



# École Harris Mill Public School

## May 2023 Newsletter

### Principal's Message

Let me begin by saying what an amazing school and community I have

joined. Both you and your children have been so kind and welcoming. It has been great to meet parents at the front of the school in the morning or at the end of the day. I also enjoyed meeting many of you at the April School Council. I am very happy to be here until the end of June and look forward to working with you and your children.

Just a reminder, hard copies of the newsletter can be obtained by request from the office. Otherwise, look for an email on the last school day of the month with an attachment.

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.



### Important Events

**May 1-5**-Education and Mental Health Week  
**May 2**-School Council @ 7PM  
**May 4** - Spring Concert @ 11:00am (parents welcome)  
**May 5**-Yearbook orders due  
**May 19**-Husky Day  
**May 22**- Victoria Day  
**May 24/25**-Kindergarten students to Art Factory  
**May 2-June 1**-Grade 3's will write EQAO  
**May 16**-Toonie Tuesday  
**May 30**-Kindergarten Orientation for new students (4:30-5:30)  
**June** -Pride Month  
**June 2**-PA Day-no school for students  
**June 19**-Rockwood Orientation (for students attending Rockwood next year)  
**June 21**-National Indigenous People's Day  
**June 21**-Kindergarten Celebration (rain date June 22)  
**June 22**-report cards available on-line  
**June 23**-Husky Day-Beach Day  
**June 26**-Grade 5 Focus on Nature  
**June 28**-Grade 5 Celebration from 11:00-12:00  
**June 29**-Last day of school

### Dance-A-Thon

Our School Council (and students) I had an amazing Dance-A-Thon on Friday, April 21. We appreciate your support, and we thank you. The school would also

like to thank all the hardworking parents who volunteered their time to organize, decorate the gym, count money and volunteer during the dance on the day of the Dance-A-Thon. There are too many to mention, but you are so appreciated! We raised over \$7,000 which will go directly back to the school to support classroom and school yard improvements. **This also means that Mr. Archbold had his head shaved on Friday!**



### 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 the school email account [harrismill.ps@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto: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.

### **French and Reading**

Did you know that French Immersion is the only language of instruction from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2? Immersion students begin English instruction in grade 3.



**Jump Rope for Heart**

When the newsletter was printed last month Harris Mill had raised close to \$6500. Since then, we topped over \$12, 000 and we are now the top fundraising school in the Country. What an accomplishment! Congratulations to everyone.

### **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.

### **RCPS Family Fun Fair fundraiser-Thursday, June 1 (5-7 p.m.)**

We would like to invite our incoming students from Harris Mill and Eramosa PS and families to our first even Family Fun Fair Fundraiser! This event is an opportunity to connect with our new students and families and have them see our school community.

### **ATTENDANCE SUPPORT**

We are continuing to share information to help families support their child's attendance at school. Below are some tips you can try that involve the routines and the environment at home.

- Practice consistent bedtime and morning routines with your child.
- Parents can model the same routine at

home, as it helps students stick to the routine of coming to school each day.

- Having a set schedule for sleep and nutrition is key to a good morning and feeling good about coming to school.
- Preparing for school at night so that the morning is less hectic can be helpful. Organizing clothing, packing backpacks and including favourite foods can be reassuring.
- Putting out clothes and making lunch the night before can help get your child out the door in the morning.
- If your child does refuse to attend school, try having no screens/devices during the time when they are at home. Make staying home as boring as possible! Shutting down the home Internet can be helpful if this is a draw for your child to stay at home.
- Creating an environment conducive for improved sleep hygiene (e.g., dark room, quiet, sound machine, light in morning, consistent bed and wake times).
- Ensuring at least 30 minutes of screen-free time before bed and removing all electronics from bedrooms before bed can be helpful.
- Limiting screen time before bed is key to winding-down and getting a great night's sleep!

For more information, please visit the UGDSB website: <https://www.ugdsb.ca/parents/student-attendance-at-school-tips-and-strategies-for-families/>

## TOONIE TUESDAY

On Tuesday May 16, the school will be collecting toonies for the Upper Grand Learning Foundation. The foundation supports our students and helps to remove barriers to student learning by providing funding for students to purchase things such as glasses. More information will follow.

## TICS

We have had a couple of parents let us know that TICS are about! I have included some information from **Public Health** that may be helpful to parents in the coming months.

### How to prevent ticks bites and Lyme disease

- Download Public Health's [Tick ID card](#) (PDF, 2 pages, 288 KB) to carry with you
- Wear light-coloured clothing so ticks are easy to see
- Cover up by wearing closed footwear and tucking pants into socks
- Use a repellent that contains [DEET or Icaridin](#) and follow the manufacturer's directions
- [Perform full-body checks](#) on yourself, children, and pets (if you find a tick on your pet, visit the [Pet Tick Tracker](#))
- When you get home, put your clothes in the dryer for at least 10 minutes before washing them
- Find out [how Lyme disease is identified and treated](#)

## TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH/ERAMOSA FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION DAY

Rockwood Fire Hall 5141 Wellington Road 27  
Saturday, May 7, 2022 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## ROCKWOOD LIBRARY

Please look at the library website for upcoming events.

<https://www.wellington.ca/en/librariy.aspx>