within 20 metres of the perimeter of the school grounds. This includes the parking lot. If caught smoking or vaping, you may be ticketed or fined.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE - PAYMENT OPTION HOW TO REGISTER

Click on the link on our school website to register.

Please check out our school website, and click on subscribe and follow us on Twitter.

[Ray Lewis Elementary School \(hwdsb.on.ca\)](http://RayLewisElementarySchool.hwdsb.on.ca)

@RayLewisHWDSB

September 2022

From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Ray Lewis Families,

I cannot believe we are together again for another year of learning! Our staff are so excited to be back and have been working hard to get our school and classrooms ready so we have a clean working and learning environment. Our students are settling in as their first week back comes to a close. Everyone is eager and ready for another jam packed year. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher through their agenda, email, or the telephone, with any questions you may have. We look forward to a fantastic school year!

Welcome to NEW STAFF! We would like to welcome Ms. Horton, Ms. Hamilton, Ms. Ridder, Ms. Troop, Ms. Wall, Ms. Campea, Miss Sabina and Mr. Cruz to our staff this year.

School Council: We will have our first School Council meeting on Tuesday, September 27th, from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. The meeting will be held IN PERSON at the school.

Transportation: Information has been posted on our school website. If your child does not meet criteria for transportation a Courtesy Transportation Form can be submitted to the school's Vice Principal Ms. Tovey. Courtesy riders will not be allowed to ride the bus until approval is given. Completed forms and applications will not be approved until October 2022. Courtesy transportation is not granted on a first-come, first-serve basis, as many factors are taken into consideration.

Volunteers: Part of the HWDSB's Volunteer Policy is that any volunteers working with children must have obtained a Vulnerable Sector Screening Report. This is essentially a criminal record check and is put in place to protect our students. To obtain such a report, an adult must pick up an application form at the Police Station or online, and take it to the Hamilton Police Services Headquarters on King William Street in Hamilton. There is a cost for the screening which is valid for 3 years with the HWDSB. It could take up to 4 - 6 weeks for the report to be prepared. Once you have obtained the report, bring it to the school office for approval and to complete Volunteer Forms. If you are thinking of volunteering, it is a good idea to get a Screening as soon as possible, to take advantage of opportunities as they arise. Volunteers will not be permitted to attend school trips without a Police Check!

Meet The Ray Lewis Staff Event: All Ray Lewis families are invited to come and Meet the Staff on Thursday, September 22nd, from 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm on our back playground and field! Invitations will be sent home with your child early next week. Please mark your calendars! Families will be able to pre-order pizza for the event. Details will be sent home with students next week.

Medication at School: If a student requires medication to be administered at school, forms must be obtained from the office and completed by the child's physician. All medication will be kept at the office. Epi-Pens must be carried in a pouch by the student at all times.

SAFETY PROCEDURES

Ray Lewis will be practicing our "Safe School Procedures" during this school year. Although one can never predict when a potentially harmful situation may arise, schools can prepare for responding to such an incident through intentional, scheduled practices. The goal of the practice is to minimize the risk for staff and students during a time of crisis. In the event of a "real" evacuation, the Hamilton Police/Fire Services will be responding to the situation.

All staff, students and volunteers who are regularly in the school building, are required to know the procedures. The students will have the Procedures explained to them ahead of time and the school will practice throughout the school year. When the school is practising these procedures a message will be sent out to families to let them know that the practice procedure has, or is being completed.

PERSONAL DEVICES & TECHNOLOGY AT SCHOOL

Parents/Caregivers will be receiving a letter regarding the acceptable use of personal devices at school, which was sent home with students today. We will be following these guidelines again this year.

Electronic devices should only be used at school as a learning tool, during instructional time, upon the invitation of the classroom teacher, otherwise, they should be stored in lockers or backpacks. School staff are working with students on the responsible use of their devices when they are at school. During the school day (9:00 am - 3:35 pm), personal devices will be turned off and will be kept in the student's school bag or locked in their locker, unless the classroom teacher has allowed for their use in class, in a way that would enhance the learning and engagement of the student.

For privacy, students may NOT take photos on their own devices at school (not of themselves, other students, friends, or staff). There will be times where school devices may be used to take photos for class work, yearbook, slide shows, etc.

Parents are asked to support staff in helping students understand the importance of focused school time. Parents and students should not be expecting to text or otherwise making contact on personal devices during the school day. For emergency situations, parents are welcome to call the school office.

Parents/Caregivers are asked to review the letter with their child, sign, and return it to the school.

WEDNESDAY PIZZA DAYS



Pizza Day - \$2.00 per slice

Pizza will be sold every Wednesday for \$2.00 per slice.

Pizza sales will begin in October and will be served during 2nd Nutrition Break.

Parents will be asked to pre-order online, using school cash online, if interested in placing an order.

NEWSLETTER ON WEBSITE!

Beginning in October 2022, all School Newsletters will be posted on our School Website only.

Paper copies will no longer be sent home.

Please subscribe to our School Website at www.hwdsb.on.ca/raylewis/

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS

Media Consent and Student Verification Forms need to be accessed on the Parent Portal.

Please go into the Portal and check to see that they are accurate for your child(ren). Please make any necessary corrections and update any changes that are required.

The office will be updating the information next week. Please contact the office if you have any questions or need to add additional documentation.



ATTENDANCE CHECK – ABSENT OR LATE

When your child is going to be absent, it is essential for your child's safety to notify the school. If we do not receive a notification and your child is absent, our automated attendance notification program will call your home and send you an email to inform you of your child's absence. We ask that you call the school, or use the Safe Arrival Program to explain the reason for the absence.

Call the school at 905-318-3131

- Leave a message stating your child's name, grade, teacher, reason for and length of absence.

Safe Arrival Program by Website, App or Phone

- To learn more about Safe Arrival, see below...

HWDSB



How to set your SchoolMessenger preferences

Did you know that you can choose how you want to receive messages from schools and HWDSB?

Use the **SchoolMessenger app** and website so that you receive messages in one or more of these ways:



Phone

(Home, cell or both)



Email



Text



**SchoolMessenger
App/Website**

For each of the following message types:

- Attendance
- Non-School Hours Emergency
- School Hours Emergency
- General
- SafeArrival
- Survey

Follow the steps below to create an account and set your preferences:

1. **Download the SchoolMessenger App**, or visit go.schoolmessenger.ca.
2. **Create an account** (using the email address you have on file with your child's school).
3. Once you are logged in, go to **Preferences** on the left hand menu and turn on/off phone, text, or email for each message type.

Good to know:

You must have one phone number on file in case of emergencies. The phone number registered at your child's school will be used for any School Hours Emergency and/or Non-School Hours Emergency communications.

All messages will be delivered to your account in the SchoolMessenger app/website. If you wish to receive messages on the app only, you can turn off phone, text, and email options for all message types.

If you have any questions please contact your child's school.

curiosity

creativity

possibility

Welcome to SchoolCashOnline

Fast. Safe. Convenient.

For safety and efficiency reasons, **Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board** would like to reduce the amount of cash & cheques coming into our schools. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE!

It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child.



Step 1
Register



Step 2
Confirm Email



Step 3
Add a Student

Go to
<https://hwdsb.schoolcashonline.com>
and click on **Register**.

- ✓ Enter in your first name, last name, email and create a password.
- ✓ Select a security question.
- ✓ Check YES to receive email notifications

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. **Click on the link provided inside the email** to confirm your email and School Cash Online account (check spam).

The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site, prompting you to **sign into your account**. Use your email address and password to log in.

This step will connect your child to your account.

- a) Enter the **School Board Name**.
- b) Enter the **School Name**.
- c) Enter Your Child's **First Name, Last Name, and Birth Date**.
- d) Select **Continue**.
- e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the **Agree** box and select **Continue**.
- f) Your child has been added to your account.