



École Harris Mill Public School

June 2023 Newsletter



I can hardly believe that it is June. Many people ask if we are "winding down".

The truth is that we are winding up! During the month of June, there are Track and Field events, celebrations, trips, a volunteer tea (please let us know if we missed inviting you), Play Days, report cards and to top it off, an icecream truck will make an appearance during the last week of school. Students and staff are still working hard and many projects and assignments are near to completion.

My last day of principal at Harris Mills will be on June 29th. My time at this school has been rewarding in so many ways. I have enjoyed getting to know the students and have spent time in many different classrooms. The teachers here are caring, kind and hard working. It has been my honour to work with them. Thank you to all of the parents as well for your dedication to the school.

It was announced today that the new principal of Harris Mills will be Mr. Chad Guyitt. I know Mr. Guyitt very well and consider him a friend. I have also had the pleasure of working with him at two different schools. You will find him to be both a compassionate and passionate educator. I know that he will be an amazing leader for this school.

Have a happy and safe summer. I hope to meet many of you again.

Leslie Newman



Important Events

- June -Beginning of Pride Month (flag will fly)
- June 2-PA day-no school for students
- June 5-School Track and Field Event (grades 4 and up)
- June 6-Rain Date for Track and Field
- June 6-School Council (6PM-note early start)
- June 13-Parent Volunteer Tea (please let your child's teacher know if we missed you)
- June 15-City Track and Field (rain date June 16)
- 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



Goodbyes

It's that time of year when we need to say goodbye to some of our wonderful staff. We wish all the best to Mrs. Allen, Ms. Mauch, Ms.Chondra, Mrs. Scoular, Mrs. Panduallo

We also wish the best to all of the students leaving Harris Mills to attend other schools in the fall. To our grade Fives-congratulations! You will love Rockwood Centennial! We will miss you all.

BOARD JUNE COMMUNICATIONS NEWSLETTER

Please click on the link below for news from the Upper Grand Board for news about:

- Pride Month
- National Indigenous History Month
- Long Term Accommodation Plan Updates
- VTRA Protocol Update
- And some good news stories from around the UGDSB

[June 2023 Communications Newsletter.pdf](#)

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The last day of school for the 2022-23 school year is Thursday, June 29 th . Students will be dismissed at their regular time on this day.

LOST AND FOUND

We would like our Lost and Found items to return to their homes before the end of the school year. Items will be displayed in the hallway until June 23rd. At that time, any unclaimed items will be bagged and donated to a local charity.

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

We know that it's near the end of the year, but please continue to let us know if your child will be late or absent. We ask that you let both the office and the homeroom teacher know. 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.

French and Reading

Did you know that French Immersion is the only language of instruction from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2? English is not taught to Immersion students until grade 3.

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



ROCKWOOD LIBRARY

Please look at the library website for upcoming events.

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

HARRIS MILLS LIBRARY

We could use your help to get as many of our library books returned to the school library as possible. Please look at home to see if there are books lying around and send them back to their home! Thank you.

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/>

TICS

There are still tics around, especially in the kindergarten area! Please check your children nightly. 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](#)

CLASS ORGANIZATION AND CLASS REQUESTS

Students have been assigned to classes for next year. As a staff, we have reflected on a variety of factors, such as achievement, work habits, behavior, ratio of boys to girls, friendships, learning styles and teaching styles. Our goal is to maintain a balance in each classroom in order to facilitate each student's ability to achieve his or her potential. In many cases, there is only one option for a grade (English or French) and therefore we must place students in that classroom.

Enjoy your summer!

