

Hamilton Elementary School - Newsletter

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Principal: Mr. Mark McCallum

Vice Principal: Mrs. Mika Livingston

We acknowledge and thank the First Peoples of the [hən'q'əmin'əm](#) (hun-ki-meen-um) language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

September 15th, 2022

- **Principal's Message**
- **Health & Safety Reminders**
- **Information & School Fee Packages**
- **September's theme: "Overcoming Challenge/Developing Courage"**
- **Terry Fox Run & Meet the Staff**
- **Truth & Reconciliation – Assembly/Silent Walk**
- **Important Dates for the Year**

Dear Hamilton Families,

We have been so happy with the start of this school year. Students are settling into their new classrooms, schedules are being created, and the learning has begun. While we still have a few staff members to hire, we would like to formally **welcome Ms. Laura Elliott, our new Band & Music Teacher**. Ms. Elliott is an experienced music specialist who has worked in a number of schools in Richmond. Today we had people from Long and McQuade here to demonstrate Band instruments to our four upper intermediate divisions.

We are very much looking forward to a fantastic school year. Thank you for your ongoing support as we move forward with the education of these amazing young people.

Respectfully,
Mr. McCallum and Mrs. Livingston

Some Health & Safety Reminders: **If your child requires an EpiPen**, please ensure an up-to-date device is dropped off at the office and clearly marked with the name and division.

Since we have several students in our school with nut allergies, sometimes of a very severe, life-threatening nature, **we ask that you send only nut-free snacks and lunches with your child(ren)**. We want to keep *all* our students as safe as they can be.

As we move into cold and flu season, and with Covid still an obvious threat, we ask that you keep your children home if they are sick or exhibiting any symptoms of illness. Hamilton continues to be a mask-friendly environment.

Over the next two days, **our yearly start-up information and school fees information packages will be sent home.** Please fill out all the forms and return them to the school by Thursday, September 22nd. Thank you.

Our School Vision Committee met yesterday and came up with some events this month connecting to **September's theme of "Overcoming Challenge/Developing Courage"**.

Tomorrow we are having our first Welcoming Assembly. Since this is the first in-person assembly we have had for the whole school in a couple of years, much of it will be an exercise in organizing classes into their spots, practicing sitting quietly, and singing O Canada. We will also have a moment of silence for the passing of the Queen, and presentations by our grade 7 students. Since this is the first assembly of the year, and we are gradually getting back to normal, we ask that parents *do not* attend this assembly. However, please read on for some upcoming events we hope you *can* be a part of.

This year's Terry Fox Run will be next Thursday, September 22nd. In the afternoon we will begin in classrooms with a virtual assembly and then head outside for a warmup and the run. We would like to invite parents to join us for the outdoor portion beginning at 2:00pm to take part in the event and for an opportunity to meet our Hamilton Staff. Donations for the Terry Fox Fund to find a cure for cancer this year can either be made through our School Cash Online system or sent to the school with your child. Thank you for contributing to this important charity!

In honour of **Canada's National Day of Truth and Reconciliation**, we are planning an activity and **A Walk in Silent Remembrance on Thursday, September 29th.** Time TBD. We will begin in the gym with a short assembly then proceed outside for our walk. Members of our community will be invited to join us for both the assembly and the walk. More information about the event to follow.

Please see the attachment for a Photo Collage of week 1 & 2!

Dates for 2022/2023

Day of Mourning for the Queen – School Closed	September 19
Terry Fox Run & Meet the Staff 2:00pm	September 22
Pro-D Day – Students do not attend	September 23
Individual Photo Day	September 26
Truth & Reconciliation - Assembly & Walk	September 29
Truth & Reconciliation Day - SCHOOL CLOSED	September 30
FSA Testing Period Begins	October 3
Conferences – 1:45 Dismissal Days	October 4 & 5
Gr. 6 & 7 Immunizations	October 5
Thanksgiving Day - SCHOOL CLOSED	October 10
Pro-D Day – Students do not attend	October 21

Photo Retakes
Remembrance Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Pro-D Day – Students do not attend
Winter Vacation - SCHOOL CLOSED
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation
Pro-D Day – Students do not attend
Pro-D Day – Students do not attend
BC Family Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Conferences – 12:00 Dismissal
Spring Vacation
Good Friday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Easter Monday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Pro-D Day – Students do not attend
Victoria Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Last Day of Classes
Administrative Day

November 2
November 11
November 21
December 19 – January 2
January 3
January 30
February 17
February 20
March 8
March 13 - March 24
April 7
April 10
May 19
May 22
June 29
June 30 (no students at school)