



Richard Beasley Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Beasley October 2023 Newsletter

*message
from the
principal*

To our Parents/Guardians,

Where did the month of September go? It feels as though we were just starting back up and now we are already in one month. The season of fall is upon us and although the weather has been incredible, we will soon be starting to see the leaves change colour and feel a cooler breeze in the mornings and evenings.

Our school reorganization, thank goodness, has been minimal and will take place at the end of this week. We do acknowledge however the impact it still has on those affected students. Parents were notified of any changes to their child's class on Friday, September 22nd. We appreciate all your support and patience as we make these changes. Overall, the students and staff are settling into their routines. We have had our first two fire drills and hope to practice other emergency procedures in the coming weeks.

October is a month when we take some time to celebrate the virtue of Gratitude and Thankfulness. As I reflect on this virtue, I want to take this opportunity to show my gratitude to the entire Richard Beasley community. I feel very blessed to have such a supportive staff and parent community. I am most grateful that every day you entrust your children to us and know that we will take care of them. We are privileged to have an awesome bunch of students and it has been great getting to know them over the last 3 years.

Thank you to all of our families who came out to our 'Meet our Team' evening. It was nice to see so many smiling faces and chat with families. We know that this is a busy time for people so if you were not able to join us, please do not hesitate to reach out to us via telephone, email or even on the playground if you have any questions or concerns.

Take care,

Mrs. J. Corbin-Harper

| Date | Activity |
|----------------|---|
| Mon. Oct. 2nd | Learning Disabilities Month; Islamic Heritage Month; Cyber Awareness Month |
| Wed. Oct 4 | National Day of Action for Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls; Krispy Kreme Pickup After School |
| Thurs. Oct. 5 | World Teachers' Day Fire Drill p.m. |
| Fri. Oct. 6 | School Reorganization; Terry Fox Run |
| Mon. Oct 9 | Thanksgiving Day, NO SCHOOL; Fire Prevention Week |
| Tues. Oct. 10 | Cross Country Meet; Wold Mental Health Day |
| Thurs. Oct. 12 | Picture Day |
| Thurs. Oct. 15 | Start of Invisible Disabilities Week |
| Tues. Oct. 17 | International Day for the Eradication of Poverty; Birth of Baha'u'llah |
| Wed. Oct. 18 | Hold & Secure Drill 12:10 p.m. International Pronouns Day |
| Tues. Oct. 20 | P.A. Day |
| Mon. Oct. 23 | Canadian Down Syndrome Week |
| Mon. Oct. 31 | Hallowee'en |

Thought for the Month:



Daily Attendance Reminders

If your child is going to be absent, needs to be picked up early or will be coming into school late, please make sure to record that information in Safe Arrival. There are multiple ways families can access Safe Arrival.



Planned absences can be put in as far in advance as you are able. Same day absences, however, need to be put in the system by 10 a.m. for the system to pick them up. Please note, while office and school staff do our best to call down children for early pick up, at times this can take some time for the student to actually arrive at the front door. Please also note that early pick ups result in the disruption of learning to your child and to the other students in the class, particularly the 3:00 to 3:15 pick-ups.

School Cash Online

With School Cash Online, you can pay all your child's school fees with the click of a button, wherever, whenever. Trips to the school to drop off cash or sending your child with money will be a thing of the past. School Cash Online also enables you to keep track of your child's school items and activities.



It's easy to register, add your children, make payments, check current balance/account history, print or view receipts, and receive notifications about upcoming events. Once you sign up for an account and connect the student(s) they will be paying for, the account will move with the student(s) as they progress to other HWDSB schools.

If you have not yet registered for School Cash Online or need help doing so, please visit us at the School Office or call Mrs. Hallas for support.

Equity and Inclusion

Richard Beasley is committed to adhering to HWDSB policies by ensuring we follow policies and procedures that promote a safe and inclusive school climate for all of our students and staff. As educators we have a greater responsibility to ensure equity, diversity, and inclusion in our classrooms and school. There are lots of resources available at the board's website to support our considerations of planning events, celebrations, assessment, and curriculum contents in connection with dates of importance for diverse students and families.



The month of October is full of some important days of celebration, commemoration, and observance for students, staff, and families which includes Hispanic/Latin America heritage, Islamic heritage, Learning disability awareness, etc.

From time to time when you visit our school, you will see different examples of how we celebrate the diversity and culture of families in our school.

TasteBuds Snack Program

Our snack program began on September 7, 2023. Thank you to Mrs. Hallas, our Office Administrator and our fantastic

EA Team for volunteering their time to such a great initiative!



Unfortunately, due to the increasing prices of some of our items we have had to revamp our menu and our quantities.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

Every year, school communities are required to engage in a number of



Secure Schools drills to ensure all students and staff understand how to participate in the case of an emergency situation. These drills include: 6 fire drills (3 in the fall, 3 in the spring), 1 hold and secure drill, 1 shelter in place drill, 2 lockdown drills and 1 bomb threat drill. For more information about the specific circumstances involving each of these emergency situations, please see this link on the HWDSB website:

<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/wpcontent/uploads/2017/11/Secure-Schools-Protocol.pdf>

The dates of future drills will be posted on the school website at least one day prior to our scheduled drill. If weather conditions do not allow for a safe drill, the drill would be pushed to the next available school day. To learn more about HWDSB's approach to secure schools, please go to: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/secondary/supports/secure-schools/>

World Teacher (Educator) Day

Since 1994, parents and students from around the world have celebrated World Teachers' Day to commemorate the work of teachers (I would add ALL educators) and their contributions to society.



On Oct. 5, take the time to let your child's educator(s) know he or she is truly appreciated. Thank your child's teacher and let them know they are making a difference.

Photo Day & Retake Day

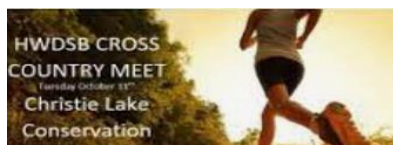
The photographer from Lifetouch will be at Richard Beasley the morning of Thursday, October 12, 2023 to take photos of all our students.

On Wednesday November 15, 2023 they will be back for any students who were absent from school on photo day or for those wanting retakes.



Cross Country

This year, thanks to Mrs. Robb and Mrs. Sabourin, on



Tuesday, October 10, Beasley will be taking 25 students from Grs 3 – 5 to the Board's Cross Country event. As the cost of transportation was extremely costly, Lawfield has agreed to share one of their buses with us. A huge thank you goes out to the Lawfield Admin and Coaches for making this opportunity happen for our students.

Krispy Kreme

Thank you to all our families who supported our Krispy Kreme fundraiser. In over two weeks, we were able to sell just over 580 dozen donuts, which gives us over \$3000 to help purchase technology for the school.

Pick up is Wednesday, October 4th from 3:15 to 5:00 p.m.

If you have ordered for people at your evening shift workplace and need to pick them up a bit earlier, please do not hesitate to call the school to see if we can accommodate you.



Halloween at Richard Beasley

Halloween will fall on a Tuesday this year (October 31st).



Students are welcomed to wear costumes, orange and black, crazy hair, or whatever you feel comfortable wearing. If students chose to wear costumes they MUST follow the following guidelines:

- No weapons, masks that might impede vision or inappropriate images
 - Students wearing a costume should come to school dressed in the costume and comfortably be able to wear the costume for the duration of the day
 - Costumes should never be a representation of someone's creed, race, belief's or personal identity.
- Classroom teachers will communicate class specific celebrations.

Terry Fox Run

The annual Terry Fox Run, first held in 1981, has grown to involve millions of participants in over 60 countries and is now the world's largest one-day fundraiser. Richard Beasley will be having our Annual Terry Fox Run on Friday, October 6. Feel free to come out and run or walk with us. This event will take place at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Please feel free to make a donation of whatever amount you are able to afford. Every little bit counts.



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.

New Language Curriculum 2023

As you might know by now, Ontario has a new Language Curriculum. Please see below some of the highlights of it.

1. The curriculum emphasizes the foundational knowledge and skills in both oral and written language that are necessary to support more complex skills such as critical thinking and problem solving.
The curriculum provides educators with a comprehensive guide to supporting the development and growth of these essential knowledge and skills in every student.
2. The curriculum is designed to support students in developing the language and literacy knowledge and skills they need to succeed in education and in life, and to encourage students to experience the joy and possibility that literacy learning can ignite.

The curriculum emphasizes evidence-based systematic and explicit instruction of foundational knowledge and skills, including oral language, word-level reading and spelling, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. This curriculum was informed by recommendations in the Ontario Human Rights Commission's Right to Read inquiry report. <https://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/right-to-read-inquiry-report>

3. The new strand structure is as follows:

- Strand A. Literacy Connections and Applications
- Strand B. Foundations of Language
This strand includes two associated learning continua; one that provides an elaboration of the mandatory learning associated with Overall Expectation B2 from Grades 1 to 4, and another that describes the progression of mandatory learning associated with Overall Expectation B3 from Grades 1 to 9
- Strand C. Comprehension: Understanding and Responding to Texts
- Strand D. Composition: Expressing Ideas and Creating Texts

Handling Behaviour Issues at Richard Beasley

Teachers at Richard Beasley School will almost always try to handle student discipline before seeking the principal's assistance. Just as we have tiers for academics, we have tiers for behaviors.

Tier one behaviors are the behaviors that every teacher expects to encounter during the normal course of a day. These behaviors do not disrupt the teaching learning process for the other students in the class. These behaviors are considered minor in that they are not directed at another person or done intentionally to cause harm. A student might refuse to get started on class work as directed but then moves on to being actively engaged. Teachers will work with the student to reflect on what occurred. A parent may not be contacted at this point because the student works through the "grape-sized" problem.

Tier two behaviors are considered to be done with purpose. They might be the repeated actions of what is normally considered a tier one behavior that the child controls after being made aware of the behavior and talking about strategies to regain control. The behaviors are disruptive to other students through repetition or intensity of the actions. The behaviors are directed at other people and show disrespect and inappropriate actions and/or language. Parents will be contacted for these behaviors in order to make parents aware and for the home and school to work together in order to help the child.

Tier three behaviors will come straight to the principal. These behaviors show aggression/implied violence, inappropriate language directed at another person, bullying/harassment, property destruction, elopement, interrupt or distract others from their work, or other behaviors that jeopardize safety. We take a restorative justice approach to discipline. Our first concern is the student who was wronged. We need to help the offending student understand how his/her actions affected the victim. We do not ask for an apology because that is a simple solution that may not be heartfelt. The student may offer an apology, but when that happens they are reminded that an apology might not be believed/trusted for weeks. This is so because that would mean that the student has not repeated the offense or acted against the same person. We want the student to figure out a way to "make it right" for the person who was affected. If a student destroys property, they are responsible for replacing that property. If the student makes a mess, they are responsible for cleaning the mess and may offer to clean the room for additional days to show they truly understand their actions were rude. Any consequences are logical to the situation; for example, if the situation arises during recess, the consequence will take place during recess.

Working together, home and school have enormous effects on the students.