



School Newsletter



Principal's Message

April marks the beginning of Spring, and with that change comes many new activities to the school.

Our school focus for the month of April is Acceptance. Classrooms will learn about what acceptance means and demonstrating acts of acceptance which are recognized daily on the morning announcements and written on paper strips, creating links to our growing Westwood Chain of Kindness.

On April 10th, we shall be joining schools all over the world to support the International Day of Pink. Students and staff will be wearing pink that day to support victims of bullying and to make a year-long commitment to stop bullying and discrimination. We also have our After School Scholars Program running every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the month for students in grade 3. This gives invited students an opportunity to practice skills for next month's EQAO assessments. Grades 3 students at Westwood will only write the tests for both Language and Math. This year's administration dates are May 21st-June 3rd. Mark your calendars now to ensure your child attends school daily during the assessment dates.

On April 17th, we will be wearing yellow to celebrate and raise awareness about active and sustainable school travel. Students, parents, and staff are encouraged to wear yellow; and to walk or wheel to and from school. We also look forward to our upcoming school **OPEN HOUSE** which will take place on **Thursday May 9th** during Education Week. More details about this school event will be shared closer to the date of the event.

School Contact Info:

Phone: 905.383.2143

UPCOMING EVENTS

International Day of Pink

- April 10th, 2019

Vision Works Eye Exams

- April 10th - 11th

Wear Yellow Day

- April 17th, 2019

Good Friday

- April 19th, 2019
(NO SCHOOL)

Easter Monday

- April 22nd, 2019
(NO SCHOOL)

WESTWOOD CHECKERS TEAM

The Westwood checkers team placed 6th out of 25 teams at the HWDSB tournament on March 5th. This was the tournament's 50th anniversary and over 900 students in Grades 3-8 competed throughout the day. We are so proud of our amazing team who met weekly to prepare for the friendly competition. Thank you Hailey, Ali, Thamer, Rafi, Aidan and Tom for all of your hard work. You represented our school in a kind, respectful and professional manner. A special thank you to Mr. Ro for cheering us on and for driving us to and from the Ancaster fairgrounds.

Way to go team!

Mrs. Butler and Ms. Ruttan (coaches)

DOGS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

We recognized that many of our families have dogs as pets but we ask that dogs are not brought on school property during school hours and when dropping off and picking up children from school. Some children and family members may not be as comfortable around dogs than others.

NUTRITION IN THE CLASSROOM

When food is to be used as part of an in-class celebration or party, all foods and beverages served must meet the nutrition policy guidelines. Therefore, bringing in baked goods or sweet treats from home for students' birthdays is not permitted as we must meet HWDSB's Nutrition Policy.

EQAO Primary Assessment 2019

During May 21st - June 3rd Students in grade 3 will be participating in the Education Quality and Accountability Office's (EQAO's) Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary Division. If you have a child in grade 3, please avoid booking any appointments for during these dates.

In six one-hour sessions, students will complete a variety of assessment activities designed to allow them to demonstrate their skills and knowledge relating to reading, writing and mathematics as described in The Ontario Curriculum. The assessment is administered province-wide and is developed by Ontario teachers and assessment experts to reflect curriculum expectations.

EQAO has developed a "Parent's Guide to EQAO Tests" and "Questions and Answers for Parents" (available in 20 languages) to give you more information about the assessments and an understanding of what to expect. To access these resources, go to the EQAO Web site (www.eqao.com), click "Parent Resources" and then select "Primary Division (Grades 1-3) and Junior Division (Grades 4-6)."

Big White Wall®

ONLINE MENTAL HEALTH PEER SUPPORT

The Big White Wall is an online mental health peer support that is funded by the government of Ontario. It is a community of members, who support, help each other and share what's troubling them in a safe and anonymous environment. The site is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year - no need to wait until morning, the next business day or for a doctors' appointment. You can find support simply by logging on.

To ensure safety and anonymity, the site is monitored by clinically trained 'Wall Guides', who are online 24/7. Finding help when you're distressed can be hard, so the Wall Guides are also there to help members feel welcome and guide them on how to get the most from their services.

www.bigwhitewall.ca

