

Richard Beasley Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

80 Currie Street Hamilton, Ontario L8T 3M9 Phone: 905.387.5655 Fax: 905.387.4354

EMAIL: richardbeasley@hwdsb.on.ca PRINCIPAL: Mrs. J. Corbin Harper www.hwdsb.on.ca/richardbeasley

Beasley June 2024 Newsletter



To our Parents/Guardians,

I would like to take this time to thank our Beasley families for yet another great school year. As I say this, it is hard to believe we are entering the final month of this school year. In my three years here, each year seems to have been better than the previous one. I have truly enjoyed getting to know the students and families, and enjoy the conversations and sharing that we are having. I love that parents feel more comfortable coming to me to share concerns, chat about their children and ask questions. This is what building a community should sound and feel like.

I also want to thank the staff for their dedication to your child's learning. Staff have created engaging, interesting and fun lessons and activities over the year. They have worked very hard to move our students forward. To the students, I want you to know how proud I am of all of your accomplishments this year. You all have worked hard, tried your best, and most importantly while learning...had fun!

June is a very busy month here at Richard Beasley with teachers wrapping up units of study and putting transition plans into place. There are many exciting things happening within the school. Students are working hard to complete all final assignments and assessments. Our Grade 3 students are participating in EQAO. There are a lot of student-centered activities taking place throughout the school such as track and field training, year-end class trips; play day; and our year-end recognition assembly. After all this excitement and focus, I truly hope that over the summer break, our Beasley families take advantage of opportunities to relax, reconnect with family and friends, and put away those devices and get outside and enjoy the outdoors.

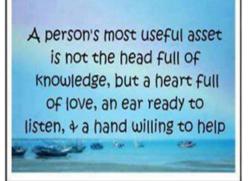
We say goodbye and best wishes to all of the Richard Beasley families moving on and we also welcome many new families into this wonderful community. For all of the Kindergarten to Grade 5 families, please join us on September 3rd, 2024 in the school yard by 8:40 a.m. for entry.

As always, if you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me via email at <u>icorbinh@hwdsb.on.ca</u> or call me at the school.

Take care, Mrs. J. Corbin-Harper

Date	Activity
June 1st	Beginning of: Italian Heritage Month; Pride Month; National Indigenous History Month
June 6th	Last day for Hotdog & McDonald's orders; Bowling Trip forms due;
June 7th	PA Day; NO SCHOOL
June 11th	Last popcorn sales day this year
June 12th	Gr 5 trip to Lawfield, Shavuot (Judaism)
June 13th	Beasley Track & Field -middle Block
June 14th	Spirit Day – Tropical Day
June 16th	Father's Day
June 16 – June 20	Eid ul-Adha
June 18th	McDonald's Special Lunch day & HWDSB Track & Field Day
June 20th	Last pizza day this year
June 21 st	Play Day; National Indigenous People's Day
June 23rd	National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism
June 24th	Grade 5 Celebration
June 25th	Gr 1 – 5 End of Year Trip Splitsville, then dance. Hotdog Lunch; Report Cards go home
June 26th	Recognition Assembly – Middle Block
June 27th	Last day for students

Thought for the Month:



NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH

June is National Indigenous History Month in Canada, an opportunity to learn about the unique cultures, traditions and experiences of First Nations, Inuit and Métis. It's a time to honour the stories, achievements and resilience of Indigenous Peoples, who have lived on this land since time immemorial and whose presence continues to impact the evolving Canada. The House of Commons designated June as National Aboriginal History Month in 2009. The name was changed to National Indigenous History Month in 2017.

Each week throughout the month of June, we will be highlighting specific aspects of Indigenous history, cultures and perspectives. Explore <u>learning resources</u> on each theme:

- June 1 to 9: Environment, traditional knowledge and territory
- June 10 to 16: Children and youth
- June 17 to 23: Languages, cultures and arts
- June 24 to 30: Women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people

The best way to gain a deeper understanding of First Nations, Inuit and Métis experiences is through their own voices. Enjoy Indigenous storytelling by picking up a book, attending a show, watching a movie or listening to music from Indigenous artists. You can also check out the <u>GC Indigenous</u> Instagram account to learn more about inspiring Indigenous women, 2SLGBTQ+ people, environmentalists, artists, activists, scientists and researchers.

VOLUNTEER DIRECTIVE

If you are planning on joining your child on any class trips, yearend trips, or helping in the classroom, school or on sporting events as a volunteer, you MUST have an updated Criminal Reference Check – Vulnerable Screener. CRCs are done on-line or at the Police Station at a cost. It could take approximately 6 -8 weeks for this process to be completed. Having this extra support in the school/classroom next year can be very beneficial to our students' success. Please call the office for more information or see our School Website for all the details! Thank you for your support.

PLANNING FOR SEPTEMER 2024

MOVING? In order to assist us with making the best decisions possible with respect to class organization and student placements for Richard Beasley

School for the 2024/2025 school year, we would appreciate if you would let the office know if your family is planning to move in the next few months.

We thank you in advance for keeping us informed! School and classroom organization began at the end of May so sharing this information with us now is very helpful for our planning for next year!

PRIDE MONTH

In 1995 Canada's supreme court finally considered sexual orientation a prohibited ground of discrimination in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. LGBTQ+ members who faced, hate, exclusion, and often lived in fear for their lives long fought for these rights and believed in a better



Report

Cards

future. Thanks to the LGBTQ+ folks and allies who persevered, today we celebrate Pride month! Pride is the promotion of dignity, equity and increased visibility for 2SLGBTQIA+ peoples. It is a celebration of life, rights, dignity, equity and difference.

As a school community we will be flying the Pride flag. Why are we flying the flag? The month of June is Pride month. Flying the Pride flag not only signals that our schools are safe spaces for everyone. By raising Pride flags, HWDSB schools can symbolically show their solidarity with Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ people, while recognizing there is still important, ongoing work to support human rights, equity, and inclusion of all identities from these intersectional and marginalized communities.

Grade 5

Every June, we say farewell to our grade 5 students as they conclude their elementary schooling and head off to middle school. We



wish them all the best in their transitions and remind them of the foundational skills they have learned in the last 6 years with us as they embark on the next chapter of their educational journey. This is a time to celebrate the successes and growth that has been made, along with the wonderful memories that have been shared as a class.

REPORT CARDS

As we prepare to communicate student achievement for term 2 through the Report card, students will be sent home with reports on Tuesday June 25th. Parents will have an opportunity to reflect on student progress and next steps by completing a feedback form with their child that is to be returned to the school prior to the last day which is Wednesday June 27th.

Thursday June 28th is a PA Day, so there is no school as our students begin their summer holidays for the year.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR FUNDRAISING

We would like to take this time to say a great THANK YOU to all the families who supported us with all of our fundraising ventures this school year.

With all the monies raised, we were able to:

- subsidize a number of activities for our students;

-subsidize the buses and the entry price for our end of year trip

-purchase technology, including iPads, and other items for our STEM room

-purchase a large number of diversity and non-fiction books for our library

-purchase a few pieces of gym and recess equipment

-purchase items for recess play

CLASS BUILDING FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

We have started class building for the 2024-25 school year. Over the next few weeks we will be finalizing student moves based on the detailed set of criteria listed below. Our major focus when making these decisions is student learning and success for the following year. We take this process very seriously and do our best to plan for the success of all of our students at Richard Beasley. Class building criteria:

- learning partners
- ability groups learning groups
- needs of students
- separating some students due to relationship issues depending on the number of classrooms.
- balance of gender/ non binary
- behavioural needs/ dynamics between students
- combined classrooms are not streamed (for example, a ³/₃ split is not high achieving grade 2's and low achieving grade 3's) combined class resource

Thank you for your understanding and trusting the Beasley staff as we build classes for the next school year.

LITERACY FOCUS

HWDSB: Student Learning and Achievement: We will improve student learning and achievement through effective instructional strategies.

Grades K to 6: Goal #2: Improving the reading achievement of all students and closing the gap for those historically underserved.

In keeping with the Board's strategic direction on reading/writing, we will be including a Reading Section in our monthly newsletter. Hope it helps as you read with your child(ren) at home.

Tips: How to Keep Your Kids Reading Over the Summer

An important reason kids need to read over the summer is to keep their skills sharp. Just like learning a new sport, if you don't practice regularly, you'll get rusty. In education, we call it the summer slide. That's when kids lose some of their academic skills from lack of practice. Then we need to spend the first few weeks of the new school year relearning them.

The best way to stop the summer slide is to keep your kids reading. You don't need do spelling drills or give them a list of comprehension questions. All you have to do is make reading a fun part of daily life.

- 1. Show off your own reading habit
- 2. Ask your child about their reading
- 3. Create an inviting spot for reading
- 4. Visit the local library and get a library card
- 5. Make a special time for reading every day
- 6. Start a family book club
- 7. Find books that match your child's interests
- 8. Keep a stash of books in the car
- 9. Create a fun summer reading challenge
- 10. Read to your children even if they are in middle school
- 11. Ask your local bookstore about their summer reading program
- 12. Utilize audio books or listen to books online

https://www.fishyrobb.com/post/tips-to-keep-your-kids-reading-all-summer



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MENTAL WELLNESS 5 everyday tips for a mentally healthy summer break

By School Mental Health, Ontario

To help you prepare for a summer break that supports your family's mental wellness, here are five everyday tips for taking care of your mental health:

Get Outside

Seek out sunshine and fresh air every day. Being outside in the sun, in green spaces, or in nature helps us to reduce stress and boost hormones that promote happiness. Consider getting out for a walk each day and taking a book or activity outside. Dress for the weather and enjoy the outdoors!

Get Active

Walk, stretch, run, hike, bike, swim, dance, jump rope, play a sport, or whatever else you like to do! Try to get moving for at least 60 minutes every day, or as much as you can. Exercise is important for our physical health and it can also help improve our mood, reduce stress, and help us sleep better at night. Find fun ways to exercise with others to stay motivated. Remember to go at your own pace.

Sleep Well, Eat Well

Children and teens need 10 hours of sleep each night for their bodies and minds to rest and restore. When we get lots of rest, eat a healthy diet, and drink lots of water, it helps our mood and we can think, learn, and act better. Try cooking together; this can be a fun way to share traditions, recipes, and favourite cultural foods.

Be Creative and Have Fun

Taking part in activities we enjoy can increase our feel-good hormone, dopamine, that boosts positive emotions. Spending time away from electronics can help encourage free time to play, have fun, and be creative. When we develop our talents and hobbies it can lead to feelings of accomplishment that boost our feelings of well-being. Have fun enjoying cultural music, dance, and art together

Keep Connected

Connecting to family, friends, and neighbours is important for our mental health. Schedule time with family members to check-in with each other, talk, and have fun together. Reach out to keep connected to loved ones and friends. Friendly chats with neighbours and volunteering to help others when we can, are also great ways to support our well-being, as well as those around us

Take care of yourself this summer – unplug and be in the moment, stay active, be outside in the sunshine and warm weather, keep connected and enjoy a mentally healthy summer break.

https://smho-smso.ca/5-everyday-tips-for-a-mentally-healthy-summer-break/