

The Montgomery News

April Edition

Dear families,

As our Covid protocols are lifting, we want to continue to ensure the safety of all our staff and students. As a reminder, students are strongly encouraged to continue daily screening and to stay home when they are sick.

Please keep the following in mind:

Masks

Monday, April 4th, masks are no longer required but encouraged.

Likewise, all visitors are strongly encouraged to wear a mask in schools; medical masks will continue to be offered and provided on request when visitors check in at the school office.

Capacity Limits and Cohorting

As we have noted, cohorting and distancing has been lifted at Viscount Montgomery, inside and at recesses and lunch time.

Shared spaces such as libraries/learning commons can be fully utilized without distancing. Classes can be combined if necessary to support student safety.

This also means that we can resume programs across grades such as reading buddies, as well as events including assemblies, performances, open houses, commencements, and extra curricular activities like sports and clubs.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the office.

Mr. Fede & Mr. Robertson

April

Welcome to our first edition of the Montgomery News!

Each month we will be posting new and exciting things that will be happening at Viscount Montgomery.

Be sure to subscribe to our website so that you receive all the latest news.

<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/vi/scountmontgomery/>

Also follow us on Twitter

@Viscount_HWDSB



Pizza days are here!

Cash on-line closes April 14th!

PIZZA!



Day of PINK

On Thursday, **April 13**, staff and students across HWDSB will wear pink on the International Day of Pink.

We do this because we want to make a statement that we stand against all forms of bullying. It also reminds us that if we stand up and speak out, we can make a difference.

The International Day of Pink began in Nova Scotia when two high school students saw a classmate being bullied for wearing a pink shirt.

The two students intervened, but wanted to do more. A few days later they were able to get their entire school to wear pink. That school sent a message that together we can stop bullying.

We know that bullying is a problem in our schools and in our wider community. Bullying can happen to anyone, anywhere. Collectively, we can stand up and speak out against bullying.

We will continue to support anti-bullying efforts that make our schools safe and welcoming places for all of our students.

Please wear Pink on Thursday, April 13th to show your Support!



Secure School Information

During the second term, Viscount will be required to conduct at least 3 Fire Drills, 1 Lockdown Drill and 1 Evacuation Drill so that students are prepared in the event of a real emergency. Please do not be alarmed if your child tells you that the alarm went off at school. This is all part of our Emergency Plan of Action.

Cell Phone Use

In order to keep all students safe, all student cell phones must be kept in their school bag or locker at all times unless instructed to be used by the teacher during instructional time.



EQAO

Primary(Gr. 3) and Junior (Gr. 6) EQAO assessments will resume this year and will take place between May 4th to June 24th. New this year is that the assessments are now digital and will be completed on a device. More information will be provided shortly. Please feel free to visit the EQAO website at www.eqao.com for parent resources.



School Parking Lot / Pick up- Drop off

Just a friendly reminder that when dropping off or picking up your child (entry and dismissal times) to please not block the bus loading zone or driveways, and please do not enter the parking lot. The parking lot is extremely busy at these times and we want to ensure the safety of all of our students. A new bus loading area is in the works. I will continue to update families as new information is provided.



Bus Delays



School Busses

The HWDSB Transportation service is responsible for the carriers that bring our students to and from school. At times, school busses may run late and the delay time could take up to 30 minutes. We strongly encourage all families to check the status of their child's bus on a daily basis. This could be done using the following link: <https://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/>

Here you will find a posting of all the delays.

You can also phone transportation directly at (905) 523-2318 or 1-800-691-6402 with any questions you may have, as our school office closes at 4:00 PM.

Class Placements 2022/23

With a new school year approaching, many parents wonder about who their child's teacher will be. This process for organizing classes will soon be underway. When creating classes, teachers meet with each other and school administration to discuss the needs of each student. Some of the issues that are considered are:

- Balance of ability, interests, and talents
- Learning styles of students
- Teaching styles of teachers
- Resources and remedial needs, enrichment needs
- Students to be kept together or separated because of the positive/negative influence on each other's learning.

We appreciate your trust in our professional judgement in balancing the considerations mentioned above. The final decision for class placements is the responsibility of the principal. If you have further information regarding your child's learning needs that we should consider, please send me an email or note with the specifics. **We will not entertain requests for specific teachers.** Please consider the bullets listed above. We will do our best to accommodate your child so that we can maximize their learning opportunities and be successful.

Please note that all requests are due by email to Mr. Fede by May 20th, and that class placements are tentative until the end of September.



Administrative Professionals' Day

On April 27th we celebrate Administrative Professionals' Day! We want to extend a big thank you to Mrs. Hylton, and Ms. Sabina for all the hard work they do for us each and every day! You are truly appreciated!



Out of Catchment Requests

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is soon approaching. For the 2022/23 school year, Viscount Montgomery is open to any families who live outside of the catchment area. However, please note that this does not mean that a space will automatically be granted.

Many factors are taken into consideration when accepting Out of Catchment requests, primarily, the number of students currently registered. In our primary classes we have a provincial cap of 20 students.

Requests for Out of Catchment will be reviewed in the third week of September, once we have updated information with regards to enrollment.

If you are unsure of your child's home school, please use HWDSB's School Locator found at:

www.hwdsb.on.ca/find/



Earth Day – April 22

Our connection to Earth and nature is undeniable: our planet's gain is everyone's gain.

Healthy nature makes our life better by providing us good food, clean air, and fresh water - but it is all under the threat of climate change. We need to raise awareness on the important role of nature in our lives and the benefits nature provides, from good food, clean air, fresh water, to so much more.

The global theme for Earth Day 2022, "Invest in our Planet", brings hope that all people can come together to heal the planet.

On April 22, please wear Earth colours to show our support!



Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A"
reads **20 minutes**
each day

3600 minutes in
a school year

1,800,000 words



90th percentile

Student "B"
reads **5 minutes**
each day

900 minutes in
a school year

282,000 words



50th percentile

Student "C"
reads **1 minute**
each day

180 minutes in
a school year

8,000 words



10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

April

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Grade 8 Commencement photos Picture Re-take Day VM Swag Day	World Autism Awareness Day
Ramadan Begins	4	Families Worrying Less Together – See Flyer	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			International Day of Pink Wear pink to show your support		Good Friday No School	
Easter Sunday	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Easter Monday No School				Earth Day Wear Earth Colours Pizza Day	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			Administrative Professionals Day Thank you Mrs. <u>Hytton</u> and Ms. <u>Sahina</u> 🇸🇦		Pizza Day	



Little Caesars®

Viscount Montgomery
School Fundraiser

**2 Medium Pepperoni or Cheese
Pizzas**

1 Crazy Bread & Sauce

\$15.99

Wednesday May 4th ONLY!

*Available at 280 Queenston Rd.
(Parkdale and Queenston)*

Purchase to support students of Viscount
AVAILABLE ALL DAY!



HWDSB

Families Worrying Less Together

*A program for Parents/Primary Caregivers
of kids whose worries get the best of them*

If you are a parent/primary caregiver of a student in Grade JK- 2 or Grade 3-6 who is excessively shy, or has intense worries and fears, come learn about the “Families Worrying Less Together” program. This program will give you practical strategies to help your child learn to cope differently. *Please note: This program is for parents and primary caregivers, children do not attend.*

Please join us via MS Teams on April 5, 2022 from either 1-2pm or 6-7pm to learn more about the Families Worrying Less Together program.

To register:

April 5 1pm - hwdsb.info/April5-1pm

April 5 6pm - hwdsb.info/April5-6pm



* Families Worrying Less Together is an evidence-informed program based on Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

curiosity • creativity • possibility