

Our first month of the 2020-21 school year is done and it was a great one! We want to send out a heartfelt thank you to our whole community for the ongoing support you have shown to us! Your flexibility, positive words and patience helped to create a smooth school opening.

Please continue to look to our school website harriettubman.dsbn.org or the board website at dsbn.org for the most up to date information.

School Council Meeting

We will have our first School Council meeting on October 20 at 6:00 pm. We will have our meeting virtually through Microsoft Teams. If you would like to attend please email <u>htb@dsbn.org</u> with the email address we can send the invite to. At our first meeting we will have our annual election.

Welcome to our New Staff

We would like to welcome Ms. Agnoluzzi to our North Star team. Ms. Agnoluzzi is teaching our new K6 class. Also welcome to Mrs. Whittaker who is our new daytime custodian. We are now fortunate to have 2 daytime custodians at Harriet Tubman.

ChromeBook and Library Book Returns

Thank you to those families who have returned borrowed ChromeBooks and library books. We still have 200 library books that have not been returned. Please take a look at home for any outstanding borrowed books and return them to the bin in our front lobby as soon as possible.

Forms, Forms, and More Forms

In early September paper copies of student verification forms were sent home with each student. If you have not completed and signed the form please take a moment to fill the form out and return it to the school. We need to have ALL forms returned. If we have not received your form another will be sent home next week to be completed. Also, there were a number of Board forms posted in School Cash Online that MUST be signed off on. Please take a moment to complete the forms as they will close next week.





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Will we having school photos this year?

At this point in the year school photos have been paused for the safety of our students as well as the employees of photo companies.

Will we be able to order school spirit wear?

Yes! We are currently working with our spirit wear rep in arranging for online orders. Please look for information from us very shortly.

Will the Breakfast Club be open again?

We will not have our "traditional" Breakfast Club where students have breakfast together in our Breakfast Club. Rather we have been offering a "grab and go" option. Students can come to our kitchen at nutrition breaks and grab a bag full of healthy snacks. We are thrilled to be partnering with the Niagara Nutrition Partners again this year who will be providing the snacks to our students.

Will there be a Turkey Trot this year?

Yes! Our annual School Council Turkey Trot is happening during our fitness breaks the week of October 5 – 9. This year students whose names are drawn will win a gift card to purchase a turkey for their family. Thanks to our School Council for supporting this annual event.

My child is not feeling well. I'm not sure if I should send my child to school.

First, please go to the Harriet Tubman or DSBN website to complete the Ministry assessment. The site will guide you through a number of questions and then inform you of your next steps. We always suggest that parents also seek advice from Niagara Regional Public Health or your family doctor. Below is the info line for Public Health.

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Info-Line

Talk to a public health professional Monday to Friday, 9:15 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 9:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074, press 7.

My child is struggling with the transition back to school. How can I help?

We know that coming back to school after being away is a big transition for many. First, please communicate with your child's teacher who can provide you with some strategies. We can also offer the support of our social worker who can help you navigate the mental health supports available in our community.



Harriet Tubman School October 2

Orange Shirt Day



On September 30, DSBN joined others across Canada in honouring the memory of every child that had to attend residential school.

Orange Shirt Day - Every Child Matters, reflects on the effects of Indian Residential Schools and is an affirmation of our commitment to ensuring that every child matters. Orange Shirt Day has been marked in schools across Canada in a variety of ways, including Orange Ribbon campaigns, commemorative walks, and wearing orange shirts. DSBN recognizes Orange Shirt Day each year and our students and staff are encouraged to wear something orange on this day.

Orange Shirt Day began with a commemoration event held at St. Joseph Mission in Williams Lake, British Columbia, where years before, Phyllis Webstad had her new orange shirt taken away on her first day of residential school. She never saw the shirt again and the colour represented her loss of language and cultural identity. The end of September is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to attend residential schools and September 30 is the official Orange Shirt Day.

Phyllis's story has become part of a national recognition event and wearing orange has become a symbol of the many losses experienced by thousands of students and families due to residential schools.

Harriet Tubman Students Participating in Orange Shirt Day



Harriet Tubman School October 2020

Rowan's Law Day

Each year the DSBN recognizes Rowan's Law across all schools on the 4th Wednesday of September. This year the DSBN is recognizing Rowan's Law Day on **Friday**, **October 2**.

We chose to move the day from September 30 to October 2 to support both Orange Shirt Day and Rowan's Law Day to have their own significant day of recognition. On October 2, Rowan's Law Day will be observed by our school. This is a day to increase awareness about the danger of concussions and to positively promote injury prevention. Rowan's Law was created after Rowan Stringer, a 17-year old student died after sustaining two concussions. Because she did not tell anyone about her injuries or share how she was feeling with her family, coaches or friends her concussions went untreated. By observing Rowan's Law Day each year and educating our school community about concussions, we hope to promote a culture of safety at our school.

Purple was Rowan's favourite colour, so we are asking students to wear purple to school on **Friday**, **October 2** - it could be a purple shirt, socks, a ribbon – something to represent Rowan



Terry Fox Walk

This year is the 40th anniversary of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope. The students and educators at Harriet Tubman will be taking part in the annual Terry Fox School Run/Walk in mid October. This year will look different than in the past as we are not able to gather in large groups. Students will participate in their individual classes rather than as a whole school. Our school is proud to play an important role in continuing the legacy of one of our country's greatest heroes. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the heroic efforts of Terry Fox and the importance of raising funds for cancer research during class discussions leading up to our school's event. We are asking students to donate \$2.00 or more to support this worthy cause. We cannot accept cash donations this year but will accept donations through School Cash Online. You can also donate at http://www.terryfox.ca/HarrietTubmanPSStCatharines.

Donations of \$20.00 or more will receive a tax receipt. All donations are due by October 21.

Thank you for your support!







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