



Henry Larsen Elementary School

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Ottawa, Ontario K1C 5B3
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Vice-Principal: Dianne Morris
Office Administrator: Rose Sharpe
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Chief Custodian: Brooke Taylor

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Trustee: Sandra Schwartz 613-868-5249
School Council Chair: Melody Currie
School Council Email: sc-henrylarsenes@ocdsb.ca
Twitter: [@HenryLarsenE](https://twitter.com/HenryLarsenE)
Website: <https://henrylarsenes.ocdsb.ca>

“Through Caring and Sharing We Learn”

Here are the School Messenger emails that we have sent to families during the month of March, 2022:

4 March 2022

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

Thank you for another wonderful week. It was cold and snowy but we could feel the heat from the sun; Spring is in the air.

Reminder: U-turns are not allowed on Sunview Drive in front of the school. We have many families who drop their children off in the morning and pick them up at the end of the day. There are a number of options that families have used for locations to drop off and pick up their children, in case they are finding it challenging during these busy times. Here is a map with some options, including the locations of our wonderful crossing guards:



Spirit Week - March 7-11

Monday: Hoodie Day

Tuesday: Beach Day

Wednesday: HLES Colours Day (burgundy and grey)

Thursday: Hat Day

Friday: Pajama Day

Friendly Reminder: Screening Tool and Verification:

Thank you for taking the time every morning to use the [screening tool](#), we know it is challenging when we are busy getting ready for the day! It is very important to screen each person in your household every day for [symptoms](#). If anyone in the household has any of the first group of symptoms (fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, decrease/loss of smell and taste), or two of the second group of symptoms (sore throat, headache, fatigue, runny nose/nasal congestion, muscle aches/joint pain, GI symptoms vomiting/diarrhea), all household members need to isolate regardless of vaccination status (unless they have previously tested positive for COVID in the past 90 days on a molecular or rapid antigen test).

From the School Board:

Lisgar Secondary School's Student Council is hosting a virtual town hall on poverty and homelessness on Monday, **March 7 from 5:00pm to 6:15pm**. The event will be live-streamed so all students, staff and parents/guardians can attend. Here is the link:

<https://stream.meet.google.com/stream/6799f16f-7a2a-442d-a975-d2518b05b9e7>

Important Dates:

Spirit Week: March 7-11

March Break: March 14-18, no school for students

Next School Council Meeting: Monday, April 4 at 7:00 pm

Have a safe and wonderful weekend!
Take Care,
Amanda and Dianne

11 March 2022

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

Exciting times continue for us here. You will have seen an update from the school board regarding changes to masking, cohorting and other lifting of restrictions. We cannot say enough how impressed we are with our students and staff and their resilience and adaptability! We know with the changes comes a sense of relief and some feelings of anxiety as well. We remain hopeful and staff are available after the break to discuss any questions or concerns you may have moving forward.

Our staff have worked very hard this term and are looking forward to their break. We ask that families respect this and do not reach out to educators during the break.

Thank you for all of your support and understanding as we navigate this next stage.

There is also **very important information from OSTA attached below**. Please take a careful look if you wish to have bus transportation next year. **You must confirm transportation before the April 3rd deadline.**

[Transportation Confirmation Flyer Final.pdf](#)

Important Dates:

March Break: March 14-18, no school for students

OSTA deadline to confirm 2022-2023 busing: Sunday, April 3rd

Next School Council Meeting: Monday, April 4 at 7:00 pm

We wish you and your family a safe and wonderful March Break and we look forward to welcoming your children back on Monday, March 21 in a more pre-COVID school setting.

Take Care,
Amanda and Dianne

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Take Care,
Amanda and Dianne

25 March 2022

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

As always we will take a thoughtful and graduated approach to the resumption of activities. We thank you for your patience as we work through these changes together. The school was a busy and happy place this week, as students got used to the changes, for example, at recess. They no longer need to stay in their area of the yard with their class, but can play with all students who are out for recess at the same time. Seeing their happy smiles and cheerful, boisterous play has warmed our hearts!

School Climate Survey:

As part of our ongoing efforts to create and maintain safe, inclusive and accepting schools, the OCDSB undertakes a School Climate Survey every two years to gather input from students and parents/guardians in each school. In April 2022, the district will be launching the next School Climate Survey for students in grades 4-12. More information will be sent by email next week.

Confirmation of Transportation for 2022-2023:

If your child(ren) will be using student transportation for the 2022-2023 school year, you must confirm this with OSTA before the April 3rd deadline. Please see the important information in the [Transportation Confirmation Flyer](#), including the link to the online form that you must fill in in order to have transportation for the first day of school.

Registration Now Open for Early Learning During the 2022-2023 School Year:

[Registration for the Extended Day Program](#) (EDP) for the 2022-2023 school year is now open. Families currently enrolled in EDP are invited to re-register until April 15th, and new families are welcome to apply for EDP as well.

World Autism Awareness Month: Webinars for Parents and Guardians

The OCDSB will be hosting webinars for families during World Autism Awareness Month in April. Join us on [April 7th](#) and [April 21st](#) for discussions with guest speaker Lauren H. Kerstein, covering topics like emotion regulation for children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and sensory issues and emotions. Learn more and register for a session [on the OCDSB website](#).

EQAO Grades 3 and 6 Assessments May 4–June 24, 2022:

The provincial EQAO assessments at the elementary level are being reintroduced this spring after two years of absence during the pandemic. EQAO assessments are required under the *Education Quality and Accountability Office Act, 1996*.

There is a [Sample Test - Primary](#) (grade 3) and a [Sample Test - Junior](#) (grade 6) that are available for students and parents/guardians to become familiar with the digital assessments and the e-assessment platform. More information will be provided regarding specific dates for your child's class closer to the time.

Happy Nowruz!

For those who celebrated last weekend, best wishes to you and your family.



Nominations Open: Ottawa's Favourite Crossing Guard 2022

Nominations for the Ottawa Safety Council's annual "Ottawa's Favourite Crossing Guard" contest are open until April 29th! This is an opportunity for students to recognize their school's Crossing Guard for the work they do to keep students and families safe. The winning Crossing Guard will receive a \$500 cash prize and will be presented with the Marie Armstrong Crossing Guard Award on Crossing Guard Appreciation Day on May 19, 2022. In addition, the school associated with the highest level of participation in the nomination process will also win a \$300.00 Canadian Tire gift card. Learn more on the [Ottawa Safety Council's website](#).

Daily Screening and Information from Ottawa Public Health:

All students must complete the COVID-19 screening every morning and follow the instructions provided by the screening tool. Click this link: [COVID-19 School Screening Tool](#)

This screening tool is also available in [French](#).

Use this updated [Ottawa Public Health flowchart](#) to understand symptoms and isolation requirements.

Remember, if you've received a positive COVID-19 result from a rapid antigen test (RAT) or PCR test, you can report this to our [Voluntary COVID-19 Reporting Dashboard](#).

Daily screening for COVID-19 symptoms by staff, students and visitors is required. The screening tool for schools has been updated.

Masks are strongly encouraged but are no longer mandatory. We ask everyone to respect individual choices and the fact that everyone has different needs and comfort levels. Please note: Masks are required in all public settings (including schools) following a return from international travel; after a COVID-19 infection if self-isolation is complete after 5 days; and for asymptomatic close contacts. Visit the [Ottawa Public Health website](#) for details.

Regular hand hygiene continues to be emphasized in schools.

Important Dates:

OSTA deadline to confirm 2022-2023 busing: Sunday, April 3

Next School Council Meeting: Monday, April 4 at 7:00 pm

School Climate Survey: April 4-22

Easter Weekend: April 15-18

EQAO Grades 3 and 6 Assessments: May 4–June 24, 2022

We hope that you have a wonderful and restful weekend!

Take Care,
Amanda and Dianne