



February 2026 Update

Hello Rosedale Families;

We welcome the Chinese Lunar New Year (Year of the Fire Horse) on February 17th. February is Black History, African History, and Chinese Heritage Month. Learning about the heritage of other cultures is embedded into the curriculum through out the year. Please visit HWDSB equity and well being form more information. <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/equity/>. In addition, we also note **Family Day and Valentine's Day** in the month of February. Please connect with your child's teacher for information about classroom Valentine's Day celebrations. We will be selling Heart Shaped Sugar Cookies from Terra Cotta Cookie Co. through school cash-online which will be delivered to students on Friday, February 13th. As well, **Pink Shirt Day** is observed on February 25th, a day where we reflect on the ways in which we include everyone. Please note that Ramadan begins at sunset on February 17th and ends on March 19th. Please speak to your child's teacher regarding accommodations that may be needed during this time.

It is nice to see so many families utilizing the outdoor creative park after school. Outdoor activity is beneficial for the mind, body and soul. Sunshine on our faces helps to lift the spirits of everyone during the shorter days of winter. Let's keep a mindful watch on one another and think about our mental health and the mental health of our loved ones. Bell's *Let's Talk About Mental Health Day* was held on January 21st this year. Do not ever hesitate to reach out to someone for support for yourself or a loved one as needed. <https://cmhahamilton.ca/>

A few updates to share:

Construction – We are still on schedule with the following milestone dates.

- New Library Interior Renovation – projected date is the end of February 2026

Winter Playground –Please review information about snow maintenance on playgrounds in HWDSB. <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Snow-clearing-Infographic-revised-Oct-2022.pdf> It is important that students arrive to school each day ready for outdoor play. Boots, snow pants, a heavy jacket, gloves, and a hat are essentials to enjoyable outdoor play. Pylons indicate areas that are out of bounds for students during the school day due to unsafe conditions e.g. icy patches. If your child is not wearing boots, they are asked to remain on the blacktop and not on the snowy field area. The board threshold for remaining indoors at nutrition breaks is minus 20 degrees. Principal discretion applies. Students at Rosedale remain

indoors at nutrition breaks when the temperature reaches minus 15. Students are asked to arrive on site a few minutes before our warning bell which sounds at 8:18 am. Supervision is available on the yard beginning at 8:05 a.m. No students should be arriving before 8:05 a.m., as there is no supervision on the yard. When it is raining, students will be lead indoors. Please consider sending your child with extra clothes should they become wet during winter outdoor play.

Indoor and Outdoor Footwear during the Winter months



During the winter months please ensure your child has snow-boots for outdoor play, and running shoes for the classroom and the gymnasium.

Rosedale School Council

Elected Home and School Executives:

Co-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer roles are shared by:

- Lidija Simonovic
- Amanda Whetstone

Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 4th from 5:00-6:00 pm at Rosedale School. You do not need to be an elected official to attend meetings. All are welcome to attend these meetings which focus on academic achievement, student well- being and school operations. Please contact Rosedale School Council at rosedaleSC@hwdsb.on.ca.

Rosedale Home and School Association

Elected Home and School Executives are:

- President - Emily Cote
- Vice-President - Scott Foster
- Secretary - Tracey Thomas
- Treasurer - Jessica Toni

Home and School meet on the first Wednesday of every month from 6-7 pm in Room 124 at Rosedale School. The next meeting is Wednesday, February 4th from 6-7 pm in Room 124. Child minding is available. Please contact Rosedale Home and School at rosedale@ofhsa.ca. Next month, Home and School will be hosting the *Big Box of Cards* Fundraiser. More information to come.

Valentine's Day Events will be held on Friday, February 13, 2026. Please connect with your child's teacher regarding classroom events and activities. Terra Cotta cookies purchased through school cash online will be distributed on February 13th.

Kindergarten Registration – Begins on February 2 in HWDSB. Please review information shared on the Rosedale School website about the registration process for students who will begin school in September 2026. <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/rosedale/2025/01/10/kindergarten-registration-for-september-2025/>

Student Assemblies – This month our student assembly will focus on *Compassion*. Compassion means *to suffer together*. *Compassion* is defined as the feeling that arises when you are confronted with another's suffering, and feel motivated to relieve that suffering. Teachers will recognize students in each class who exhibit this behavior as we acknowledge one another in the gym.

RHL – Rosedale Hockey League – Mr. Harvey has organized indoor floor hockey for our Grades 3,4 and 5 students during nutrition breaks over the next weeks. Both boys and girls are actively participating in this opportunity.

Rosedale Chess Club – Mr. Adamczyk offers Chess Club once a week for our students in Grades 3,4 and 5.

Choir – Junior Choir meets on Day 5's each week. Mrs. Vince and Mrs. Nguyen support our Junior Choir in Room 123.

Positive Space Group – Thank you Mme. Duimstra for supporting our friendly group on Day 4's for the past months. As Mme. Duimstra begins her new role, we hope to continue this group. Updated information will be shared with our students as this group evolves.

Family Literacy Day Events – We are grateful for our Brock University Teacher Candidates who organized Family Literacy Day events on Tuesday, January 27th under the guidance of Mrs. Bellenie. All classes participated in literacy events during the school day. Thanks also to families who participated at home. Prizes were awarded and distributed on January 30th. It is encouraging to see active participation in Literacy activities and initiatives within the Rosedale School Community. Reading is a gateway for children, and makes all other learning possible.

Family Day – Is on Monday, February 16th. Time to connect and share in some special moments with loved ones is honoured on this day. There is no school for students on this day.

Pink Shirt Day – On February 25 we **wear pink**, and reflect on ways to include everyone through acceptance, forgiveness and compassion.

Random Acts of Kindness Week – Runs from February 2nd-13th. Students will receive a heart sticker from staff who notice random acts of kindness given. These stickers will highlight the kindness our Rosedale staff and students offer to one another each day.

Report Card 1 – Will be carried home on Friday, February 13th. Please take time to celebrate your child's achievements, and talk about their next steps in learning. Please reach out to your child's teacher anytime to discuss your child's progress and next steps in learning.

Staffing Update – Please welcome Mlle. Comber to our French and Prep Coverage role effective Monday, February 2, 2026. As well, Mrs. Karel is filling in for Mrs. Bodor for a portion of each week, and Mrs. Butler is working in Kinder B class for Mrs. Williamson until her return.

New HWDSB Volunteer Procedure – Parents and Guardians looking to volunteer, and who require a **new** police check will need a letter issued by the school to obtain a police check. See Mrs. Crispo in the office for more information. Existing Volunteers will also require a letter from the school **once their current police check expires**, and, if they are looking to continue volunteering in HWDSB schools. Police checks are now valid for 5 years.

School Fundraising Our school fundraising dollars have helped us with the following additions to Rosedale this year. Continued enhancements to our Kinder play area – 2 raised wooden garden beds and 4 round ground beds will be filled with soil and indigenous plants this spring. The addition of 6 wooden picnic tables will allow our kinder students space to create when the warm weather arrives. As we look toward moving into our new Library, we recently purchased over \$ 500.00 of new books to add to our collection. Our fundraising dollars support classroom supplies and resources, outdoor learning items, and year end event subsidies for students.

Have a wonderful and love filled February.

Let's all focus on how we can be of positive service to one another.

Rosedale Events

February 2 – Kinder Registration for 2026 2027 opens

February 2 – Umbrella Room switch date

February 2 – Final Day to purchase Valentine Cookies through school cash-online for \$2

February 4 – School Council Meeting from 5:00-6:00 pm at Rosedale School

February 4 – Home and School Meeting from 6:00-7:00 pm in Room 124 and 122

February 6 – SK eye screening

February 9 – School Climate Survey for Grades 4 and 5 opens until March 13

February 13 – Report Cards are carried home

February 13 – Valentine's Day Celebrations & Valentine Cookie delivery

February 14 – Valentine's Day

February 16 – Family Day Holiday

February 17 – Ramadan begins until March 19th

February 17 – Chinese New Year – Year of the Fire Horse

February 20 – Spirit Day Jersey Day – sports clothes or team colours

February 20 – Boston Pizza Pasta Lunch for those who ordered through school cash online

February 25 – Pink Shirt Day

February 25 – Family communication regarding Health curriculum is communicated by HWDSB

February 25 – Junior classes to AGH

February 26 – March pizza orders are due through school cash online

February 26 – Junior classes to AGH

February 26 – Immunization suspension list is given to schools

February 27 – Assembly - Compassion

