



## 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/)

# FEBRUARY

### School/Parent Council

Minutes from our January meeting have been posted on our website. **Everyone is welcome to join us at our meetings. We look forward to meeting new people and hearing new ideas!**

#### Meeting Dates:

- March 21, 2024
- May 23, 2024

**School Start Time:  
8:45**

Please drop your grade 1-8 child off at the back playground. We ask that only late arrivals check-in at the office.

*A reminder to please book an appointment in advance if you wish to meet with an Educator or Administration.*

### Upcoming Events

**February 1**

#### WWF Sweater Day

The Eco-Team challenges everyone to wear their favorite sweater and turn down the heat on February 1<sup>st</sup> for WWF National Sweater Day. Help save energy and prevent global warming! The winning classes wearing the most sweaters will win a plant.

#### World Hijab Day

#### JS8 Walking Trip to Redhill Library

**February 2**

#### Groundhog Day

**February 8**

#### Winter Walk to School Day

Don't hibernate, celebrate! Walk or roll to school on February 8th. Enjoy the fresh air, get some exercise, and help reduce pollution.

**February 14**

#### Valentine's Day Dance Gr. 5-8

**February 20**

#### Glendale Guidance Staff - Option Sheets with Grade 8's

**February 28**

#### Shelter In Place Drill

**February 29**

Character Assemblies Primary 11:05, Junior/Intermediate 11:55.



## Why is Kindergarten Important?

- Kindergarten is a two-year, full-day program that helps children get the best start in school.
- Early learning experiences are crucial to the future well-being of children.
- Early interactions affect the way connections are made in the brain.
- A solid foundation for reading and math must be built.
- Children build skills through developmentally appropriate play-based experiences.

**Kindergarten registration will begin this Monday, February 5th, 2023.**

Registration will be on-line. All public Kindergarten documents for families can be found on the HWDSB website:

[Kindergarten | Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board \(hwdsb.on.ca\)](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca)

Find a copy of the printable registration form at: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/>

- Use the School Locator tool to find out what school your child should attend. Details: [How to Register | Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board \(hwdsb.on.ca\)](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca)
- HWDSB Child Information Form (optional) – to support educators in learning more about their children prior to school entry, staff developed the HWDSB Child Information Form. This is an optional form for parents to complete. The form can be found at: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/>

Kindergarten classrooms are exciting places where children learn to explore the world, solve problems, and make friends. Watch the magic unfold as an HWDSB student takes you on a tour of a Kindergarten class:

Kindergarten at HWDSB – YouTube

[Kindergarten at HWDSB \(youtube.com\)](http://www.youtube.com)

- For further questions please call the school at: (905)296-2549.

### Glass Containers

**Please be sure to send your child with plastic, leakproof, water bottles and plastic food containers.**

We have had numerous incidents lately in classrooms with students accidentally breaking their glass water and food containers. We ask for your cooperation in this matter to help keep everyone safe and avoid injuries.



### Parking Concerns

Parking passes have been issued to our staff. In the interest of safety for all, the parking lot is not to be used for the drop-off and pick up of students. Hamilton By-Law Enforcement Officers have informed us they will be checking in to be sure cars are not blocking fire lanes or other cars in the lot. They will also be looking for cars parked in the staff lot without a pass. Thank you!

