



Kindergarten Parent Orientation

St. Brigid School May 2020



Focus on Faith Prayer



Jesus, our Saviour and Friend,

You have shown us so much love.

You are gentle with us, You heal us, You died on the Cross for us.

Now You ask us, "Do you love Me?"

As we come to know You better, and see all that You have done for us,

May our hearts be filled with love for You.

Make us eager to always do what You ask of us,

And to see Your face and love You in everyone else we meet,

Especially those we may find it hard to love.

It is Your love which turns our lives around.

By trying to love as You have loved us, we become more and more like You.

Guide us always on our way,

Show us each day how to love You more.

Spirit of the living God, fill our hearts!

Amen.





*“We are all guests
on this land—
nobody owns her.”*

Honouring the Land and Territory

Halton, as we know it today, is rich in the history and modern traditions of many First Nations and the Métis. From the lands of the Anishinabe to the Attawandaron, the Haudenosaunee, and the Métis, these lands surrounding the Great Lakes are steeped in Indigenous history. As we gather today on these treaty lands, our Catholic Social Teachings call us in Solidarity with our Indigenous brothers and sisters to honour and respect the four directions, lands, waters, plants, animals and ancestors that walked before us. All these wonderful elements of creation exist, gifted to us by our Creator God. We acknowledge and thank the Mississauga’s of the Credit First Nation for being stewards of this traditional territory.

*“Land acknowledgments are
a stepping stone to honouring
broken treaty relationships.”*





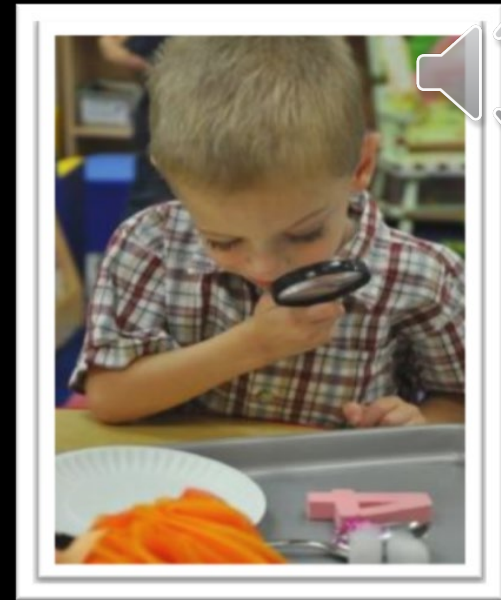
“Play nourishes every aspect of children’s development—it forms the foundation of intellectual, social, physical, and emotional skills necessary for success in school and in life. Play “paves the way for learning”.



Play-based Learning

- Providing large blocks for play
- Supporting children's ideas and interests
- Providing a variety of hands-on experiences
- Responding, challenging and extending children's thinking and learning





Children are curious and connect prior knowledge to new experiences in order to understand the world around them.



Religious Development

STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION
Where is God?

K

In Kindergarten, students will look for answers to these questions:

- † Where is God at Christmas?
- † Where is God when I pray?
- † Where is God in creation?
- † How do we respect God when we care for ourselves, others, and the world?

HALTON CATHOLIC
Achieving. Believing. Belonging.

In Kindergarten, the aim is to assist children to see traces of God in and around them.

Spiritual growth takes place within the home, school, church and community.

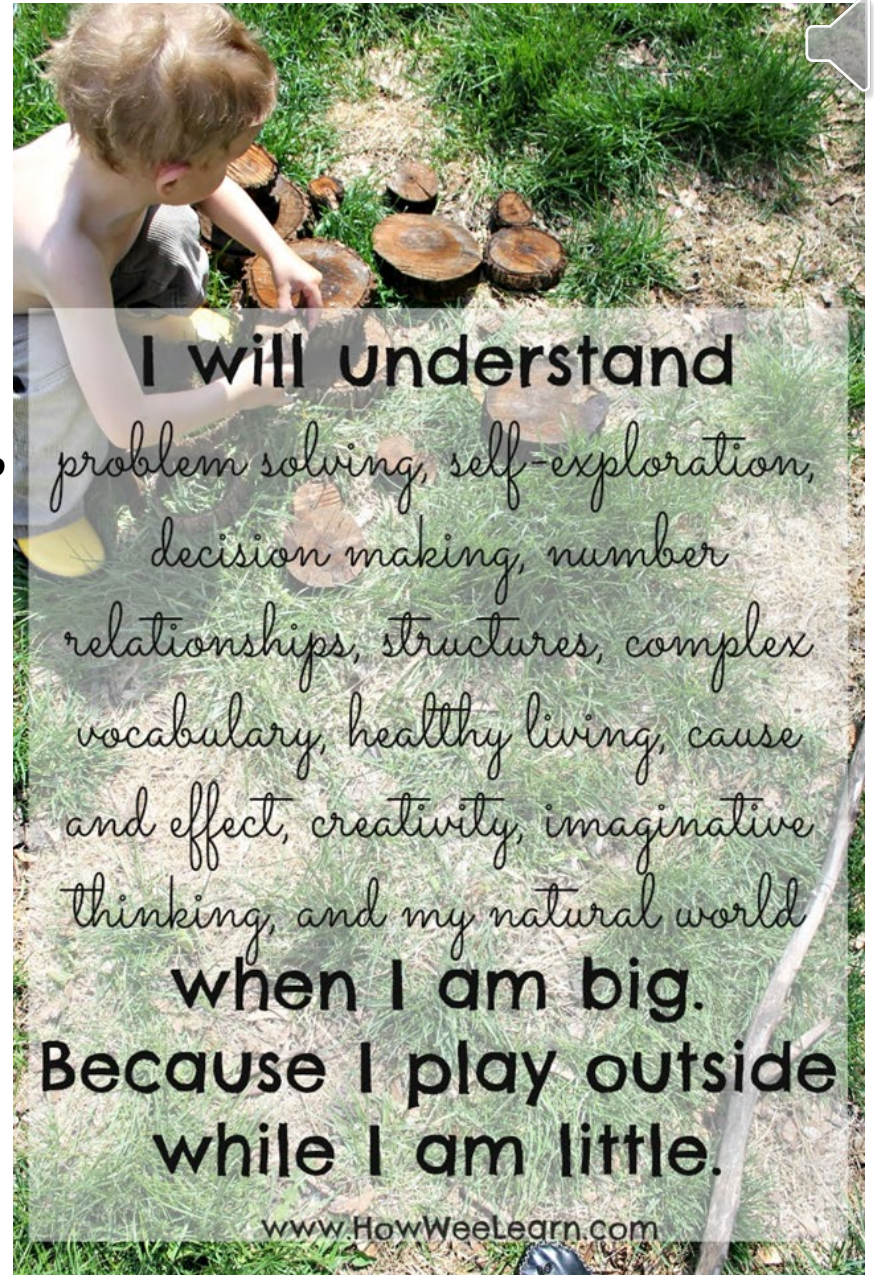
The 4 Frames



The Natural Playground

The Natural Playground provides rich opportunities to discuss and investigate the Kindergarten **Focus on Faith** theme Stewardship of Creation the essential question- ***Where is God?***

In this age of technology, it is critical to explore ways to connect children to nature in order to appreciate God's gifts of creation.





The School Day...

- 8:45-9:00 am Entry into Kindergarten Yard
- 9:00-11:25 am Inquiry Learning/Snack
- 11:25-12:05 pm Outdoor Inquiry Play
- 12:05-1:05 pm Lunch and Outdoor Play Time
- 1:05-2:45 pm Inquiry Learning/Snack
- 2:45-3:25 pm End of Day Routine
- 3:25-3:30 pm Dismissal of Students



Entry and Dismissal Procedures



- **Drop-off / pick-up**

Drop-off in Kindergarten yard or at Kiss N Ride (children will be walked to the Kindergarten yard by school staff) beginning at 8:45am

Pick-up from Kindergarten yard between 3:20 and 3:30pm

- **Bus**

Kindergarten students are taken to the Kindergarten yard upon arrival by a supervisor on duty

At the end of the day, kindergarten students are taken to their bus lines in the hallway and supervised prior to boarding their buses

- **YMCA Before/After School**

Parents are encouraged to leave their children to the supervision of the educators. This will encourage all of the children to adjust sooner to the kind, nurturing learning environment of kindergarten and to continue to develop independence and self-regulation skills.



Latest News



NEW Transportation for Elementary French Immersion Students

NEW 2014-15 Kindergarten Registration Package

Stay Informed

- Delays and Cancellations
- Email Subscriptions
- Which School Do I Attend?
- Am I Eligible for Transportation?
- Student Transportation Information

Sign In

- Parent or Student
- Student Driver



Bus Transportation

Please visit www.haltonbus.ca for more information.



If you need before or after school care, it is important to reach out as soon as possible to arrange care.

**Before and After
School Care**



Lunch and Snacks...

- Peanut Free/Food Allergies
- Containers and Utensils
- Labelling
- Healthy Snack
- “Litterless” or “boomerang”
- Portions/Quantity





Clothing and Footwear...

- One set of spare clothing to keep at school in a labelled ziplock bag including:
 - Socks
 - Underwear
 - Shirt
 - Pants
- Your child should be able to put their shoes on independently (velcro vs laces)
- Running shoes must be worn in the gym
- School uniform

MAKE SURE ALL BELONGINGS ARE LABELLED



Backpacks should be large enough to hold...

- Large picture books
- Communication bag
- Shoes
- Lunch
- Snacks

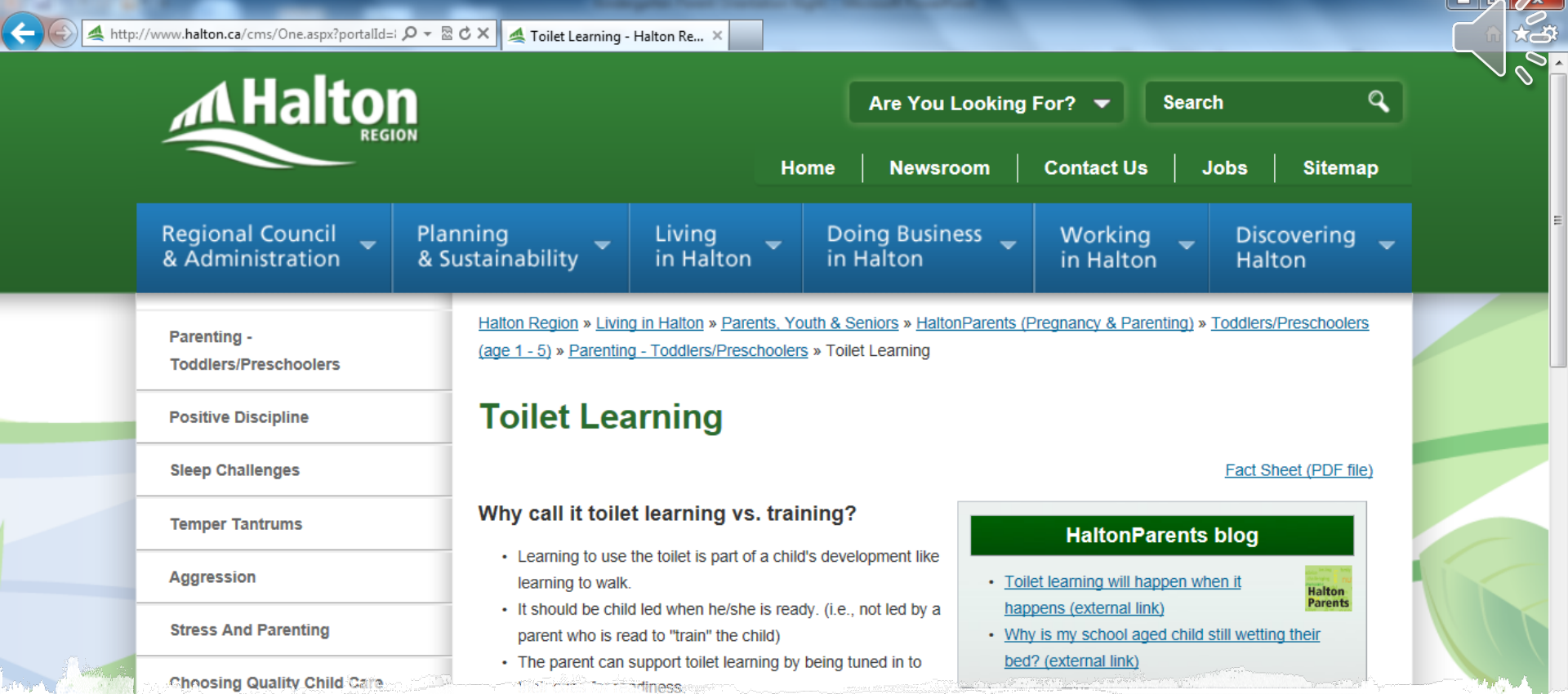


How Can Caregivers Support the Transition to Kindergarten?



The following activities may help children prepare for the school routine:

- Develop routines at home
- Supporting independence at home
- Drop-in programs at EarlyOn Centres/library
- Bus rides (especially if the child is going to ride the bus)
- Spending time at the school site/playground



Establishing Routines...

- Toileting Independence
- Dressing and Undressing

Top 3 tips to remember

Toilet learning should be **child led - not parent led.**

Keep it positive & fun even when accidents happen.

Be flexible and remember you may need to stop the process and try later if your child is showing little interest.

How Can Caregivers Support the Transition to Kindergarten?

CHECKLIST



Promoting a Healthy Lifestyle

1. **Getting enough sleep** helps children manage emotions, follow instructions, stay on task
2. **Being active** promotes healthy hearts, brains and muscles.
3. **Eating healthy** provides the fuel for our brain and bodies to work



Reading With Your Child

“Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.”

Emilie Buchwald



*“The more you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you’ll
go.”* Dr. Seuss, "I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!"



Reading With Your Child

Don't forget to register your Kinder Library Card and visit our school library!

Call ahead to see when the best time for a visit might be!

Welcome to Kindergarten! Explore the possibilities

- It's as easy as 1,2,3!**
- 1 Register your child for Kindergarten
 - 2 Use your barcode number below to register your child's Kinder Library Card online before June: bit.ly/LibraryCardRegistration.
 - 3 Make an appointment with your child's soon-to-be home school to borrow a book and get started on learning! Please note that you must wait at least 24 hours after registering your card to visit the school. 1 book per visit is permitted.

Get ready for your child's first year of Kindergarten by accessing your school's library!

Parents registering their child in Year 1 of the Kindergarten program will have access to explore the library at their home school and borrow library books.

It is recommended that you **contact your home school** to make an appointment and inquire about visiting hours of operation.



Online Literacy Support
The Halton Catholic District School Board is pleased to offer **TumbleBooks eBook services** for all students and soon-to-be students.



TumbleBooks are fun, interactive, picture books, puzzles and games that can be viewed online at any time! Check them out at: www.tumblebooklibrary.com
Enter the Username: hcdsb and the Password: books

Kinder Library Card
Your library barcode number is:



Register your card online! Visit: bit.ly/LibraryCardRegistration





Mathematics With Your Child

- Have your child count toys, utensils, items of clothing as they come out of the dryer, collections (such as stickers, buttons or rocks) and any other items your child shows interest in counting.
- Sing counting songs and use counting in meaningful ways in games, such as Hide-and-Seek.
- Play games that have dice or cards where recognizing numbers and quantities is a skill that will be developed through playing



<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideNumEn.pdf>

Tip!

When children are learning to count, they like to touch, point to and move objects as they say the number aloud – so encourage them to!



Additional Information



Volunteers are always needed in the school

In order to be a volunteer, you will need to complete vulnerable sectors police check, you can do this by going to the police station



Next steps...



Kindergarten entry in Halton Catholic District School Board is a gradual process

- ✓ Register
- ✓ Complete Forms
- ✓ Orientation night (virtual this year)
- ✓ Interview (meet the educators and see the classroom)
- ✓ Start! (gradual entry)



Questions....

Please feel free to contact us or check out www.hcdsb.org click on Parents and then on Kindergarten for more information.

Reach out to your school for specific information.





**Thank you for joining us in
this virtual session!**

**We look forward to
meeting you in person!**