



Viola Desmond Elementary School

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Coming Soon!!



Proud Home of the Viola Desmond Vipers!



It's Official Viola Vipers!

Welcome everyone to the Official home of the Viola Desmond Vipers! Thank you for your patience and understanding as we are still working through a very busy startup.

Thank you to our students and staff for choosing our new school mascot! Now that we have a mascot each month newsletters, calendars and other information will be posted to our website.

HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES

On Friday October 29th, students can choose to wear an **appropriate** costume to school. No face masks, weapons or gory costumes are permitted. As we continue to follow Public Health there will be no sharing of food/treats and regular masks covering the nose and chin must be worn. Classes can choose to have a "Party in a Bag" where students bring in

their own treats to eat during class celebrations. Please reach out to your child's teacher for more details. **Please ensure snacks do not contain nuts of any kind.**

ENTRY/EXIT DOORS

Students must enter and exit the school through their assigned door. Grade 1-8 students will be dismissed through the back play-ground doors. Bus students will exit through the front doors to the bus. Kindergarten students will temporarily be dismissed from the child care play area.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Now that Glen Brae school has been removed the next phase of construction will be to create the staff parking lot, as well as the Kindergarten Play Area.

BELL TIMES

Supervision Begins:

8:30 am

Entry:

8:45 am

Nutrition Break #1:

10:25 - 11:05 am

Nutrition Break #2:

12:45 - 1:25 pm

Dismissal:

3:05 pm

Supervision Ends:

3:20 pm

Safe Arrival and Attendance



Your child's safety is our priority. Due to covid-19 we are limiting visitors to the school. If you are

dropping off or picking up your child outside of the bell times, please buzz the office and office staff will come out to meet you.

DISMISSAL FOR APPOINTMENTS

When making appointments for your child, they will only be called out of class once you

arrive to minimize lost instructional time. If someone other than you is picking up your child, they must be on the school pick-up list and will need to present identification. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter as your child's safety is our priority. Consistent with the Safe

Arrival Program, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to inform the school when a child is going to be late or absent. If late, students must check in with the office to obtain a late slip so that they are not marked absent.

Please use our Safe Arrival Program by

Parking Lot, Bus Loading Zones & Street Parking

PARKING LOT SAFETY

As the staff parking lot is still under construction there are a number of students coming on to property after hours to check out the construction area. Please remind your children that this area is hazardous and out of bounds.

BUS LOADING ZONES

As the area in front of the school is still a construction zone, please ensure you are not parking in the bus loading zones. Parking is also off limits in the driveway in front of the school as it is a fire route.

STREET PARKING

If you are driving your child to and from school please ensure you adhere to all the posted signs regarding parking around the school. Unfortunately, as some parents are parking in unauthorized areas, the Hamilton Bi-Law office will start to issue tickets

to anyone parked in these areas. We encourage students to walk to and from school to avoid the traffic backlog.



Bussing Information



If your child qualified for the bus but you have opted out, please inform the office so that they

can be removed from the HWSTS transportation list. If your child did not qualify for bussing, they may be eligible for courtesy bussing if there are spots remaining. Please complete the courtesy bussing form and return it to the office.

BUS SAFETY

Please ensure that your child is wearing a mask throughout the bus ride. For contract tracing and insurance purposes it is essential that your child ride their assigned bus. For the safety of everyone on the bus, students must follow all safety rules, stay seated and

follow all directions of the bus driver. Failure to follow the rules while on the bus will result in Bus Incident Referrals which may result in students being removed from the bus.

For transportation related information please visit the HWSTS website

Medical Conditions and Life Threatening Allergies



MEDICATION

Students who require prescription medication administered at school **must** have a medical form filled out and signed by the prescribing doctor before any staff can administer the

medication. If your child requires regular prescription medication at school, please inform the office and we will provide you with the necessary paperwork.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS

If your child has any medical conditions that affect their safety or well-being

please complete the medical plan of care information sheets and return them to the school.

ALLERGIES

If your child has a life-threatening allergy that may result in anaphylaxis, the Anaphylaxis Plan of Care Forms must be completed and returned to the office as soon as possible.

Please note that your family doctor must complete the form as well.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please ensure that the school has your current contact information and an alternate contact that can be reached during the day in case there is a need to get a hold of you.

Personal Belongings & Electronic Devices/Cell Phones



Students are permitted to bring cell phones to school with parental

permission, however, it is important to leave the cell phone turned off during the instructional day. Now that students have access to HWDSB devices they will not be permitted to use their personal cell phones or devices unless specified by the classroom teacher for instructional use.

At no time during the school day or while on school property is it permitted to record anyone, take photos, or videos.

Other expensive or important items including large sums of money should never be brought to school.

Please note that the

school cannot be held responsible for loss, damage, or theft of cell phone, personal devices or any other items of value at any time.

We can't stress enough that school is no place for valuable possessions, and these items are best left at home.

Custody of Students



During family separation or divorce we must remind parents to inform the school in writing of any changes of custody arrangements. The school must have the most recent legal agreement between separated parents on file in order to respond appropriately when con-

fronted by a parent who does not have custody. Unless a court order specifically prevents it, both parents have the right and responsibility to visit the school and have access to the child and any information about the child's current educational achievement and

attendance. Please help us to avoid uncomfortable custody issues by providing us with all of the necessary documentation.

Scooters, Bicycles and Skateboards

Students are welcome to ride their bicycles to school as long as parents are confident that their children ride safely and are thoughtful of other pedestrians and children

in strollers. By law, parents must ensure that their

child wear a helmet. Helmets can be stored in the student's backpack. Once on school property students must walk their bicycles to the bike rack to ensure the safety of other students and pedestrians.

During school hours the

school bike racks are out of bounds to students. To prevent theft students should lock up their bicycles. Please note that the school **cannot** be responsible for damaged, lost or stolen bicycles.

Since there are no stor-

age areas for scooters and skateboards they should not be brought to school unless they can properly be locked up to the bike racks. Students will not be permitted to store these items in classrooms, hallways or the office.



UPCOMING DATES

Monday October 25th - Picture Day

Friday October 29th - Party in a Bag

Thursday November 11th - Remembrance Day

Friday November 19th - Progress Report Sent Home

Viola Desmond Staff 2021-2022

FDK1 -	Mr. McDermid/Mrs. Dickinson	Junior French -	Mrs. Chanthanakone
FDK2 -	Ms. Surla/Mrs. Daniels	Junior/Intermediate French -	Ms. Fernandez
FDK3 -	Mrs. Turner/Mrs. Deboer	Intermediate French -	Mrs. Lanillos
FDK4 -	Mrs. Petruccelli/Mrs. Quaini	PE/Health/Dance -	Mr. Farruggia
FDK5 -	Mrs. Tillotson/Mrs. Forster	Music -	Mrs. Dawson
FDK6 -	Mrs. Dollar/Mrs. Abdul Malik	Library/Media Literacy -	Mrs. Hall/ Mrs. McRae
FDK7-	Mrs. Whitehouse/Mrs. D'Ascenzo	Primary Prep Teacher -	Mrs. Cantwell
Class 1A -	Mrs. Robillard	Learning Resource -	Mrs. Blundson
Class 1B -	Mrs. Hatzis	Learning Resource -	Ms. Hagan
Class 1C -	Mrs. Curtis	Reading Specialist Teacher -	Ms. Nazy
Class 1D -	Ms. Brason	ESL Teacher -	Mrs. Stojavljevich
Class 2A -	Mrs. Continelli	Student Success Teacher -	Mrs. MacLeod
Class 2B -	Mrs. Vanderstoep	Math Facilitator -	Mrs. Sargent
Class 2/3A -	Mrs. Agro	CYCP -	Mrs. Nauth
Class 2/3B -	Mrs. Chislett	Education Assistant -	Ms. Anderson
Class 3A -	Mrs. Shaule	Education Assistant -	Mrs. Best
Class 3B -	Mrs. Steeves	Education Assistant -	Ms. Cowan Johnson
Class 4A -	Mrs. Radonicich	Education Assistant -	Mrs. Halper
Class 4B -	Mrs. Duckett	Education Assistant -	Ms. Mirabella
Class 4C -	Mrs. Grybas	Education Assistant -	Ms. Peirce
Class 4/5A -	Ms. Tomic	Education Assistant -	Ms. Sipos
Class 5A -	Mrs. Bailey	Education Assistant -	Ms. Vincent
Class 5/6A -	Ms. Williams	Social Worker -	Ms. Vasil
Class 6A -	Mr. Mourrasutti	Office Administrator -	Mrs. Hallas
Class 6B -	Ms. Allum	Office Administrator -	Mrs. Duvnjak
Class 6/7A -	Mrs. Ljubicic	Head Caretaker -	Ms. Goodale
Class 7A -	Mrs. Kew	Caretaker -	Ms. Cabral
Class 7B -	Mrs. D'Costa	Assistant Caretaker-	Ms. Macdonald
Class 7/8A -	Mr. Stewart	Assistant Caretaker -	Ms. Bertin
Class R7A -	Mrs. Spiers	Assistant Caretaker -	Mr. O'Sullivan
Class 8A -	Ms. Simioni/Mrs. Balliram	Enhanced Covid Cleaning -	Mr. Njegovan
Class 8B -	Mr. Ozimkovic	Vice-Principal -	Ms. Hogan
Class 8C -	Mr. Novakovic	Principal -	Mrs. Morabito