

# Halton District School Board 2017 Students of Excellence



**Saioni Bhalsod**  
Limehouse Public School,  
Grade Five

Saioni is a kind and caring young lady. She is an observer who looks for opportunities to quietly lead by example. She is a keen and dedicated student who is committed to achieving excellence in academics and in helping her peers and the adults who work with her. She is always setting high goals for herself and actively working to achieve these goals. Saioni takes part in many aspects of school-wide leadership as a member of The Green Team, Volleyball, Choir, Intramurals, and Kindergarten helper. She consistently models a positive attitude and inclusive manner in her daily interactions with students of all ages. Saioni has been contributing towards creating a positive school climate and making all students feel welcome throughout her time at Limehouse. She has demonstrated that she is a well-rounded leader who exemplifies the qualities of respect, positivity, and inclusiveness that we strive to achieve at Limehouse Public School.



**Victoria Nascimento**  
McKenzie-Smith Bennett Public School,  
Grade Eight

Victoria is a grade eight student at McKenzie-Smith Bennett Public School. She comes to school each day with a positive attitude. She is conscientious and demonstrates incredible initiative. Her compassion and caring for others is shown everyday as she enters the school ready for an early morning practice with a big smile on her face, eager and ready to help in any capacity as the school day unfolds.

She is well liked by her peers and respected by her teachers, and she is genuinely engaged in learning and the school community. Victoria is a quiet leader and an active member of Student Leaders, Safe Schools Action Team, the GSA club, Green Team, Grade Eight Band, and even finds time to be an Office Helper.

The area in which Victoria truly shines is her involvement in athletics both within the school, and the community. She has been an integral member of the

Senior Basketball and Volleyball teams, Cross Country, Athletic Council, and has showed her dedication and leadership through her involvement with Primary Games, and as a Coach of the Grade Six Girls Volleyball team.

Victoria's character, her thoughts, words, and actions help to make McKenzie-Smith Bennett School a better place. Her achievement, citizenship, and leadership in all areas epitomize what a Student of Excellence should be: kind, considerate, hard-working and altruistic.



**Ryan Milford**  
Acton District High School,  
Grade Twelve

Ryan has been a positive, respectful role model and an active contributor to school life since he came to Acton HS. Whether in the classroom or in the many curricular activities he is involved with, Ryan supports his fellow students in a warm, good-hearted and genuine way.

He has had the lead role in our school play, participated in the Sears drama festival, been the MC for our talent show, and often reads our morning announcements ensuring students and teachers begin their day with a smile. Through discipline and hard work, Ryan has also achieved excellence in his academics.

Outside of school, Ryan is a sledge player and competes at a high level. It is inspiring to see someone always do his best, think of the group before himself and consistently bring positive change to his environment.



**Ava Valvasori**  
Robert Little Public School,  
Grade Five

Ava is very strong academically and athletically. She takes the initiative to get involved in everything. Ava is extremely helpful to everyone and never hesitates to assist peers and teachers alike. She is friendly, outgoing, self-motivated, and always striving to do her best and help others be their best. She is very positive and always goes above and beyond...with a smile.

## To the elementary and secondary school students in Halton Hills

What will you do with the two month break that stretches out before you? The change in your daily routine as a student creates a wonderful opportunity to start or complete a goal. Perhaps that goal is to read a book or two, put more exercise related activities into your day, or explore a new activity. Why not consider logging some kilometres for the Halton Hills Bike Challenge ([haltonhillsbikechallenge.ca](http://haltonhillsbikechallenge.ca))?

With the Canada 150 celebrations taking place, you will undoubtedly be inspired by learning about the great contributions made by your fellow Canadians. Why not follow their lead and consider volunteering for a worthy cause within your community? Or what about taking a summer school course or pursuing an interest, activity or hobby? Perhaps this summer will represent your first chance at being employed. Whatever the case, the time is yours to use, and so be sure to use it well. Best wishes to everyone as you begin the summer break. Be safe in all that you do, and enjoy your time with friends and family.

**Jeanne Gray**  
Halton Hills Trustee  
Halton District School Board

## Congratulations Graduates

On behalf of the Halton Catholic District School Board, I would like to congratulate all graduates in our system this year. I would like to thank you for choosing Catholic education and supporting a system which continues to strive for excellence in all that we do.

The Halton Catholic District School Board continues to lead the province in standardized testing. We are proud of the achievements of our students, thanks to the hard work of their parents and teachers. We will continue to offer an education that allows students to discover the gifts that God has given them as they mature into caring citizens that contribute to their community.

Another busy school year has passed, and I'd like to thank Mrs. Laforet, Father Robert Hetu, the entire staff of St. Joseph's, the Catholic Parent Council and all the wonderful volunteers for their hard work. The school will continue to work with the Parish of St. Joseph, Patron of Canada and with the parents of St. Joseph students, to keep the connections alive between home, school and parish.

As summer holidays beckon, we let our minds relax for a well-deserved break, before we return to our education. Congratulations to the graduates of Acton and area. As you move forward on the road of life, just remember to always put your faith in the Lord, who is right there beside you.

Sincerely,

**John Mark Rowe**  
Acton Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

## Dear Students

At long last it is June, and summer vacation is about to be born. It is time to reflect on your accomplishments. Each of you have worked hard this school year to master new skills and overcome challenges. You have helped to make the world a better place through your greening of school grounds, fundraising events and participation in clubs. You've made new friends, and taught your parents many interesting things. I know that your Principal, Teachers, and Parents are very proud of you. So now is the time to celebrate your success, and look forward to the joy of summer freedom. During your summer camps and family vacations, I hope that you will take the time to:

- Dance in a warm rain
- Draw animal clouds as you lie on your back in the grass
- Wander the woods seeking the secret life of flowers and birds
- Build a "hideout" of sticks, branches and old towels
- Read and write books about the adventures of summer fun
- Stay up all night counting the stars and catching fireflies

These things will keep your math, reading and gym skills sharp. Exercise your deepest joy, your wildest imagination, and run with freedom. Make your happiness contagious. Congratulations to all, we look forward to your return in September.

**Kathryn Cooper**  
Trustee for the schools in Guelph Eramosa,  
East Garafaxa and Erin