



Richard Beasley Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Beasley March 2025 Newsletter



To our Parents/Guardians,

We welcome the new month of March with a renewed sense of optimism as the weather begins to change and the days become longer. As always, your patience and support is greatly appreciated. The month of March is a time of transitioning from the many winter activities into the anticipation of spring. As we hope for warmer weather, we want to keep our students focused on continuing to strive to do their best. I appreciate all of the effort you put in at home to ensure this carries over into their school day, as it impacts their academic standing.

As you are aware the first Report Card was sent home in February giving our caregivers an opportunity to discuss achievement with their child and focus on growth and improvement through goal setting and next steps. We value the importance of a home-school connection and appreciate the support that you provide at home to ensure your child is meeting with success in all subject areas.

There is a First People's Principle that states: "Learning Takes Patience and Time". The progress made by all of our students over the year so far is admirable, and it is important to remember that we all learn at our own pace and even the smallest level of gains need to be celebrated.

March Break is just around the corner. The weather looks like it will be mild, which makes for some great outdoor time. I also hope the children find some time to include reading for pleasure. Whatever your plans for March Break, we wish our families a safe and healthy break and look forward to reconnecting once we are refreshed and ready for the remainder of the school year!

Looking for some things to do during March Break. Click on the link below:
<mailto:https://activeparents.ca/march-break-events/#mbcalendar>

As always, my door is open and I welcome you to email me at jcorbinh@hwdsb.on.ca or call anytime that you have questions, comments, or concerns. Take care and thanks again for your continued support!

Mrs. J. Corbin-Harper

Date	Activity
March 1st	Days of Fasting; Persian Heritage Month
March 3rd	Social Work Week Begins
March 6th	Recognition Assembly 12:10- 1:00 p.m.
March 7th	School Spirit Day; Wear your spring colours
March 8th	International Women's Day
March 9th	Daylight Saving Time Starts
March 10-14th	March Break
March 14th	Sikh New Year; Holi: This Hindu Festival
March 17th	1 st day back after March Break; St Patrick's Day/Heritage Day
March 20th	Nowruz (Iranian or Persian New Year); Naw-Ruz - The Baha'i New Year,
March 21st	World Down Syndrome Day/ International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
March 22nd	Earth Hour
March 23rd	School Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
March 30th	Eid al-Fitr-Marks the end of Ramadan
March 31st	International Transgender Day of Visibility;

Thought for the Month:

With every word we
utter, with every action
we take, we know
our kids are watching us.
We as parents are
their most important
role models.

MICHELLE OBAMA

HWDSB FOUR CORE VALUES

As the school year moves forward, we continue to focus on the Board's four values outlined in the Strategic Plan. We have included 4 recognition certificates outlining these values in our Celebration Assembly.

HWDSB's Value of Dignity – encouraging students to consistently treat others the way that they would want to be treated by demonstrating respect for themselves and others.

HWDSB's Value of Compassion – encouraging students to show that they care about others by treating them with kindness and independently sharing a willingness to help other students in their time of need.

HWDSB's Value of Trust – encouraging students to independently help other students solve problems (both academically and socially), and to be trusted to do the right thing even when no one is watching.

HWDSB's Value of Joy – encouraging students to show joy in learning and being a member of the school community; working on building positive relationships with staff and other students



SENSE OF BELONGING

At Richard Beasley, we are working hard at trying to create a sense of belonging for all students and staff. When students feel a sense of belonging in their school, it can increase their educational success and motivational outcomes in many ways. A sense of belonging is defined as being accepted, valued, included, and encouraged by others (teachers and peers) in the academic classroom and of feeling oneself to be an important part of the life and activity of the class.

We are:

- building healthy student-teacher relationships;
- creating opportunities for students to participate in group activities;
- nurturing social and emotional competencies in students;
- addressing inequities in systems, structures, policies and practices; and
- celebrating and ensuring diversity and representation of all of our students

REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN

It is never too late to register for Kindergarten for September 2025 School year but please do so ASAP. Students who will turn 4 years of age by December 31, 2025 are eligible for JK, while students who will turn 5 are eligible for SK.

If you know of families in our area who have children of this age, please pass this information along to them. Registration will be completed online. If assistance is required, please call the school at 905-387-5655 or visit

<mailto:https://hwdsbonca.sharepoint.com/sites/program/SitePages/Welcome-to-Kindergarten.aspx>



OUTSIDE RECESS REMINDER

Spring is almost here, but until then, it is important that children come to school prepared for the cold – boots, mittens or gloves, and hats should be worn to school. It is also a good idea to provide extra mittens, socks, etc., in the event they are needed. Students and staff will be going outside for fresh air and exercise daily. This time spent outside is an opportunity for students and staff to have fun and break free from the structure of the classroom.



ATTENDANCE

Families, we need your help! Currently, we are noticing more students coming in late or being absent. Why does this matter? Students who miss 10% of school (15-18 days during the year) are at increased risk for a number of negative long-term consequences. One of the most serious problems with missing school is the impact it has on students' achievement. That means, kids who are chronically absent are less likely to read at grade level or develop foundational Math skills by grade 3, which can affect that child's future success in school. As a building, we see the correlation between attendance and achievement in our own data. For students to be able to access the early interventions we have put in place to increase their success, they must be here so we can reach them and get them engaged in their learning.



REPORT CARDS

Ontario Ministry of Education **Elementary Provincial Report Card**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Classroom: _____

Learning Goals and Work Habits

Learning Goal	Work Habit
1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.	1. Demonstrate a positive attitude towards learning.
2. Apply knowledge and understanding to new situations.	2. Demonstrate effective communication skills.
3. Demonstrate problem-solving skills.	3. Demonstrate effective collaboration skills.
4. Demonstrate self-regulation skills.	4. Demonstrate effective time management skills.
5. Demonstrate critical thinking skills.	5. Demonstrate effective decision-making skills.

Comments: _____

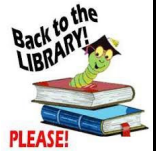
Signature: _____

1st term report cards have been sent and we are into term two, the message you want to send is to respect their hard work as every student has made some progress in their learning. Praising kids for following through when things get difficult, for making a sustained effort, for trying things they're not sure they can do successfully; can all help teach them the pleasure of pushing themselves. If the grades aren't stellar, but your child has worked hard and tried their very best, they deserve recognition for what they achieved. Make sure to focus on the effort they put in and commitment they showed instead of the outcome or the final grade.

LIBRARY BOOKS



We continue to work on building back up our library and over the last 4 months or so, we have purchased over 100 books. Some of our areas of focus are indigenous books; books focusing on self-regulation skills; books focusing on different cultures; etc. Mr. Rodriguez and Mrs. Pessoa once again visited the Hamilton Library and HWDSB book fair to purchase a number of new titles for the school. However, saying all of this, we are also noticing that we are missing quite a few books which have not been returned to the library. Please take a look around your house to see if you have any books from our school library and return them as soon as possible.



MACMILLAN'S FUNDRAISER

Our MacMillan's fundraiser is up and running. The profits from this fundraiser will be used to support our school library by providing a selection of diverse reading materials for our students and offset the cost of school trips or classroom presenters.

Important dates to remember about this fundraiser:

- Orders sent home to parents – Wednesday, February 19, 2025
- Orders due back to school – Wednesday, March 19, 2025
- Pick up from school – Thursday, April 10, 2025

We truly appreciate all the support you have given in any of our previous fundraisers and want you to know that you should not feel obligated to make an order at this time.



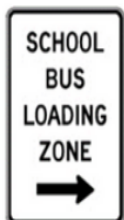
RAMADAN

The most sacred month of the year, for Muslims is Ramadan. For Muslims around the world and right here in Hamilton, this is a time of devotion, self-reflection, and celebration of Allah's infinite mercy. Ramadan is expected to begin on Saturday, March 1, 2025 (subject to moon sighting). The day after the end of **Ramadan (Sunday, March 30th, 2025) is a religious holiday called Eid-al-Fitr**. For each day of Ramadan, fasting consists of abstaining from eating or drinking, including water, while the sun is out. Some staff and students at Richard Beasley School will be observing this sacred month. They will take part in fasting throughout the school day.



PARKING AND SAFETY AROUND THE SCHOOL

The safety of our children is of the utmost importance to everyone in our community. Pedestrian activity is traditionally more prevalent to schools during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal. In an effort to improve pedestrian safety and traffic congestion around our school, various parking initiatives have been enacted. Drivers are encouraged to obey posted signs to create a safer environment for our children. please review some of the common signs seen around school zones listed below.



School Bus Loading Zone: This sign marks a zone within which school buses load or unload passengers without using the red alternating lights and stop arm. Please do not park in this zone and drive carefully around this area.



No Stopping: Do not stop in the area between this pair of signs. This means stopping even for a moment or to drop off passengers or goods is prohibited except when directed by a police officer.



**** No Parking:** Do not park in the area between the signs. This means you are prohibited even when the vehicle is occupied unless you are actively engaged in loading or unloading merchandise or passengers. Drivers are not allowed to wait for their passenger while in a "no parking zone." (These signs are used in pairs or groups.)

STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED

In our busy lives, events can sometimes be overlooked. Technology allows us multiple ways to connect with families. The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

- **SCHOOL WEBSITE** – richardbeasley Please take some time to visit the Richard Beasley School website. Our website includes current newsletters, school calendars, code of conduct, school council information, a school year calendar, classroom websites, and bell times.
- **SCHOOL MESSENGER** - Using the School Messenger program, all families will receive an email on Saturday afternoon with reminders about events for the upcoming week. If you are not receiving these emails, please check your contact information with the office to ensure we have the most current information.
- **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** - All newsletters will be posted to the school website and sent via School Messenger through email during the 1st week of the new month.

WORLD SLEEP DAY

Sleep is very important for physical and mental health, but many children and youth just don't get enough. Lack of sleep may cause a number of health problems and have a big impact on your child's school performance, behaviour and mental health.

How much sleep does my child/youth need?

AGE	RECOMMENDED SLEEP
Ages 3-5 (Preschoolers)	10-13 hours per day
Age 6-12	9-12 hours per day
Ages 13-18	9-10 hours a night

Source: Recommended amount of sleep for pediatric populations, from the American Academy of Sleep Medicine, 2016

MENTAL WELLNESS

SCHOOL BREAKS & STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH

There's a lot for kids and teens to look forward to on a break from school. No homework, for one. But breaks are not without their challenges. Young people can exhibit increased mental and behavioral health symptoms when adjusting to a new day-to-day routine outside of school. Luckily, parents and caregivers can make a big difference in helping kids adjust and cope. Use a few tried-and-true tips to make upcoming breaks less stressful for your child/ren.

While there is no one-size-fits-all solution to improving young people's mental health, some simple actions can have a meaningful impact. Try what works for your family.

- **Make a simple, sustainable routine.** Give kids and teens a set wake up time (+/- 1 hour) and bedtime. They can be different from school wake up and bedtimes, but consistency helps.
- **Set clear expectations.** Post guidelines and rules at the start of the break to prevent miscommunication. Outline what you expect for how time is spent, what needs to get done, etc. For example, for every hour of screen time, do 10-15 minutes of physical activity.
- **Lower the bar.** Lessen pressure on yourself and your family to have the perfect break. Do things that fit your family, don't force things that don't fit. Give grace when things don't work out the way you expected.
- **Practice open communication.** Model healthy communication by talking openly, in an age-appropriate way, about how you are doing. Check in with everyone, one-on-one, to see how they're feeling and what they need.
- **Involve kids in planning.** The best way to ensure that kids enjoy celebrations and activities is to ask them what they want to do. Get their input and make compromises. With older kids and teens, have them do a project they can start and finish during the break. This will give them a sense of accomplishment.
- **Integrate physical activity.** As a family, play games, go on walks and run errands on foot if possible.
- **Leave room for down time.** Have a list on hand of activities kids can easily do. Be okay with boredom.

Before you know it, the kids will be back to school. No matter what happens, take comfort that you did your best and all learned more about what works best for your family.

<mailto:https://www.childrensmarcy.org/parent-ish/2023/12/breaks-mental-health/>