



Richard Beasley Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Beasley November 2022 Newsletter



To our Parents/Guardians,

I hope that this message finds all of our families well. What beautiful weather we have been enjoying lately - it is hard to believe that we are in fall. We do know, however, that as the month changes the cooler weather will be quickly approaching. Stay warm and try your best to stay healthy.

At Richard Beasley, the month of November signals a period of reflection as it marks the first reporting period of 2022-23. It is the perfect time for students and guardians to receive a formal update of "how things are progressing". The goal of this interim report card is to provide an opportunity to identify both the student strengths and areas for improvement early in the school year. It provides parents with a snap shot of their child's progress.

We continue to invite you to become more connected to Richard Beasley, and one way of doing so is to please make sure our office has the correct email for you. Our website has contact information as well as calendar information that you can use to help plan your year. We try to keep it up to date as well with our Newsletters and to share important information throughout the year. At times you might also receive a Synervoice message from us if we have additional information to share.

I would like to thank parents for the amazing attendance we had at the Meet Our Team evening. Teachers commented on the number and interest shown by our parents in meeting them and just chatting for a bit. We know when a strong school-home relationship exists our children will be happier and achieve well at school. Thank you for sharing your children with us every day.

I hope that October was an enjoyable month for you and that November will be even better. As always, if you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me via email at jcorbinh@hwdsb.on.ca or call me at the school. I do appreciate your support and I hope that you feel encouraged as well.

Take care,

Mrs. J. Corbin-Harper

Date	Activity
Nov. 6	Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov. 7	Treaties Recognition Week
Nov. 8	Indigenous Veterans Day
Thurs. Nov. 11	Remembrance Day
Nov. 13	World Kindness Day
Nov. 14	World Diabetes Day
Nov 14-18	Anti Bullying Week
Thurs. Nov. 17	School Council Meeting
Fri. Nov. 18	Progress Report Cards Go Home
Fri. Nov 25	P.A. Day. No School

Thought for the Month:



Staffing Updates at Richard Beasley

Since the beginning of October, Richard Beasley has gone through a number of staff changes.

- Mr. Sunnucks, our 0.4 permanent prep coverage teacher moved to Gordon Price as a 1.0 permanent teacher. **We have hired Ms. Pakiet who was in for Mrs. Robb as our 0.4 permanent prep coverage teacher to replace Mr. Sunnucks.**
- Ms. Imani, our 0.5 temporary teacher moved to Cootes Paradise in a 0.5 permanent role. **We have hired Ms. Labranche as our 0.5 temporary teacher to replace Ms. Imani**
- Mrs. Martin, our temporary Office Administrator has moved to C, B Stirling in a permanent Office Admin role there. **We have hired Mrs. Hallas as our Office Administrator to replace Mrs. Martin.**
- Ms. White, who was a 0.5 permanent Educational Assistant with us, has moved to Lisgar in a 1.0 permanent role. **The board has place Ms. Florido in a temporary position to replace Ms. White.**
- We still need to hire two more staff - 1.0 and a 0.5 permanent Educational Assistants.

We wish to congratulate all the staff who have left Beasley to acquire permanent roles with the board. They will definitely be missed.

School Council

RICHARD BEASLEY SCHOOL COUNCIL	
Chair	Tim Montgomery
Co-Chair	Kimberley Eastwood
Secretary	Nicole De Almeida
Treasurer	Stephanie Tait
Members-at-Large	Stephanie Willett
	Sandra Goodfellow
	Kelley Lewis
	Katelyn L'Homme
Teacher Representative	Karen Allen
	Lesley Fennell
Non-Teacher Representative	Tanya Filice

If you wish to contact the school council, you can do so by emailing Tim at

richardbeasleySC@hwdsb.on.ca.

Our next School Council meeting will be on Thursday, November 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Remembrance Day Service – November 11th

This year, we will be commemorating Remembrance Day on November 11th with an assembly. This will be our 1st in person assembly in two years.



Mrs. Robb and Ms. Leier are working hard to put together this assembly. Students will be invited to observe a commemorative ceremony including opening remarks, one minute of silence, a student reading of In Flanders Field, the last post and other items submitted by individual classes. Throughout the day, classes will come down to the front foyer to lay their Remembrance Day wreaths.

We are hoping to record the assembly and share with parents.



Attendance: As the weather changes and we get more settled into school, we are beginning to notice a number of students showing up for school late or not attending. It is important to note that students who attend school regularly tend to be more engaged in their learning, feel more connected to the school and have better academic outcomes than students who miss a lot of school.

Did you know?

-If your child is 20 minutes late every day, he/she will have missed 12 days of school instruction by the end of the school year.

- If your child misses two days of school per month, he/she will have missed one-month worth of instruction by the end of the school year.

Progress Report Cards

Reporting student progress is an essential part of the communication and partnership process between home and school. Teachers have been working hard at completing progress reports for their students. Progress reports will be sent home on November 18th. Teachers will be reaching out with any concerns and likewise, should you wish to discuss your child's progress with their teacher, please do not hesitate to contact the school to arrange a phone call or virtual meeting as needed.



We continue to need your help in some important areas:

- Please label your child's belongings; this is especially important as the colder weather approaches and more items are needed

The report card provides a “snapshot” of student learning that reflects grade-level expectations and standards, student achievement of and progress toward independently meeting expectations, and indications of where help and support are needed.

What does Progressing VERY WELL, WELL and WITH DIFFICULTY mean?

- Progressing Very Well: demonstrates ongoing, consistent improvement towards meeting or exceeding the provincial standard by the end of the term/year.
- Progressing Well: demonstrates ongoing, consistent improvement towards meeting the provincial standard by the end of the term/year.
- Progressing with Difficulty: demonstrates that the student will require improvement and/or assistance to meet the provincial standard by the end of the term/year.

- Please have your child dress for the weather each day; assume that we will be going outside for recess, maybe even physical education or DPA, and outdoor learning unless the weather is extreme. We have also had a few accidents with students falling in the mud, so extra clothing would also be appreciated.
- If your child is ill, please remember to use School Messenger each day to provide an update
- If walking or driving your child to school, please use our crosswalks, sidewalks
- Please remember to send in a labelled water bottle for your child
- Please remember that the school day starts at 8:55 a.m.; playground supervision does not start until 8:40 so students should not arrive before this time.

School Council Fundraiser



School Council is excited to share our upcoming fundraiser that will be communicated to families via a flyer that will be sent home very soon.

A few of our parents have asked about this venture so we decided to look into it! So, due to parent interest, our MacMillan's fundraiser will soon be up and running. More information will be coming home in the next couple of days. The profits from this fundraiser will be used to support our school library by providing a selection of diverse reading materials for our students.

As always, even though we appreciate whatever support you can give us, there is never an expectation for parents to go out of their way to purchase items.

School Cash Online

Have you signed up for School Cash Online yet? It's not too late.



The program is intended to reduce paper, eliminate the need for students to travel with money, and for money to be counted and stored at schools. Coming soon you will also be able to pay for popcorn using School Cash Online.

Remember if you are not using School Cash Online, your child will have to bring money the day of in order to purchase items.

Treaties Recognition Week

The 1st week of November is Treaties Recognition Week in Ontario. It will provide opportunities for our students to learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships and to increase awareness of the treaty relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in



Ontario. It's important for all Ontarians to understand the role treaties play in our lives and

relationships with each other today as we move forward together to advance reconciliation. By building understanding, we are advancing reconciliation with Indigenous people to help create equitable and respectful relationships to enable a better future for all Ontarians.

Cold and Flu

Now that the colder weather approaches so too do children's illnesses. Please use your discretion in keeping your child(ren) at home to recover. A child who is coughing, sneezing or who has a fever is not in a fit state to learn and is able to infect other children.



Please note that if your child is well enough to come to school, then they are well enough to go outside. We believe outdoor recess is an important and valuable part of our students' day. Fresh air, exercise and time spent outside afford students a break from the structure of the classroom. It is imperative to make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and is prepared to play outside.

HWDSB: Student Learning and Achievement: We will improve student learning and achievement through effective instructional strategies.

Grades K to 6: Goal #2: Improving the reading achievement of all students and closing the gap for those historically underserved.

In keeping with the Board's strategic direction on reading, we will be including a Reading Section in our monthly newsletter. Hope it helps as you read with your child(ren) at home.

Shifting the Balance in Literacy Instruction

by Laura Callaghan

Literacy is inseparable from opportunity, and opportunity is inseparable from freedom. The freedom promised by literacy is both freedom from - from ignorance, oppression, poverty - and freedom to - to do new things, to make choices, to learn.

Koichiro Matsuura (former UNESCO director)

Reading is a fundamental, lifelong skill that students must have to navigate their school experience and thrive in their future pathways. Developing literacy skills supports equity and inclusion. Our Board's work in literacy is equity work; it is not just about the right to read, but the right to a positive future.

On Nov. 9 2021, the Supreme Court of Canada released a unanimous decision recognizing that **learning to read is not a privilege, but a basic and essential human right**. This came from the Moore vs British Columbia decision and confirmed that human rights laws in Canada protect the right of all students to an equal opportunity to learn to read. Many hoped it would be a catalyst for change in Ontario's education system.

Reading is the best school-based predictor of secondary school graduation and, although many Canadian students perform at acceptable levels of reading, the challenge for Canada is to raise the bar and close the gap for all our students.

When leaders at all levels of our education systems say that reading is their number one priority and that reading success is their expectation for every student, the stage is set for establishing excellent reading instruction.

https://www.st-clair.net/Data/Sites/1/media/public/Common/Board%20Meetings/2021-22/BR_Apr_19_22_ShiftingtheBalanceLiteracyInstruction.pdf

YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH

Children and youth spend a great deal of their lives at school. Struggling with different issues at school can affect their school experiences and how they feel about going there. If they are having good experiences, they might find school to be their happy place to go. We hope that they wake up each school morning excited and eager to come to school to see their teachers and friends. If they are not having good experiences, they may behave in different ways with teachers and classmates, have difficulty making friends, or avoid coming to school. Having difficulties can affect their grades. For some students after being home on and off over the last two years might make it harder for them to be at school full time. Talking to your child about school is very important. See below some questions you can use to get the conversation going:

Tell me about the best part of your day.

- What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
- Tell me about what you read in class.
- Do you think math [or any subject] is too easy or too hard?
- What's the biggest difference between this year and last year?
- Who made you smile today?
- What new fact did you learn today?
- What are you looking forward to at school tomorrow?
- What challenged you today?
- If school were a ride at the fair, which ride would it be? Why?
- If one of your classmates could be the teacher for the day who would you want it to be? Why?

Going beyond
"How was your day?"
Questions to ask your child
after school to get a
conversation started.

- If you had the chance to be the teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class?
- What is your teacher's most important rule?
- What is the most popular thing to do at recess?
- Does your teacher remind you of anyone else you know? How?