



Yorkview Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

86 Cameron Avenue
 Dundas ON L9H 1P8
 Phone: 905-628-8212
 Fax: 905-628-8234

Email: yorkview@hwdsb.on.ca
 Website: www.hwdsb.on.ca/yorkview
 Principal: Ms. G. Stafford

Yorkview February 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We will continue this month with a mathematics and coding focus. Our grades 1-5 had a coding day, where they learned about Microbits this past week. It was so exciting to see our students program the ipads to have the Microbit say things. If you have the chance pictures are posted outside the staffroom on the bulletin board of activities happening in the school. Kindergarten students will have a coding experience Feb 22. We will also have mathematics in-servicing for staff on Feb 9 with board consultants.

This month Yorkview will continue to be filled with love, friendship and positive energy as we celebrate a week of random acts of kindness in honour of Valentine's Day. Kindness and the importance of being kind to others is highlighted in our school announcements with quotes daily, but what truly warms my heart and makes me proud of being the Principal at Yorkview, is seeing our students being kind to one another on a daily basis.

Thank you for your kindness, smiles and support with academics, behaviours and modelling the importance of a solid education and students with good character. Yorkview is an amazing place to be!

As always, if you have ideas, concerns or need clarification on an issue, please contact me.

Kind regards,
Ms. Stafford

Date	Activity
Feb 1	Start of Black History Month Pizza Day
Feb 2	Groundhog Day
Feb 5	Kindergarten Registration Opens
Feb 6	Popcorn Day
Feb 7	Winter Walk Day
Feb 8	Pizza Day
Feb 9	Staff Inservice Mathematics
Feb 12-16	Random Acts of Kindness Week
Feb 13	Popcorn Day
Feb 14	Valentines Day, Ash Wednesday
Feb 15	National Flag Day of Canada Pizza Day
Feb 16	Term 1 Reports sent home
Feb 19	Family Day (No School)
Feb 20	Popcorn Day School Council Meeting
Feb 22	Pizza Day Staff Meeting
Feb 23	Jersey Day
Feb 27	Popcorn Day Updated IEP's sent home
Feb 28	Pink Shirt Day
Feb 29	Pizza Day Beach Day Dance A Thon
Mar 1	Out of Catchment Forms Due

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Register for Kindergarten

Your child is eligible for the two-year Kindergarten program in the calendar year that they turn four or five. You may register your child online or come into the school starting February 5, 2024. Registration Forms are available at <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/kindergarten/>. Note, only parents or legal guardians can register their children for school. Required documents include:

- Proof of age (child's birth certificate or passport);
- Proof of address (identification that shows parent/guardian's current home address);
- Proof of immunization;
- Verification of date of arrival/immigration documents (if the child was not born in Canada).
- If registered using our print method, bring a completed Child Information Form, also available at your school.

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

With winter weather upon us, please make sure students are dressed appropriately for outdoor activities. On days where cold weather and snow are in the forecast, boots, mittens or gloves, a warm hat and a winter jacket should be worn. Snow pants may also be needed for children who will play in the snow.

Please remind your children of this, as many feel that they do not have to wear what they come to school with during outside nutrition breaks. Please consider taking some time to label your child's clothing in case they misplace them.



TERM 1 REPORT CARDS



Report Cards

On February 16th, you will receive your child's term one report card. This report, unlike the progress report, will provide you with more detail on how your child is progressing at school in all areas of the curriculum which have been taught this term. Please review the report with your child and discuss the next steps that are suggested for improvement. As a parent, the biggest change you will notice will come on your child's report card. Instead of having the language mark divided into four parts: writing, reading, media literacy and oral communication; it will be one mark.

OUTDOOR PLAY EXPECTATIONS

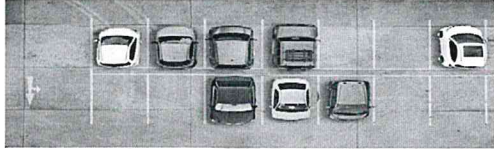
Outdoor play must be safe and respectful!! Please speak to your child about keeping their hands to themselves. Aggressive play is rough and it causes injuries to children. While at school, there is no need to play games that involve grabbing, pushing, shoving, or hitting. Likewise, snowball throwing is not permitted, as it is not safe as we never know where it might land or what object might be caught up in it. Students are not permitted to throw snow during outdoor times. Every year, we also tend to have issues with the building of snow forts. We will be having conversations with students to see if there is a way to work around this issue and hopefully we can reach amicable solutions.



PARKING

A reminder that the parking lot is for staff and board employees. Please park on the streets adjacent to the school and walk onto to the school property for drop offs and pick ups.

We appreciate your cooperation with this matter.



ON TIME & READY TO LEARN

ATTENDANCE

As the weather changes and we get more settled into school, we are beginning to notice a number of students showing up for school late or not attending. It is important to note that students who attend school regularly tend to be more engaged in their learning, feel more connected to the school and have better academic outcomes than students who miss a lot of school.

Did you know?

-If your child is 20 minutes late every day, he/she will have missed 12 days of school instruction by the end of the school year.

- If your child misses two days of school per month, he/she will have missed one month worth of instruction by the end of the school year.

FEELING SICK

Being sure that a child is well enough to go to school can be tough for any parent. It often comes down to whether the child can still participate at school. Having a sore throat, cough, or mild congestion doesn't always mean kids can't handle class and other activities. However, we



greatly encourage you to keep your child home if they have symptoms like a fever over 100.4°F/ 38°C; pain from earache, headache, sore throat, or recent injury; diarrhea; vomiting; or trouble breathing. A child who has the

sniffles but hasn't slowed down at home is likely well enough for the classroom. But one who coughed all night and had a hard time getting up in the morning is encouraged to take it easy at home.

WINTER WEATHER

We ask that all students are sent to school with proper winter wear each day. Please review our weather conditions for outdoor recess below.



Weather Conditions

Students will play outdoors when:

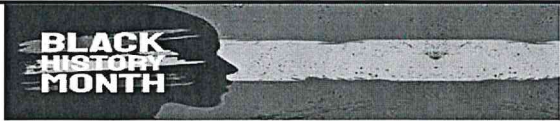
- Temperatures are above -15°C with consideration given to wind chill factor
- There is light precipitation (e.g. snow flurries, drizzle)
- Snow is on the ground, depending upon how different play areas are affected

Playground/Field Conditions

Students will be permitted to use the field and asphalt play areas when conditions are suitable for safe play.

Safety considerations included:

- Fields that are not muddy or icy and asphalt play areas that are not icy
- Snow that is not deep enough to inhibit students walking/running



Black History Month

The 2024 theme for Black History Month is: “Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; Future to Build.”. Black History Month is a month dedicated to commemorating the achievements of Black people throughout history, whilst also reflecting on the prejudices Black people have endured. Throughout Canada and North America, Black History Month is celebrated in February each year, and is a very important event for everyone to celebrate.

Why do we celebrate Black History Month?

Black History Month is celebrated to mark and commemorate Black contributions to arts, culture, science, sport, and history. It is important to remember that historically, Black people in Canada have been overlooked and have faced a lot of prejudice and discrimination as a result of race. Black History Month is celebrated annually so that we all can remember and celebrate the wonderful things that Black people have brought to Canada. No matter where you live, we invite all Canadians to learn more about these communities, and how they continue to help shape Canadian history.

Update Personal Information

Sometimes, when we call home or attempt to contact parents over the phone, we discover that the contact information written on the registration card is not accurate. When we send out emails to the community, we routinely have around 12 emails bounce back with messages that they are no longer valid. Please take some time to contact the office if your contact information has changed so we can update it on your child’s registration card and in the school contact information. Not only is this a safety issue, but most of the information parents also receive from the school is sent via email, text or sometimes by phone. In order for you to be up to date on what is going on at Yorkview, it is important we have the correct contact information.

National Anti-bullying Pink Shirt Day

National Anti-bullying Pink Shirt Day is the Day of Pink on Wednesday, February 28th where we stand up against bullying and discrimination. A day to stand up for kindness, where we work together and treat others with dignity and respect. Working together we can make sure that Yorkview is a safe learning and working space for everyone.

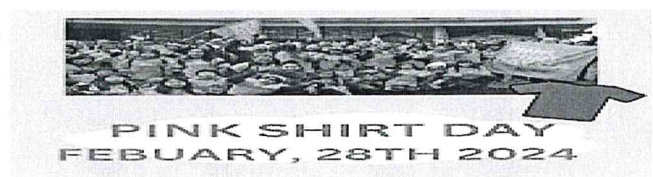
Building healthy relations in our school communities are important; however, it is also important to review steps we can take together to stop bullying and discrimination. Bullying refers to any situation where a child is being deliberately and repeatedly hurt by others and they find it difficult to stand up for themselves. This can be face to face or online, in school or in the community. It may be physical or it can be verbal or emotional.

OFFENCE DECLARATION



Parents play an important role in the development and education of their children, and in the success of the school community. At Yorkview we welcome and encourage the participation of parents and community members, and are grateful for the countless hours our volunteers have contributed in previous school years. All volunteers in HWDSB schools MUST provide a new Vulnerable Sector Screening every three years. Volunteers must also sign a current offence declaration each year, in between Vulnerable Sector Screening updates. We want everyone at HWDSB to be safe in our buildings

We all have a role to play in creating communities where children feel safe and valued, where we stand up to prejudice and are united against bullying or acts of discrimination. Reporting these types of behaviour is the first step in addressing these situations. We need to ensure that our children know who the caring adults are at school and in their community so that incidents of bullying or discrimination are reported and addressed promptly. Support Bullying Awareness, Prevention and Diversity by wearing Pink on February 28th!



and the updated Vulnerable Sector Screening is one way we can protect our students. A criminal background check is required for all school volunteers in Ontario. Even if you want to accompany your child on a field trip, you need this background check. Once you have completed the process, you are on file with Yorkview School as being a school volunteer.

**"If we all do one random
act of kindness daily,
we just might set
the world in the
right direction."**

— Martin Kornfeld

