



École Harris Mill Public School

April 2023 Newsletter

Principal's Message



As I write the April Newsletter, it is currently sunny and nice out. The days are getting longer and the sun is feeling warmer. Spring is here!

Thank you so much to everyone in the Harris Mill community for making me feel so welcome. It has been an honour to serve over the last few weeks!

After consultation with your School Council it was mutually decided that we try to re-launch a monthly newsletter. I hope you will find this publication enjoyable and helpful. This month we are sending home a paper copy with the oldest and only students. Going forward hard copies of the newsletter can be obtained by request, simply ask the office. Otherwise, look for an email on the last school day of the month with an attachment containing the newsletter. You can print or digitally save the publication in the manner you most prefer. Lastly the newsletter will be posted monthly

on the school website. I hope you find this a helpful tool.

I am grateful for my time here at Harris Mill. Take care,
Mr. Hill

Important Events

Spirit Wear available to order until April 9th. Visit this website to order:

<https://www.schoolcashonline.com/>

March 27 - Amaya James author visit

April 5 - Jump Rope for Heart Event

April 7 & 10 - Good Friday and Easter Monday (no school)

April 12 - International Day of Pink & Grade 5 Candid Photo Day

April 21 - Dance-A-Thon & Husky Day: Out of this World (Wear blue and green or galaxy colours for Earth Day)

April 26 - River Run Performance Grade 5 @ 1:15pm

April 26 - PIC Spring Event: Building Engaging School Councils @ 5:30pm-9:00pm

May 4 - Spring Concert @ 11:00am - 12:35pm

School Communication

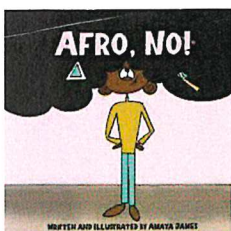
- ★ UGConnect App
<https://www.ugdsb.ca/parents/ugconnect-app/>
- ★ Bus Cancellations
<https://stwdsts.ca/>
- ★ School Twitter
<https://twitter.com/harrismillps> or @HarrisMillPS
- ★ School Website :
<https://www.ugdsb.ca/harrismill/>

Absence and Late Arrival Procedures

If your child will be late or absent, we ask that you let the office and the homeroom teacher know, just like usual.

Please send an email to your child's teacher and also the school email account harrismill.ps@ugdsb.on.ca or you may phone the school office and leave a voice message (519-856-0309).

If your child arrives late to school, please call the office and Ms. Evans will let you in. The very best thing is to have your child at school by 8:25 am so they can go inside with their classmates and start the day right on time. Arriving late not only disrupts the learning of students who are already there, but also causes some anxiety in the late child because they are not sure what is going on at first.



Amaya James School Visit

We were thrilled to welcome local author Amaya James who came to read her story during our Unlearn assembly. She is the author of *Afro, No!*

and is just 9 years old! She is certainly an inspiring example for many young storytellers who may be interested in publishing a book.



Jump Rope for Heart

Harris Mill Huskies!!

You are amazing!! We

have surpassed our initial fundraising goal of \$1000. We have raised close to \$6500. We will have some fun events coming up! Students are looking forward to seeing Mme Mejia, Mr. Archbold, Mme Melin, Ms. Smyth, Mme Sargeant and Mrs. O'Malley get a pie to the face! Thank you so much for your generosity, Harris Mill family and friends! If you are interested in making a donation you may do so at this link: <https://jumpropeforheart.crowdchange.ca/24558>

Dance-A-Thon

Parent Council has organized our school Dance-A-Thon to take place on Friday, April 21. Any



donations made will go directly to our school to help us purchase co-curricular and curricular resources to support students. We appreciate your support! If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Charlotte Kerby at the following email: charlottekerby@outlook.com Stay tuned for some more fundraising incentives for the students!

Ramadan

A happy Ramadan to all students, staff and community members starting their month of fasting, prayer, reflection and community fellowship! Did you know? There is a prayer room available to students located upstairs in room 352 beside Ms. Smyth's room.

Cocoa Club @ Rockwood Public Library @ 3:30-4:30pm

Most Tuesdays in April get cozy with this read-aloud story hour. Enjoy some hot chocolate, and curl up to listen to a chapter book read by our staff. Register at



<https://wellington.libnet.info/events>

International Day of Pink April 12

Discrimination takes many shapes, whether it's based on race, age, disabilities, gender or sexuality. The 2SLGBTQIA+ community is no stranger to the bullying and violence that stems from hateful beliefs. While progress has been made towards removing these social barriers from our society, discrimination still persists. So, every year, on the second Wednesday of April, we urge people around the world to put on a pink shirt and stand in solidarity with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community to continue fighting for equality and acceptance.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS PROTECTIVE STRATEGIES UPDATES:

- Recommended daily screening before coming to school. If you are feeling unwell or have symptoms, please stay home
- Continue frequent hand washing/sanitizing and respiratory etiquette
- A reminder that rapid antigen tests are available to staff and students at all schools and work locations
- The UGDSB will continue to make approved masks available at each location and will support students, staff and visitors to our schools and respect their individual choices about masking

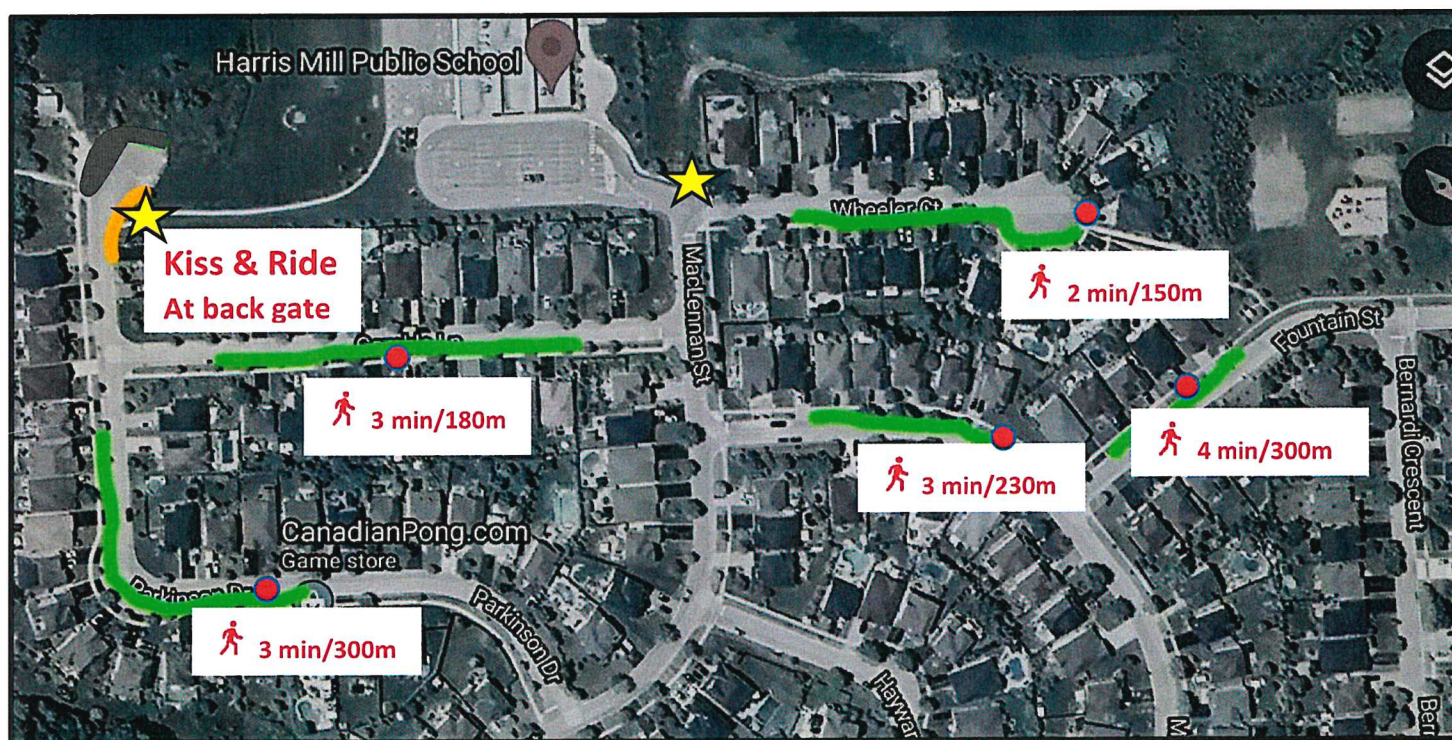


WORKING TOGETHER FOR SAFE SCHOOL TRAVEL





Thank you to all our school families working together to make mornings go smoothly and safely for our students!

School Neighbourhood Safety Tips

- ⇒ Walk to school whenever possible. Walking (or cycling!) to and from school provides essential exercise & fresh air AND is linked to improved mental health and better performance in school!
- ⇒ If you must drive, choose a less congested spot to park, a block or two from the school. Check out the estimated walk-to-school times from the locations shown on the neighbourhood map below.
- ⇒ Always park on the side of the street closest to the sidewalk. Use the sidewalk and marked crosswalks to safely travel to the school on foot.
- ⇒ Leave yourself plenty of time so you are not rushing and can give driving your full attention
- ⇒ Please leave the area promptly after dropping off or picking up your student
- ⇒ Be respectful of our neighbours and traffic laws; eg parking must be a minimum of 9 metres from an intersection and 3 metres from a fire hydrant. Do not block driveways or crosswalks.



LEGEND:

-  Street parking
-  Distance and estimated walking time to school from red indicator dot
-  Staff present to welcome students
-  Kiss n Ride at school gate from Parkinson Drive

Tips for a Safe and Effective Kiss n Ride Drop Off

- ⇒ Ensure your child is able to gather belongings, safely exit the car and close the car door independently.
- ⇒ Put the car in park, watch your child exit and leave the area, then pull ahead when clear to do so.
- ⇒ ALL passengers must exit from the passenger side of the car and the driver should not exit the vehicle.