

The Remote Report: Languages

May

Dear Families,

And here we are...the month of May. They say if we had a cold January – we will have a cold May – I guess that remains to be seen.

There are many upcoming important dates in the month of May: Mental Health Awareness week, Student Census and more! Please take a read of the newsletter for more information.

Our students have been experiencing some amazing virtual trips from the science centre, to Royal Botanical Gardens and so many more!

As we embark upon the final two months of school, we encourage all our learners to enjoy the sunshine and the rain and the winds. To take time to appreciate everything that is outside our windows and continue to be dedicated and resilient learners.

Enjoy the warmth of Spring!

Sincerely, Mrs. Panju & Mrs. Gojsic



Remote School Website:

The Remote School Website is an invaluable source of information for Remote Families. Please check in frequently to access important messages and updates.

<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/remoteteaching/>

Remote Languages Important Contacts

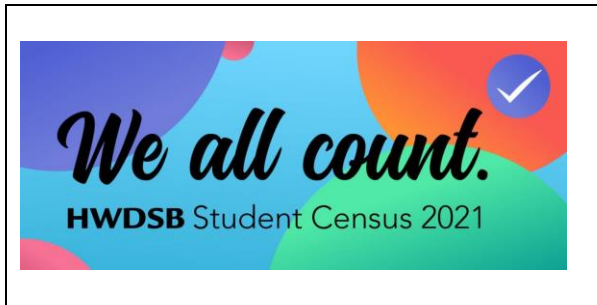
The Remote Languages School exists just like a brick and mortar school. Should you wish to connect with the school, please feel free to do so by email at remotelanguages@hwdsb.on.ca or by phone at 905 527 5092 x2127 (voicemail only).



Mental Health Awareness Week May 3rd – May 9th: This CMHA Mental Health Week asks everyone to focus on how naming, expressing, and dealing with our emotions — the ones we like and the ones we don't. They recognize that this is important for our mental health. This Mental Health Week, they are spreading the message to not be uncomfortably numb. #GetReal about how you feel. And name it, don't numb it. They have provided a wealth of information to support us in accessing strategies to name how we feel. Free toolkits and supports can be accessed here:

<https://mentalhealthweek.ca/2021-toolkits/>

STUDENT CENSUS 2021



At HWDSB, we are committed to identifying and removing barriers so we can offer all students supportive, inclusive, and respectful learning environments.

To learn more about our students, we will conduct a confidential census in April 2021. We All Count: HWDSB Student Census 2021 will gather identity-based student data so that we can identify and address systemic barriers by focusing our programming and resources.

We know that asking about a person's identity can be uncomfortable, and we will do so with sensitivity. We consulted students, families, staff, and community members so that this census helps HWDSB make evidence-informed decisions to support equity, student achievement and well-being.

For more information and to access the census questions, please visit

<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/equity/we-all-count-hwdsb-student-census-2021/>

Important Date Reminders:

- May 3rd – May 7: Education Week/Mental Health Week
- May 9th: Mother's Day
- May 21st: Bike to Work Day
- May 24th: Victoria Day – No School



Grade 2 Home Reading with Heart

Our Home Reading with Heart programs continues! This is a very special Home Reading program just for Grade 2 students and their families.

The third cycle, "Our Many Talents", launched April 26th. To access the digital books you will need to sign into the free English Spark Reading Program and the free Scholastic French digital library (Biblio Numérique- Lecture Nivelée).

Reach out to your homeroom languages teacher for sign-in details.



Elementary Learning: Human Development & Sexual Health

The Ministry of Education has introduced a revised Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education Grades 1-8, (2019) to replace the interim 2018 document. There is also a new Program/Policy Memorandum 162: Exemption from Instruction related to the Human Development and Sexual Health Expectations, Grades 1–8, (2019) to accompany the updated curriculum document. This memorandum outlines the process for communicating with families about Strand D: Growth and Development and Sexual Health and the process for parents/guardians to exempt their child(ren) from this learning.

HWDSB is informing elementary parents/guardians that learning on Strand D: Growth and Development and Sexual Health will occur between May 3 and June 20, 2021. Here is what families can expect as we approach these dates:

A board-wide Parent Information Night via Teams Live (in lieu of school sessions) occurred on **Wednesday, April 21, 2021 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

An exemption form will need to be completed if parents/guardians want their child(ren) exempted from this learning. The form is now available and can be accessed through Parent Portal. Paper copies and/or phone calls to schools will also be accepted if Parent Portal is not an option.

Teachers will send individual letters regarding classroom activities and learning to parents/guardians this month.

For additional information please visit <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/blog/elementary-learning-human-development-sexual-health/>

May Transition Update to in-person learning

Prior to the Ministerial direction to move to full remote learning, HWDSB was planning on a third and final opportunity for families to transition between the Elementary Remote Learning Program and in-person. This transition was scheduled to start on Monday, May 3. Preparations continue to prepare for the transition; however, this transition is currently on pause pending the return to in-person learning.



Happy Mother's Day

On behalf of the Remote School Staff we would like to wish all the Mothers, grand mothers, foster mothers and loving caregivers in our remote community a wonderful day filled with much health, love, joy and laughter!



A look inside our classrooms!

Grade F78A is making music!

Ms Doiron's grade 78A class have been hard at work! We have a conductor from the Hamilton Children's Choir coming in once a week to run vocal workshops with 7/8A. The students have been beyond engaged as the conductor encourages them to be brave, turn on their cameras, and sing the songs we're learning. Bravo!



Designing to communicate in class F1A!

The grade one's in Mara's class have been hard at work. They have learned to use online apps to communicate information in a meaningful way. Using PowerPoint and Google Slides they presented their ideas. Mara has been BLOWN away at their success! Bravo les amis!