



Viola Desmond Elementary School

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 @ViolaD_HWDSB

 violadesmond_hwdsb

School Website: www.hwdsb.on.ca/violadesmond/



We hope you have had a relaxing March Break. Now that COVID restrictions have been eased we want to remind you about the important health measures that continue at HWDSB. As the Board of Trustees extension for masking remains until April 1st, please remember that all school staff are front line workers who have worked hard to keep your children safe over the past two years. We ask that you be kind, respectful and compassionate during this period of change. As we ease slowly into more normal conditions, our focus will be to support school cultures and student well-being. Good hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and cleaning of spaces and shared items will continue. If you require information regarding mask exemptions please visit the HWDSB website. Forms will also be found on our website.

Bell Times



Supervision

starts: 8:30am

Entry Bell: 8:45 am

Period 1: 8:45 am

Period 2: 9:45 am

Nutrition Break #1: 10:25 am

Period 3: 11:05 am

Period 4: 11:55 am

Nutrition Break #2: 12:45 pm

Period 5: 1:25 pm

Period 6: 2: 25 pm

Dismissal Bell: 3:05 pm

Supervision ends: 3:20 pm

UPCOMING DATES:

School Council: on TEAMS

Mar 30th @ 4:30 pm

Shelter in Place Drill:

April 4

International Day of Pink:

April 13th

Bunny Ears Day:

April 14th

Good Friday: (no school)

April 15th

Easter Monday: (no school)

April 18th

Earth Day: Wear Green

April 22nd

Lockdown Drill:

April 28th

Sports Day: Wear a jersey or sports gear:

April 29th

Parking Around the School

We continue to have parents parking in the bus loading zones and other areas where signage indicates no parking, not only delaying the buses but also creating very unsafe situations for everyone. When staff have approached these vehicles they are met with disrespectful behaviour. This behaviour is inappropriate and unfair to staff as they are trying to keep everyone safe. We also have our neighbours upset as vehicles are not only blocking driveways, but are now parked in those driveways and parents are refusing to leave when neighbours come home and try to access their own driveway. This behaviour is not the positive example we are trying to model for our students as we are building new relationships in our community. We understand that the parking situation is not ideal but we must be kind and continue to work together to keep everyone safe.



Reading with your child

Here at Viola Desmond Elementary School, we want to ensure our students form a love of reading and become independent readers. A huge part of this is making sure reading is also done at home. Reading at home does not have to be a chore that everyone dreads. Starting right in JK, reading at home is crucial to a child's reading development. Reading aloud together is so important for your child(ren) and doesn't have to be seen as homework but quality time spent together creating important reading routines. Make sure to include a variety of books and topics and be consistent and patient....READING IS HARD. By reading 10 minutes everyday with your child(ren) the better readers they will become. Reading doesn't just have to be books. It can be reading on the internet, in magazines, signs around the neighborhood etc.

Some tips are:

- Look at the pictures. Go through the book and point to objects in the pictures and talk about them. Building their oral vocabulary will benefit them while reading.
- Adults reading to children shows children that reading is important and enjoyable. It will stimulate their imagination and expand their understanding of the world around them.
- Children who can read independently still benefit from reading aloud together.
- Make reading at home fun. Schedule a time of the day that is dedicated to reading; such as before bed. Don't worry if you miss a day, just read to your child as often as possible.
- Re-reading the same book multiple days in a row isn't a bad thing. Children will hear the fluency of how a story sounds and can practice it each night.
- Point to words or letters that they know.
- Talk about the stories you are reading.
- Point to the words as you read so that young readers make the connection between oral and written language.
- Re-tell the story after you are done...talk about the characters and plot.



Personal Devices at School

We are having issues of inappropriate usage with students using their own personal devices. We understand that as parents you may want your child to carry a device for safety to and from school, however, if the inappropriate usage continues

personal devices will need to be stored in a safe location in the office during instructional time. Lastly, the school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged personal devices. If students bring these devices, they are responsible for them.

Viola Desmond Spirit Wear






If you wish to purchase our school Spirit Wear you will need to set up a School Cash Online account if you do not already have one as we will not be accepting cash or cheques. Orders will be accepted until April 14th. Please note that orders may require

6 - 8 weeks to arrive. Please see our website for ordering, prices, and instructions for setting up an account.



Viola Desmond Elementary School
Student Spirit Wear

The following items are available for purchase on School Cash Online until April 14, 2022.

 \$39.99 (includes shipping) Price: \$39.99 + GST	 \$29.99 (includes shipping) Price: \$29.99 + GST	 \$29.99 (includes shipping) Price: \$29.99 + GST
 \$19.99 (includes shipping) Price: \$19.99 + GST	 \$29.99 (includes shipping) Price: \$29.99 + GST	

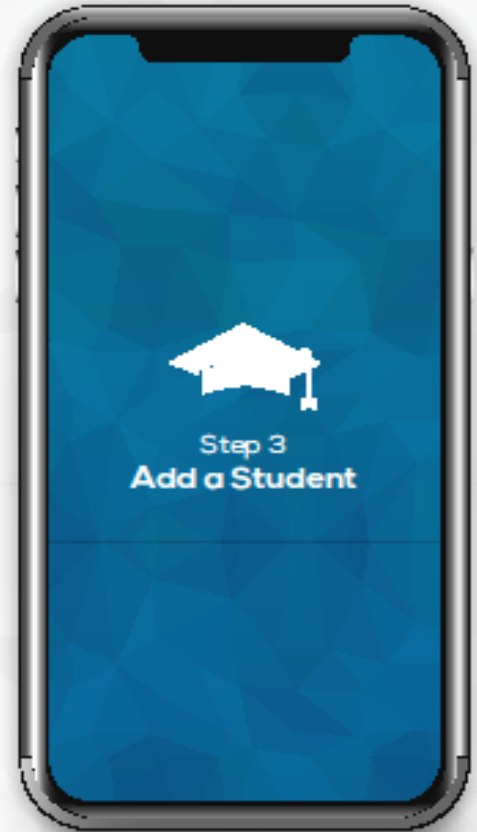
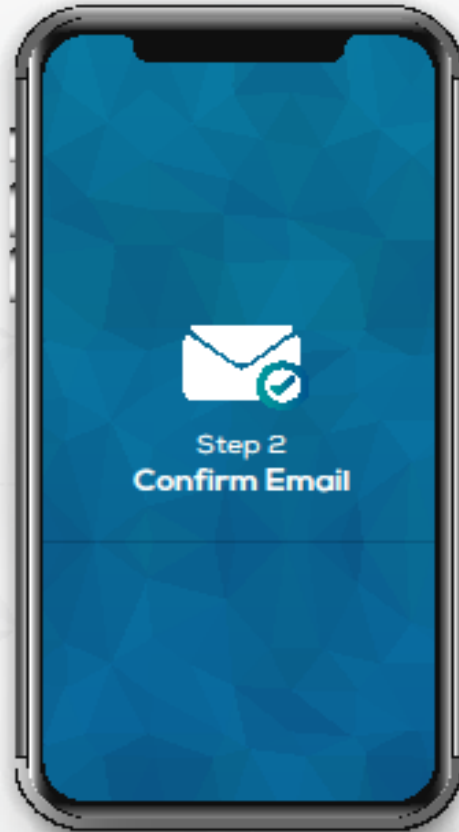
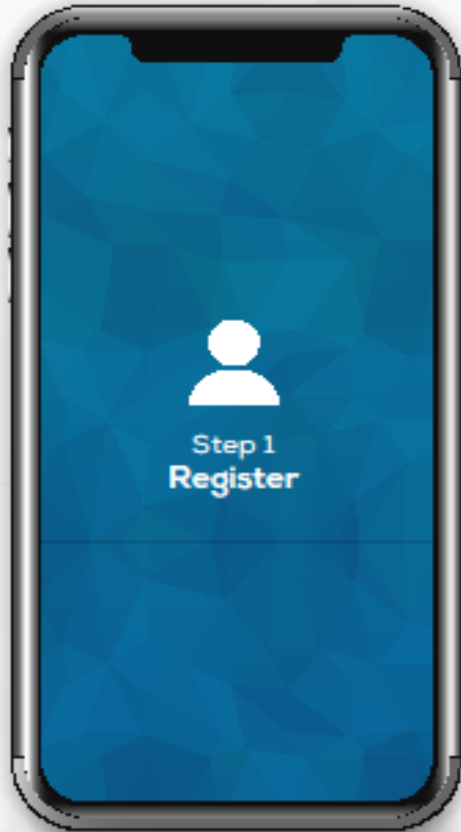
Please note that items may take 6-8 weeks to arrive at the school. For pricing and product information visit our [Spirit Wear Website](#).

Welcome to SchoolCashOnline

Fast. Safe. Convenient.

For safety and efficiency reasons, **Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board** would like to reduce the amount of cash & cheques coming into our schools. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE!

It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child.



Go to
<https://hwdsb.schoolcashionline.com>

and click on **Register**.

- ✓ Enter in your first name, last name, email and create a password.
- ✓ Select a security question.
- ✓ Check YES to receive email notifications

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. **Click on the link provided inside the email** to confirm your email and School Cash Online account (check spam).

The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site, prompting you to **sign into your account**. Use your email address and password to log in.

This step will connect your child to your account.

- a) Enter the **School Board Name**.
- b) Enter the **School Name**.
- c) Enter Your Child's **First Name, Last Name, and Birth Date**.
- d) Select **Continue**.
- e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the **Agree** box and select **Continue**.
- f) Your child has been added to your account.



Viola Desmond Elementary School Student Spirit Wear



The following items are available for purchase on School Cash Online until April 14, 2022:



Solid 12" Cuffed Beanie

Price: \$20.00 each + HST



PANTS:
Youth Sizes: S(6-8), M(10-12),
L(14-16), XL(18-20)
Adult Sizes: S-4XL

Price: \$35.00 each + HST



HOODY SIZES:
ADULT SMALL - 4xL
YOUTH SMALL - XL

Price: \$30.00 each + HST



TEE SIZES:

Adult Small-5XL and Youth XS-XL

Price: \$15.00 each plus HST



SHORTS:
Youth Sizes: XS(2-4), S(6-8),
M(10-12), L(14-16), XL(18-20)
Adult
Sizes: XS-4XL

Price: \$25.00 each + HST

Please note that items may take 6-8 weeks to arrive at the school. For sizing and product information, please visit [Breakaway Distributing](#)