



# 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's hard to believe the first month of school is already over! There are many exciting things happening at our school with the start of our athletic teams, choirs and clubs!

You may have seen on our Twitter, the Spectator, or heard on CHML radio, the exciting event that occurred on Sept 13<sup>th</sup>. We are so grateful to Amazon and LEGO for their generous donations to our school. Viola Desmond was one of only four

schools in Canada to receive STEM/LEGO kits to help promote STEM learning. Our own Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) Team is working to create and distribute kits to our classes which will support our student's learning across the curriculum. We know that STEM learning will help build the careers of tomorrow and so grateful our students have this wonderful opportunity.



## HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES

On Monday October 31<sup>st</sup>, students can choose to wear an **appropriate** costume to school. No face masks, weapons or gory costumes are permitted.

The primary division will take part in a Halloween Parade outside on the back playground, weather permitting at 9:30 am. Our Junior/Intermediate students will take part in age appropriate activities

to celebrate the day. Please reach out to your child's teacher for more details. **Please ensure any snacks brought in do not contain any nuts.**

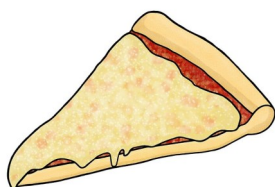
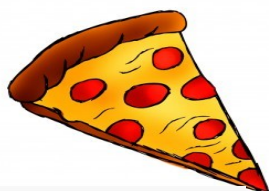
## SUPERVISION

Please remember that supervision **does not begin until 8:30 am**, therefore no students should be left unattended on the playground before this time. At the end of the day supervision ends at 3:20 pm. Parents must ensure that their children are picked up before supervision ends.

## Friday Pizza Days

Pizza Days will soon be starting here Viola Desmond school. Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, will be our first Pizza day. Each slice will cost \$2.00. Students have a choice of cheese or pepperoni and can bring their money to their first period teacher on Fridays. Please note that orders will be accepted **until 9:30 am**.

***Please note that as we are a very large school, late orders cannot be accepted.***

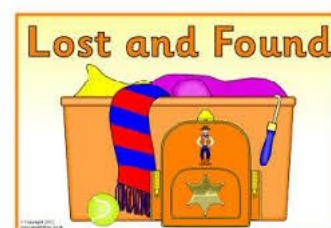


## Labelling Belongings

Our Lost and Found is growing by the day! Please ensure that you are labelling all your child's belongings so that if they are returned to the lost and found we can easily return the item to your child.

Our lost and found currently contains hats,

sports equipment, coats, sweaters and water bottles. Please have your child check the lost and found soon.



# Parking Lot, Bus Loading Zones & Street Parking

## PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please remember that the parking lot is for **staff parking only**. For student safety, please do not drop your child off in the parking lot and please do not have your child walk through the parking lot. Students should be using the walkways to be safe.

## BUS LOADING ZONES

Please respect all signage around the school. There is no parking in the bus loading zones.

## STREET PARKING

We have had a number of concerned community members calling to report our parents parking in no parking areas,

parking their cars blocking driveways, and even parking on neighbour driveways refusing to move their vehicles when asked by the home owners. Please note that our neighbours have begun to call Hamilton Bi-Law and your vehicle will be ticketed.

Lastly, we ask that when approached by our staff about parking concerns please remember that we are trying to keep everyone safe, therefore we appreciate respectful behaviour from everyone on school property.



## Bussing Information



## 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 HWSTS Transportation Lists. This is to ensure that all students that qualify for bussing have a spot. Confirmations of Courtesy Bussing requests will be coming home this first week of October. We are doing our best to ensure that we can accommodate as

many students as possible. For information, please visit the HWSTS website or call:

905.523.2318

## BUS SAFETY

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.



## Medication at School



## MEDICATION

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

Please make sure your child's medications are up to date. If your child requires regular prescription medication at school, we will provide you with the necessary paperwork. Forms indicating that they no longer need medication or a Plan of Care can be picked up at the office.

## Emergency Drills & Procedures

### SAFETY PROCEDURES

We have been practicing our Safe School Procedures. We have successfully completed three Fire Drills and have scheduled our Lockdown drill for November 29<sup>th</sup>. The goal of the drills is to minimize the risk for staff and students during a time of crisis. In the

event of a "real" evacuation, Hamilton Police/Fire Services will be responding to the situation. Students have had Emergency Drills/ Procedures explained to them by their classroom teacher. We encourage parents to talk to their children about the need to stay safe.

