



# Viola Desmond Elementary School

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 @ViolaD\_HWDSB

 violadesmond\_hwdsb

School Website: [www.hwdsb.on.ca/violadesmond/](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/violadesmond/)



It is hard to believe that almost a year has passed since we opened the doors to Viola Desmond School for the first time. It has been quite the adventure and I wanted to thank the entire school community for making our school so great. I would like to also thank and congratulate Ms. Devenish who has been promoted to Principal of W.H. Ballard School. Ms. Devenish has been such a great addition to our school and her support and positivity will be missed!

At this time, I would like to welcome Ms. Welsh who will be our new Vice Principal in September. Ms. Welsh is excited to be joining us at Viola

Desmond and we are all excited to continue our journey with her.

I would also like to thank the staff of Viola Desmond. The opening of a new school requires a lot of collaboration, and hard work and the staff here at Viola Desmond have gone above and beyond in their efforts to make this first school year a memorable one.

### GOODBYE:

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to some members of our staff who are leaving our school, they will be missed:

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| K. Bailey   | S. Blunsdon  |
| K. Chislett | A. D'Ascenzo |
| J. Halper   | D. Ljubicic  |
| D. Surla    | C. Mirabella |
| L. Vincent  |              |

We also say goodbye to our Long-Term Occasional Staff and wish them well in their future positions at HWDSB.

- |            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| J. Ataalla | N. Cirillo    |
| K. Clarke  | J. De Kryger  |
| F. Imani   | J. Kircos     |
| N. Simioni | R. Sampson    |
| D. Stewart | A. Valdivieso |
| I. Hall    |               |

And lastly we wish K. Balliram and V. McRae a wonderful time as they take their mater-



### WELCOME:

We have a number of new staff who will be joining here at Viola Desmond for the 2022-2023 school year.

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| A. Blazek       | E. Clemence  |
| G. Guzman       | A. Henderson |
| S. Iavarone     | M. Jones     |
| E. Lebouef      | K. Martin    |
| K. Skinner      | M. Stevenson |
| M. Stewart      | C. Wilson    |
| H. Wilkie-Smith |              |

## Bell Times for 2022-2023

Supervision Begins 8:30 am Ends 3:20 pm	
<b>Entry Bell</b>	<b>8:45 am</b>
Period 1	8:45 - 9:45
Period 2	9:45 - 10:25
<b>Nutrition Break #1</b>	<b>10:25 - 11:05</b>
Period 3	11:05 - 11:55
Period 4	11:55 - 12:45
<b>Nutrition Break #2</b>	<b>12:45 - 1:25</b>
Period 5	1:25-2:25
Period 6	2:25-3:05
<b>Dismissal</b>	<b>3:05 pm</b>

## Parking Lot Update

As you are aware, the parking situation at our school has created many challenges this year. We appreciate the understanding of our families, and neighbours in our surrounding community.

We are pleased to announce that construction of the new parking lot is underway.

Work on the parking lot, the fire access route and the lastly the Kindergarten play area is expected to continue in July and August, with anticipated

completion by the end of August. This will also create more entry points to our playground to alleviate the backlog of traffic off of Glen Echo Drive. Again, thank you for all your patience and understanding.



## Respectful Citizenship

As a new school, we are working hard to bring together the school community to create a positive school climate that is inclusive and where everyone feels safe, supported and accepted. We all share this responsibility by:

- Complying with the Equity and Inclusion Policy and other Board policies
- Respecting the rights and needs of others to learn in an environment conducive to learning and teaching
- Respecting differences in people and treating one another with dignity at all times, especially when there is disagreement
- Respecting and treating others fairly, regardless of: race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or ability
- Showing proper regard and respect for school property
- Ensuring that cellphones and other personal mobile devices are only used during instructional time (as directed by an educator) for educational purposes, for health and medical purposes and/or to support special education needs.

As parents and guardians you play an integral part in supporting your child and ensuring that they contribute positively to the school community.

Together we can make Viola Desmond School a place where everyone belongs and achieves their full potential.



## Volunteer Reference Checks

If you are planning on joining your child on any class trips, helping in the school, or on sporting events as a volunteer, you MUST have an updated Criminal Reference Check-Vulnerable Screener. These are completed on-line or at the Police Station at a cost. Please

note that this process could take approximately 6 - 8 weeks for you to receive the forms. Please call the office for more information or see our School website for all the details!



## Kindergarten Registration

It's not too late! Kindergarten registration is now open. If you have a child who will be 4 or 5 years of age by December 31st, 2022. Kindergarten on-line registration forms will be available on our school and board websites under Kindergarten



Register at:

[www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten)

Or you can contact the school office at:

(905)296-2549

## School Cash Online

School Cash Online is a convenient online payment system for families to pay for activities, events and school items without handing in cash or cheques. Even parents who are not able to make online payments through their bank are encouraged to sign up, because School Cash Online can let parents

know about upcoming events, sends email reminders about payment due dates and can accept credit cards.

Please visit the website for further information.

<https://hwdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

## Transportation

If your child did not qualify for transportation this school year and were approved for Courtesy Transportation, please note that **you must apply EVERY SCHOOL YEAR**. Courtesy Transportation can only be offered if there is existing room on the school bus route. The

earliest Courtesy Transportation will begin is October.

