

Westview Elementary Newsletter



Westview Elementary

60 Rolston Drive
Hamilton, Ontario
L9C 3X7

905-388-1502
westview@hwdsb.on.ca

www.hwdsb.on.ca/westview/

Principal's Message April 2024

From the Principal's Desk... Just a brief newsletter to finish off April and send us into May!

As the days grow longer and the weather milder, it is important for students to continue making their best effort and to remain focused on their academic goals. Maintaining good study habits, including completing assignments and homework on time, attending extra help, coming to class prepared to learn, effectively managing class time, and getting a good night's sleep, remain important. April is the month of Ramadan and we wish Eid Mubarak! Our next Parent Council meeting is coming up – April 17th from 6 – 7 pm via TEAMS. If you would like to be invited, please email us at westview@hwdsb.on.ca.

Thanks to all of our staff for preparing and teaching the students about the importance of good character and appropriate behaviour. Parents can help by continuing to monitor their child's progress and communicating with teachers when a concern arises.

Class Placements 2024/2025

As we head into the final months of the school year the planning process is underway for organizing classroom groupings for next year. We group children so that there are a variety of academic levels in each class allowing for the flexibility needed to create a variety of instructional groups. Teachers will meet with school administration in early June to discuss the needs of each student. Some of the issues discussed and considered are:

- A) balance of ability, interests, and talents
- B) Balance of males/females
- C) Learning styles of students
- D) Teaching styles of teachers
- E) Diversity and equity
- F) Resources and remedial needs, enrichment needs
- G) Students to be kept together or separated because of the positive/negative influence on each other's learning.

We appreciate your trust in our professional judgment in balancing the considerations mentioned above. The staff is a dedicated team of professionals. Years of meeting the learning and social/emotional needs of students give them the unique qualifications to make these decisions. It takes hours of discussion, reflection, revision, and consideration of alternatives to arrive at the best organization for our school while working within the parameters set by the Board. The best may not be perfect but represent what we believe are the best chances for success for all children. The final decision for class placements is the responsibility of the Principal. If you have further information regarding your child's learning needs that we should consider, please make sure you have discussed the specifics with your child's teacher. ***We will not entertain requests for specific teachers or groupings of students or requests regarding splits vs. straight grades.***

Some Reminders

Spring Weather

As the weather is warming and we get rain more frequently, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the conditions. Open footwear such as crocs or slides is not appropriate for adverse weather or for gym class and should not be worn to school.

Second Nutrition Break

As the weather warms up, we would like to remind students who have **permission to leave for lunch** they should not return to the property until the end of the 40-minute lunch break. Students should return promptly at 1:30 pm, line up with their class and enter through the appropriate door. Parent permission to leave means parents are accepting responsibility for the time the student is off school property.

School Parking Lot

To help keep our students safe please do not use the staff parking lot. There is no extra parking available in our lot and school buses need to be able to enter and turn around. In addition, students who ride on our two large buses must cross the lot to enter the school creating a safety concern for our students. The only available parent parking is on Rolston Drive (paying close attention to the parking signs), one of the adjacent side streets, or the Westmount Recreation Centre parking lot. Thank you for your support in helping to keep our students safe.

School Trips

End of year trips will be announced as they are organized. Information may be sent home via School Messenger, School Cash Online, or via information letter sent by the organizing teacher.

Commencement

The Grade 8 Commencement Ceremony will take place on Thursday June 20th at 4:00 at Westmount Secondary School. This is all of the available information at this time. Information about tickets will be sent home by the Grade 8 teachers closer to that date.

April Dates of Importance

April 8 - PA Day and Solar Eclipse

April 10 – Eid

April 11 – Spirit Day – Dress as your favourite character

April 11 – Swim Meet at Jimmy Thompson Memorial Pool

April 17 – Bandfest at Sherwood Secondary School

April 17 – Parent Council Meeting 6:00-7:00pm via MS TEAMS

S. Neville

Principal – Westview P.S.