



# Viola Desmond

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

## Bell Times

### Supervision Begins:

8:30-8:45 a.m.

Entry: 8:45 a.m.

### Nutrition Break 1:

10:25-11:05 a.m.

### Nutrition Break 2:

12:45-1:25 p.m.

Dismissal: 3:05 p.m.

### Supervision Ends:

3:20 p.m.



## Viola Dates to Remember

### October

1. Open House
2. Photo Day
7. Cross Country
8. Glendale Fun Day Grade. 8
11. JR. Trip to Glendale
14. Thanksgiving( No School)
29. Vaccine Clinic Gr.7
31. Halloween

### November

1. PA DAY (No School)
7. JR Boys Volleyball Tournament
14. JR Girls Volleyball Tournament
15. SR Boys Volleyball Tournament.
19. Progress Reports go Home
22. PA DAY (No School)

October 2024

## Principal's Message

Hello Vipers!

September was a month of new beginnings and opportunities. We started off the year with our Junior and Senior baseball teams where students were able to come together in a short time to support their teammates. Our Lunchroom helpers and Peacekeepers also got off to a great start as they use their problem solving skills to help other students in need. Speaking of support and helping those in need, I am so proud and grateful to our school community who came together to reach our goal of raising \$2000.<sup>00</sup> for the Terry Fox Run. This year we ran for a member of our Viola Desmond Family, Mrs. Tillotson, who is away from school courageously battling this horrible disease. As we reached our goal we will be announcing shortly the date of our celebratory assembly where Ms. Welch and myself will have our hair dyed pink by our students. Thank you to everyone that donated!



## Halloween Activities

Thursday October 31st, students are welcome to wear an appropriate costume to school. No Face masks, weapons or gory costumes permitted. Junior/ Intermediate students will take part in age-appropriate activities to celebrate the day. Weather permitting our Primary students will take part in a parade. More info to come.

PLEASE ENSURE ANY SNACKS BROUGHT IN DO NOT CONTAIN ANY NUTS.



## Music

News from Ms. Allum! We are very excited to have received an invitation from Glendale to see the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra Strings Quartet perform. Our Junior grades 4-6 will be going on a free trip to see the performance.

Choir at Viola Desmond has begun and we are welcoming students from grade 6-8 to participate.





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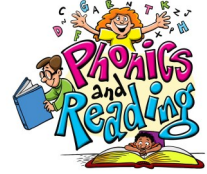
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## **Reading Corner**

How to Crack the Code of Reading:

PHONICS PHONICS PHONICS



From Reading Rockets "The goal of phonics instruction is to help children learn the alphabetic principle — the idea that letters represent the sounds of spoken language — and that there is an organized, logical, and predictable relationship between written letters and spoken sounds.

Learning that there are predictable relationships between sounds and letters allows children to apply these relationships to both familiar and unfamiliar words, and to begin to read with fluency.

Children are taught, for example, that the letter n represents the sound /n/, and that it is the first letter in words such as nose, nice and new. When children understand sound–letter correspondence, they are able to sound out and read (decode) new words."

Phonics Rule : English words do not end in V or U. This is why a silent e is at the end of words like have, true, and live. Can you think of an exception....there is one!

Here is a fun website to check out: [Reading 101 for Parents: Phonics and Decoding | Reading Rockets](#)



## **Safe Arrival and Attendance**

Your child's safety is our priority. If you are dropping off or picking up your child outside of bell times, please buzz the office and the office staff will help you.

### **Dismissal For Appointments:**

When picking up your child for appointments, 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.

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. A child is considered late when they come through the front door after 8:45 a.m. the student must check in to the office to avoid being marked absent. Please use the safe arrival program supported by HWDSB by website, app or phone. Learn more about Safe Arrival at:

[www.schoolmessenger.com/safearrival](http://www.schoolmessenger.com/safearrival)



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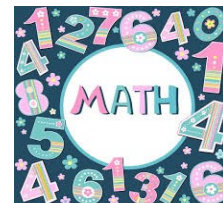
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## Math Minutes

Math is everywhere around us! We can take the time to point out numbers around us on the street signs, speed limits, grocery stores, maps, money etc. We can ask our students the meaning of these numbers. Some conversation starters are:

- What do you think this number means?
- What's the value represent?
- Can I shop with the budget I have?
- What are the costs of these items?
- What is the distance to the library? Mall? Grocery store?
- What is my total?



## Friday Pizza Days

Pizza Day has begun at Viola Desmond, and we have a new system! We will now collect money on Thursday mornings by 9:45 a.m. for delivery on Friday. The cost per slice is \$2.00. If a P.D. Day falls on a Friday we will move Pizza Day to Thursday, and collect money on the Wednesday.

Please note that we cannot collect late orders and no money will be collected by our office staff. We kindly ask if you place money in your child's backpack or lunch bag you let them know you've done so. Also, if your child is away on Pizza Day we cannot provide a refund.

## New for November

As many families have been asking we are in the process of setting up a cash-on-line option to pay for pizza days. More information to follow.



## School Council - Election Result

Chair - Amanda Lloyd	Secretary - Nevena Simic	
Members At Large - Nancy Silva Khan	Stacey Mater	Ksenija Rodic
Milja Minic	Jennifer Mitchell	Chad Giroux

School Council will meet again on November 7th at 4:30 p.m. If you are interested in attending we will meeting in the Learning Commons.

## Updates and Events

Please subscribe to our school website, and ensure you have a current email address on your students profile to not miss any school events or news. We look forward to a having a wonderful 2024-2025 school year.





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## **Exciting Changes to our Library Learning Commons**

Over the summer our Library Learning Commons underwent renovations to transform one end into a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) makerspace classroom. As part of their math, science and arts curriculum, students will have weekly classes in the new space to learn coding & robotics, technology and its impact on our lives, and dramatic arts including stop motion and animation. The new room has a 6'x8' Lego wall, class set of iPads, Lego Spike Prime Robots, Lego Spike Essential Robots, BricQ Motion Kits, Code & Go Robot Mouse Kits, Code & Go Activity Set, Indi Sets, Botley 2.0 Robot, Caterpillar Robot, Lego Tech Machine Kits, and a green screen.



## **Viola Desmond Robotics**

The intermediate robotics team (grades 7 & 8) has started to meet and practice after school. Our team will be representing Viola Desmond at a qualifying competition in December. The junior robotics team (grades 5 & 6) will start meeting after the winter holiday break. We look forward to showcasing our skills at our Open House in the spring.



## **Lego Donations for our STEAM Program**

With the installation of our new Lego Wall in the Library Learning Commons we are in need of stock Lego and are asking for donations. If your children have Lego they no longer play with please consider helping our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) program by donating them to our program.