



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Henry Larsen Elementary School

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“Through Caring and Sharing We Learn”

Here are the School Messenger emails that we have sent to families during the month of April, 2021:

1 April 2021

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

This month will go by quickly. We welcome the warmer weather and the changes that come with the spring season upon us. So much fantastic learning happening both inside and outside our building. Ask your child about their new science goals or about our Mindfulness March challenges.

Reminders from OCDSB:

Autism Awareness Virtual Speaker Series - April 1, 8, and 22, 7:00 p.m.:

April is World Autism Awareness Month. The goal of this month is building stronger, more inclusive communities for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). All OCDSB families and staff are invited to join us for a Speaker Series exploring strategies and supports for people with ASD. The series will feature keynote speaker Dr. Jed Baker, Social Skills Training Project, and a panel of community agencies. [Learn more and register.](#)

Summer School Programs for Grades 6-8 Students:

Please see the [OCDSB Summer School webpage](#) for information.

And to all of our families that have been or are currently celebrating special holidays this past week and upcoming weekend:

Happy Passover



Happy Holi



Happy Easter



Important Dates:

Easter: Friday, April 2 and Monday, April 5 schools are closed

School Council Meeting: Tuesday, April 6 7 pm via google meet - all are welcome!

April Break: Monday, April 12 to Friday, April 16 schools are closed

We know that this long weekend falls again during uncertain times. We wish you a wonderful weekend filled with laughter and creativity as we find ways to safely celebrate those important moments with those we love near and far.

Take Care,
Amanda and Dianne

9 April 2021

We made it to the new spring break! How wonderful! The weather was fantastic this week and we saw lots of opportunities for outside learning.

Grade 8 Graduation Photos Postponed:

Because of the Stay at Home order, we need to postpone the date for our grade 8 graduation photos, originally scheduled for Thursday, April 22.

Virtual Speaker Series:

The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Council is pleased to host a Virtual Speaker Night on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 7 p.m. Staff from Learning Support Services of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board will speak on the topic of Self-Regulation in Children and Adolescence.

If you are interested in attending, please register on the Google Form [here](#). When you register you will be included in the list of attendees, and you will be able to ask questions or make comments during the session by using the chat feature in Zoom.

The webinar is presented and supported by the OCDSB. We are partnered with Westwind Elementary School Council to offer the presentation, and we are inviting the parents/guardians of our feeder schools as well.

The presentation will be recorded and available to view at a later time via a link that will be posted on the OCDSB website and the OCDSB YouTube channel after the event.

Non-Credit Summer School (Grade 6,7,8) (in person and virtual classes)

Program duration: June 30 - July 23, 2021

Registration dates: May 3 - June 24, 2021

Two **non credit** programs are available for OCDSB students currently enrolled in Grades 6-8. Programs offered include:

- Summer School "R&R"- Review and Reinforcement Grades 6-8
- Summer School "Getting Ready for Grade 9"

For grade 8 Reach Ahead (grade 9 credit) programs available for students currently enrolled in Grade 8. Students can register for one course only, starting after the break.

[E-Learning](#) (all online, **one course offered - Grade 9 Academic Geography in English**)

[Virtual Learning](#) (all online, synchronous and asynchronous, **two courses offered - Grade 9 Academic Geography French Immersion, Grade 9 French - French Immersion**)

For more information on these programs, please visit the [Summer School 6, 7, 8](#) webpage.

Cyber Safety Tip Sheets for Parents and Guardians:

The Ontario Principals' Council has developed a one page [Cyber Safety Parent Tip Sheet](#) that is available in 20 languages. Please click on the language of your choice to access the tip sheet.

Facilities Update: Long Jump Pit construction starts on Monday! Yahoo!

To our families starting Ramadan during the spring break:



Please continue to monitor the media for important information regarding school closures after the break. The situation in Ottawa continues to change hour by hour.

Important Dates:

April Break: Monday, April 12 to Friday, April 16 schools are closed **no school, or virtual learning.**

We wish each of you a wonderful spring break and hope you can get out and enjoy the sunshine!

Take Care. Be Safe. Be Well,
Amanda and Dianne

18 April 2021

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

We hope that you have had a good Spring Break. Due to the provincial order, the school will be closed to in-person learning beginning on Monday, April 19th. During this period, students will learn remotely from home and will not attend school, with the exception of students in some special education program classes (see below for more information).

English as a Second Language supports will continue to be provided by classroom teachers and ESL lead teachers remotely.

Special Education - Specialized Program Classes:

All students in the specialized program BIP class will attend classes remotely on April 19th. This week, we will be working with educators to review the teaching and learning opportunities according to each student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) and work with families to develop a plan for remote learning wherever possible during the closure period. Given the current provincial directives, there will be increased emphasis on supporting remote learning. Only those students with intensive and complex special education needs, such as those with developmental disabilities (DD), autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and/or multiple exceptionalities, will be considered to attend during the provincial school closure period. We realize this signifies a change from the situation in January.

Monday, April 19th

Monday, April 19th will follow a modified schedule with an emphasis on asynchronous learning. The school staff will be meeting at the start of the day to prepare for remote learning and arrange for the

distribution of technology where needed. Teachers will also use this day to adjust their programming, reach out to students and families, update lessons on the online learning platform, ensure access to passwords and provide information about class schedules.

Families should also prepare for remote learning by doing the following:

- Plan the day using the school day schedule and routine;
- Review instructions for [signing in](#) to the [Google Classroom](#);
- Learn more about [remote learning netiquette](#); and
- Take some time to watch these videos about [Google Meet](#).

You can find instructions about how to access the Google Classroom and other information about [remote learning here](#).

Schedule for the week of April 19th

- Beginning on Tuesday, April 20th students and teachers will follow the regular school timetable for start time, nutrition breaks and recess. Students will have a total of 300 minutes of learning time, some of that time will be teacher-led (synchronous) and some will be independent work on assigned tasks (asynchronous). Some subjects, such as physical education will take place asynchronously this week.
- The school day schedule is below. The teacher will provide more detailed information about the learning blocks, which subjects will be taught when, and when students will be learning online and when they will be working independently.

TIME	ACTIVITY	NOTES
8:30 am	Start School Bell	Please log into Google Meet at the start of the day. Daily attendance is taken at this time.
8:30 am	Learning Block	The teacher will advise when to log into Google Meet and when to work independently.
10:30 am	Nutrition Break (lunch)	Good time to have a snack
10:50 am	Morning Recess	Active play outside is encouraged if possible
11:15 am	Learning Block	The teacher will advise when to log into Google Meet and when to work independently.
1:15 pm	Nutrition Break (lunch)	Good time to have a snack
1:35 pm	Afternoon Recess	Active play outside is encouraged if possible
2:00 pm	Learning Block	The teacher will advise when to log into Google Meet and when to work independently.
3:00 pm	End School Bell	School day ends

Access to Technology and/or Wifi

If you require access to a Chromebook (please use the [linked Google Form](#)), the school has a limited number available and may be able to lend one to you. If you do not have access to the internet because it is not available where you live, there are a small number of hotspots available. Please let us know if you need access to technology or wifi and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Parents and guardians can expect an email or phone call from the homeroom teacher on April 19th with more specific information about your child's class schedule. For parents and guardians of students enrolled in OCV, there is no change and they will return to the virtual school as originally scheduled.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we work through this transition.

Sincerely,
Amanda and Dianne

22 April 2021

Good Afternoon Henry Larsen Families,

Thank you for all of your support, flexibility and understanding as we moved to remote learning this week.

Reminders:

A friendly reminder that tomorrow, Friday, April 23, is a professional development day across the province for educational staff. The school will be closed and there will be no remote classes.

Tech Tip of the week:

Have your child clear their cache on their chromebook if they are having any issues. Please call the Client Service Centre if you need any further support 613-596-8738.

Chromebooks:

We are no longer taking requests using the google form for chromebooks. Moving forward If you are in need of a device for your child, please either email henrylarsenes@ocdsb.ca or call the school office at 613-830-4634 next week and we will be happy to help you.

Self Regulation in Children and Adolescents - Virtual Speaker Series:

We want to remind parents and guardians that the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Council is hosting a Virtual Speaker Night on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 7 p.m. Staff from Learning Support Services of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board will speak on the topic of Self-Regulation in Children and Adolescents.

If you are interested in attending, please register on the Google Form [here](#) before Tuesday, April 27th at 12 noon so that we can include your name in the list of attendees, and you will be able to ask questions or make comments during the session by using the chat feature in Zoom. You will be sent the link to the webinar the evening before the meeting.

The webinar is presented and supported by the OCDSB. We are partnered with Westwind Elementary School Council to offer the presentation, and we are inviting the parents/guardians of our feeder schools as well.

The presentation will be recorded and available to view at a later time via a link that will be posted on the OCDSB website and the OCDSB YouTube channel after the event.

We hope that you will consider attending the meeting to gain some insight into this subject that is especially relevant at this time.

TONIGHT - Autism Awareness Month 2021, Virtual Speaker Series: Thursday, April 22, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

- **Panelists:** Kelsey McDaniel, Autism Ontario; Crystal Betton-Janes, Service Coordination Support; and MarieJosee Samson, Developmental Services Ontario
- This Community Agencies Panel will share information on supporting families in navigating services and supports locally. The discussion will be based around child/youth case management and developmental services.
- [Register for the session on Zoom](#). Once capacity has been reached, you can view the session on [YouTube](#).

IMPORTANT DATES:

PD DAY: Friday, April 23rd

HLES Virtual Scholastic Bookfair: May 3-14th - See attached letter with link

Next School Council Meeting: Thursday, May 6 at 7:00 pm - all are welcome!

Take care,
Amanda and Dianne

30 April 2021

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

We cannot believe it is already the end of April! Thank you for your continued support as we navigate this remote learning period together. Our staff are working hard to engage students in this environment while balancing curriculum expectations, support and screen time. Our students continue to amaze us with their perseverance and adaptability!

Virtual Scholastic Book Fair:

Woohoo!! We're having a virtual book fair!! Back by popular demand, we have a spring book fair scheduled starting on May 3rd and running until May 14th.

Free shipping from 6 - 8 pm on Wednesday May 5th and Wednesday May 12th



Please see this letter from Mrs. Dunn with more information: [Henry Larsen's Spring Virtual Book Fair May 3rd - 14th](#)

Here is Henry Larsen's exclusive book fair link: [Henry Larsen's exclusive book fair link](#) The actual shopping portion of the fair won't be live until the 3rd but it still offers book trailers and previews of books to be offered. On the 3rd, about 450 titles, many of them new, will be available to purchase.

Virtual HLES School Council Family Candy Chemistry Night:

Reminder to Save the Date for **Thursday May 27th** for a fun night of Virtual Scientists in the Schools brought to you by the Henry Larsen ES School Council.

Invitation on Behalf of the School Council at Maple Ridge:

Is your child a worrier, and now with all the events of this past year, developing symptoms of anxiety?

Maple Ridge Parent Council is inviting parents/guardians to a virtual event on May 5th at 7pm on the topic of ***Children's Anxiety in Uncertain Times*** with Certified Family Educator, Betsy Mann.

Betsy will share tools children can learn to use when they're feeling overwhelmed by worry. She will also provide some parenting strategies that can support and help manage children's stress load.

The session will be held over Zoom and the link for joining will be sent prior to the event.

Register for the event here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/childrens-anxiety-in-uncertain-times-registration-151272156091>

We look forward to seeing you on May 5th!

From Ottawa Public Health:

COVID-19 Resource line for Arabic and Somali-speaking families:

<https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/public-health-topics/multilingual-resources.aspx#Ottawa-Immigrant-COVID-19-Resource-Line>

Important Dates:

School Council Meeting: Thursday, May 6 at 7:00 pm - all are welcome!

Mental Health Week AND Education Week #StrongerTogether May 3-9th

Scholastic Virtual Book Fair: May 3-14th

Virtual Scientists in the School Candy Chemistry Night - May 27th

Tech Tips:

If your child's OCDSB chromebook isn't working please contact the Client Services Centre at 613-596-8738 or csc.parent@ocdsb.ca for assistance before reaching out to the school as they are the experts who can help faster. If they can't, then we will do our best to get your child back in the virtual classroom!

Take Care and have a wonderful weekend!

Amand and Dianne