

MAY NEWSLETTER

OPEN HOUSE

Help up celebrate education week by joining us on Thursday May 9th from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm for our annual Open House. Come and take a look at what our students have been working on, tour the classrooms and maybe grab a bag of popcorn to help support our Kindergarten program. There will be 6 flavours to choose from and are selling for \$2 a bag. We look forward to seeing you there!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2024/2025

Its that time of year again! Starting on Monday, February 5th, 2024, online registration opened for kindergarten students who will be starting in September 2024. For more information or to register your child, please visit: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/> Our kindergarten orientation will be held on May 15th from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Watch your email for your invitation.

GRADE 8 COMMENCEMENT

This year's grade 8 commencement will take place on Friday June 21st. More details will be made available shortly.



COACHES CORNER

Welcome to Coaches Corner! Spring Sports at Ballard are hoppin!

Please see the tournaments and events posted on the calendar for Adventure Running (6-8), Triathlon/Duathlon (6-8), Soccer (4-8) and Flag Football (6-8). Information about Soccer will be coming out next week as soon as we are able to get it organized. Information on all other sports has already been sent home.

Some huge success in the pool this past week with senior swim team! Ribbons for our top 3 swimmers will be handed out at the next assembly. We also send a big congrats to our Junior Basketball teams who both made it to the playoffs this year!

Swim to Survive is happening with our grade 3s. We head over to Churchill Pool 3x this spring, the kids are loving this! We are grateful for this subsidized program, and for our parent volunteers who are helping out!

We've been chatting with the kids about taking accountability for any paperwork sent home. Having to make extra copies for lost forms takes time away from coaching and money away from our equipment budget! Please reinforce this with your athletes! With nearly 700 kiddos you can imagine the amount of work it is to keep up with so many teams, we really appreciate your support.

Shoot, score!
Mr. Skittles and Miss. Roper on behalf of all the coaches.

ENTERING THE SCHOOL?

In an effort to maintain a safe environment for our students, **Visitors to our building must be buzzed in and check in at the office for direction.** Parents are not permitted to move freely about the building or walk students to class unless given permission by school staff. We thank you for your cooperation.

PERSONAL DEVICE / CELL PHONE POLICY

Students are allowed to use their cell phones during nutrition breaks only. Each teacher has created a policy for storage of cell phones in the classroom that students are expected to follow. Cell phones are not to be used during instructional time unless given permission to access their phones for class activities by their classroom teacher. **Should a student need to contact parents due to illness etc. we ask that the student inform their teacher who in turn will have them come to the office and staff will contact you directly.**

PICKING UP YOUR CHILD EARLY????

The office is a very busy place, especially close to the end of the day so we ask that parents please follow these steps to ensure a smooth pick up. **Please note that we do not call students down before a parent arrives as we have no place for them to be supervised while waiting.**

1. Use School Messenger, send a note with your child or call the office to give us advanced notice that your student will be leaving early. This makes the teacher aware so that the student can be prepared when they are called down when you arrive. Especially if they are not in their classroom.
2. Please plan ahead. Give yourself enough time and remember that it can take a bit of time to locate your student and have them get ready. Especially in the winter, it can take a bit of time for the students to get all of their gear on.
3. Please avoid picking up students during nutrition breaks. We have no way of reaching students who may be outside at that time. We don't want to keep you waiting longer than necessary.
4. Please make sure that your contact / pick up list is up to date. In case of an emergency or in the event that the person picking up your child is not on their pick up list, we will be calling parents to verify. If you are sending someone that is not on your list, please notify the office. Individuals picking up may be asked to provide identification before a student is released to them.

EQAO

Provincial EQAO testing will begin between May 16th and June 6th for students in grades 3 & 6. Your child's attendance is especially important on these days.

MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Principal's Day</i>	2 <i>Milk Day</i>	3 <i>Popcorn Day</i>	4
5	6	7 <i>Milk Day</i>	8 <i>Pizza Day</i>	9 <i>Milk Day</i> <i>Open House</i> <i>5:00 pm to 6:30 pm</i> <i>Choir Fest</i> <i>Jr. Flag Football</i> <i>Tournament</i>	10 <i>Senior Flag Football</i> <i>Tournament</i> <i>Popcorn Day</i>	11
12 <i>Mother's Day</i>	13	14 <i>Milk Day</i>	15 <i>Pizza Day</i> <i>Kindergarten</i> <i>Orientation</i> <i>5:00pm—6:00pm</i>	16 <i>Milk Day</i>	17 <i>Spirit / Jersey /</i> <i>Ballard Bobcat Day</i> <i>Popcorn Day</i> <i>Bike to Work Day</i>	18
19	20 <i>Victoria Day</i> <i>No School!</i>	21 <i>Milk Day</i>	22 <i>Pizza Day</i>	23 <i>Milk Day</i>	24 <i>Popcorn Day</i>	25
26	27	28 <i>Milk Day</i>	29 <i>Pizza Day</i>	30 <i>Milk Day</i>	31 <i>Popcorn Day</i>	