

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

Welcome back! We hope that you have had a fantastic summer break and you are eager to get the year at Viscount Montgomery underway.

With the end of our COVID-19 protocols, we are excited to get back to our regular school routines. Nonetheless, please rest assure that we will continue to foster a safe environment where we will promote hand washing and using sanitizer. Students and staff are also welcome to continue wearing masks if they wish.

This year, we will continue to foster your child's strengths through their curiosity and creativity. We have an amazing staff that will help make this all happen. Through our morning announcements, students will learn more about how they can get involved in the many fun things that Viscount offers.

Parents and guardians – check out our monthly newsletters and our school website for important information and upcoming school events.

Welcome back to the 2022-23 school year – let's make it a great year!

Mr. D. Fede



### Dates to Remember:

- Sept. 23 – Terry Fox Run
- Sept. 29 – School Council Meeting @ 6:00 pm in the Learning Commons
- Sept. 30 – Orange Shirt Day / National Day for Truth & Reconciliation



### MEDICAL ALERT

Just a reminder that Viscount Montgomery is a **NUT FREE School**.

Do not send any nut products to school with your child.





**2022-23 Classes:**

Mrs. Stubbing/ Ms. Babin	JK/SK	Mrs. Kellner	Grade 6
Mrs. Enns/Ms. Vanfleet	JK/SK	Mrs. Walker	Grade 6
Mrs. Lipsett/ Ms. French	JK/SK	Ms. Kozic	Grade 6/7
Mrs. Pacifici	Grade 1	Mr. Patocs	Grade 7
Mrs. Hazzard	Grade 1/2	Ms. Dolanjski/Mr. Benoit	Grade 7
Mrs. Campello	Grade 2/3	Mr. Fenton	Grade 7/8
Ms. Boyle	Grade 2/3	Mr. Henry	Grade 8
Mrs. Sotra	Grade 3/4	Ms. Jong	Grade 8
Ms. Ecet	Grade 4/5	Mrs. Vaillancourt	ASD P/J
Ms. O'Neill	Grade 5	Miss Wildfang	ASD J/I

**Subject Specific Teachers:**

Mr. Dodds	Grades 1-8 Gym
Mrs. Dolanjski	Grades 7-8 Music
Mr. Kellner	LRT
Miss Greene	LRT/Library/Prep Coverage
Mme Terzis	Grades 7-8 French
Mme Iantomasi	Grades 4-6 French
Ms. Harisson	Prep Coverage
Mrs. Hewitt	Student Success Teacher
Miss Leyzer	Reading Specialist

**Office Staff:**

Mrs. Mills	Office Assistant (.5 PM).
Mrs. Hylton	Office Administrator
Mr. Fede	Principal

**Educational Assistants:**

- Ms. Anderson
- Mrs. Antler
- Ms. Iasci
- Mr. Kenny
- Miss Godschalk
- Mr. Stuparyk
- Miss Campanella
- Ms. Owl
- Miss Costie
- Mr. Lupal
- Ms. Profetto (AIM)

**Caretaking Staff:**

- Mr. How      Head Caretaker
- Mr. Alves    Caretaker (PM)
- Mr. Wighton Caretaker (PM)

**Please note that all classes are tentative until re-organization!**



### Attention Parents: Dismissal Policy

Instructional time at Viscount occurs between 9:15-3:35. At times there will be classes outside on the back playground prior to dismissal for a variety of reasons (Phys. Ed, DPA).

Please note that for security and safety reasons, parents are not permitted to be on the back playground before 3:35 as the playground is considered an outside classroom.

Once the 3:35 bell rings for dismissal, we ask that parents only then enter the playground.

Thank you for your understanding so that we can continue to keep your children safe at school.

### Parent Parking

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.



### DISMISSAL POLICY for Students

**ALL bus** students will gather in the gym at 3:35 pm for dismissal.

- Bus students will line up in the gym in their respective bus line and attendance will be taken. They will then be dismissed from the gym and escorted by the teacher on duty to their bus.
- Any student being picked up will be dismissed through the back playground.

**Please make the office and daycare aware of changes in afterschool/dismissal plans.**

### Medical Information



Based on need, your child will soon be coming home with medical forms that need to be completed i.e. asthma, anaphylaxis, diabetes etc. This information will be posted in your child's classroom, the office and in the staff room so that all staff is aware. Just a reminder about **Ryan's Law** – All students who require inhalers are always able to carry them with them.

## Secure School Information

During this term, Cootes School is 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.



## Visitors Please Report to the Office

All visitors must first check in at the office. If you need to see or pick up your child, Mrs. Hylton or Mrs. Mills will page the classroom and have the student meet you at the office. If you are dropping something off, please label the item and leave it with our office staff to avoid disruptions in the classrooms.

## Bus Information

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.



## Annual Terry Fox Day

Viscount staff and students will be holding the annual Terry Fox Day on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Thank you to Mr. Dodds who is organizing this amazing initiative. More information will be sent home with students.





## Notifications to School of Medical Conditions

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board is committed to ensuring a safe, accepting, and healthy learning environment which supports student well-being. This environment empowers students with health/medical needs to reach their full potential for self-management of their condition(s), according to their Plan of Care which is intended to support prevalent and non-prevalent medical conditions.

### Returning Students (currently in SK to grade 8):

A Plan of Care is a plan for students who have a prevalent medical condition such as **anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes, and epilepsy**. A Plan of Care is developed with the principal and provides details about your child's condition and how to manage it, what to do in the case of an emergency, a prioritized list of emergency contacts, information about medication, possibly even information about your child's health care providers, and who the Plan of Care should be shared with. During the week of September 6th Plans of Care were sent home with students for parents to review. We ask that Plans of Care be reviewed and sent back to the school.

### NEW students (currently JK to grade 8):

If you are a NEW family to Viscount Montgomery School or are returning from Remote School, we ask that you please connect with the school immediately to identify whether your child has a prevalent medical condition such as **Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes and Epilepsy**. Families are to notify the school as soon as possible. School staff will then connect with individual families to provide specific forms to support the medical condition.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation in ensuring student safety!

## Water Bottles

Water bottles will be provided to all students during the week of September 12<sup>th</sup>, as a welcome back gift from the staff of Viscount Montgomery. All water bottles will be the same so it is important that students label their bottles with their first and last name.



# School Council

Every school in Ontario is required to have a School Council to work collaboratively with the principal to improve student achievement and to enhance accountability of the school with parents. Information about School Councils can be found here:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/council/council02.pdf>.

We welcome all parents/guardians who are willing to volunteer their time to participate on our School Council for the 2022-2023 school year. We are happy to announce that School Councils will once again meet in person on a regular basis to discuss school-wide interests and to make recommendations to the principal.

School Councils must hold annual elections to identify voting members and various positions such as School Council Chair. Elected members vote on School Council matters and represent the group's ideas and advisory suggestions for the Principal. Please note that you do not have to be an elected member of School Council to attend meetings. All meetings are open to all parents/guardians who wish to attend.

To declare your interest to become an elected member on School Council, please complete the nomination form below. All nominations forms must be received by September 23rd, 2022. Please note that you must attend the first meeting in order to be elected to Council. Our first meeting of this school year will be held on Thursday, September 29th, 2022 @ 6:00pm and will be held in our Learning Commons.

Please consider joining us on School Council as an elected or general member. School Council involvement is a great way to support your child's education and we look forward to working together.

To show your interest, please complete and return the following nomination form.

**VISCOUNT MONTGOMERY SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATION FORM - 2022-2023**

**SELF-NOMINATION**

I would like to join School Council as an elected member. I understand that an elected position requires more involvement and responsibilities than a general member does. I understand that this role involves attending School Council meetings.

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

My E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in serving in one of the following School Council roles (please circle):

CHAIR   CO-CHAIR   TREASURER   SECRETARY   MEMBER AT LARGE   OTHER

I am the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ [student name] who is currently registered in Grade \_\_\_\_ at Viscount Montgomery.

I am an employee of HWDSB (please circle):            YES            NO

Please complete and return this form electronically to [dfede@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:dfede@hwdsb.on.ca) or send a copy to the office by September 23, 2022.