



HIGHLAND PARK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER #9
May 2019

It is easy to see that summer is just around the corner, with the weather getting warmer each day. There are a number of reminders in this month's newsletter now that we are getting closer to the end of the year. I trust that all the moms will be properly spoiled this Mother's Day and that the fathers are patiently waiting for their turn next month!

We are now in the final stages of determining our projected enrolment for next year. It is imperative that we know of any plans you may have for next year that would change our student numbers in any manner. If you are planning to move, or know of anyone who is planning to do so themselves, (into or out of the community), please contact the school ASAP.

Happy Spring!!

Sincerely,

Rob Ellis

Information Regarding Student Placement for 2019-2020

Placement of students in classes is dependent upon a number of considerations. We will have our placement meeting in mid-June. Our school is likely going to have 17 divisions.

For the first time in many years we will NOT have 'straight' grade classes. Most of our classes will be a mix of grades and combinations. This is actually the norm in most schools, most years.

In placing students the following considerations are taken into account:

High Priority

Instructional groupings
Class composition including special needs/requirements
Social/cultural issues (independence, interactions, leadership)
Behavioural/social issues
Diversity in development (academic, social, emotional)

Middle Priority

Groupings in previous years
Dominant grade composition
Physical/social maturation
Learner style
Siblings and relations

Lower Priority

Friendships
Teacher-learner compatibility
Class size (room to accommodate new students)
** Please note requests for 'straight' grades is not an educational reason.
Field Trips
Any requests regarding placement of your child for the upcoming year needs to **be in writing** to the Principal, Rob Ellis, **by**

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Friday, June 12th. In some instances you will be asked to come in for an interview or you may be contacted by phone for more information. In your letter please identify the **educational reason** for your request (see above). The reasons you provide are important as we use them to assist as part of the above criteria in placing your child. Please make only 1 request per child as in class request, or with a certain student or not, etc. Please be aware that the teacher assignments identified in this newsletter are **subject to change**.

The school staff will take every aspect into consideration when placing students from year to year. Notwithstanding, the opportunity is available for parents to meet with me to discuss placement for the coming year. **The final decision regarding student placement rests with the school principal.** Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Cross Country

Our runners have been training very hard in anticipation of the upcoming races. Our runner's first competition will be held at AES on Thursday, May 2nd, starting at 12:30. The District Cross Country Competition will be held at Little Mountain Sports Complex in Salmon Arm on Thursday, May 9th, starting at 1:00. Thank you to Mr. Benge for arranging this for our students.

Parking Lot and Drop-off Lanes

Winter time always complicates the drop off and pick up process at HPE, as most of you know already. We ask that you be respectful of others by not parking in places that are going to cause havoc and safety concerns. The IPE parking lot is available to you for parking which does mean a little walk to the school; however, by parking there it does clear up congestion at HPE and makes it safer for our little ones.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2019-2020 school year took place in October but we are still open for those who have not yet registered their child for the upcoming year. If you know of someone who has a soon-to-be kindergarten aged child and they have not yet registered the child, please let them know to come to the office to fill out the paper work.

Talent Show

Our talent show was an amazing event with a lot of great acts. We are very proud of each and everyone of our performers! Thank you to Ms. Fassbender and Ms. Pobuda for all the work they put into this event.



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Breakfast Program

While renovations have been going on to our new classroom, our Breakfast Program has been, and will continue to be, for those in need only. Students who are in need are still receiving breakfast in the morning, but the program has been scaled back and is not open to everyone. Once the renovations have been completed, the program will continue as before.

Informal Report Cards

Starting the week of May 6th teachers will be contacting parents regarding their child's progress. This is an informal report card, and may take the form of a check list, phone call, meeting, etc.

Music Monday

Music Monday is an annual national event celebrating the importance of music in our lives and especially in our schools. It began in 2005. This year our Music Monday will be held on Monday, May 6th in the gym and run from 10:30 to 11:30.

Parent Tea

Our annual Parent Tea will be held Monday, May 27th from 10:30 to 11:30 am. This is our annual thank-you to the community for their support of our students and staff. We will have tea/coffee and cake available along with some awesome entertainment.



Gymnastics

At Highland Park Elementary, we pride ourselves in being able to offer our students programs which enhance their educational experience, such as our Winter Rec. Program. In April, our students had a great time participating in gymnastics classes with a certified gymnastics coach. They taught our students various skills and games that focused on developing their coordination, balance and flexibility.



Kindergarten Orientation

Our Kindergarten Orientation will take place on Monday, May 13th. There will be two sessions. The morning session will run from 10:15 am to 11:30 am, and the afternoon

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session will run from 12:45 pm to 2:00 pm. Children with the last name ending in A - K are scheduled for the morning session, and parents whose last name ends L - Z are in the afternoon.

An information email will be sent to all our next year's Kindergarten parents. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact the school at 250-546-8723.

Grade 5 Transition

It's that time of year again when our Grade 5 students begin the transition process to Len Wood Middle School. An information package has been sent home to all parents/guardians of our Grade 5 students. If you did not receive this information package, please contact the school.

Mon. May 6th HPE Student Ambassador visit to LWMS

Tues. May 14th LWMS Ambassadors visit to HPE

Fri. May 24th HPE Grade 5's visit to LWMS

Mon, June 3rd Grade 5 Parent Night at LWMS, 5:30 to 6:00

Jump Rope for Heart

We have kicked off our Jump Rope for Heart campaign with our goal to reach \$4000. All money raised will be donated to the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Apparently, if we should attain our goal of \$4000 by May 16th, Mr. Ellis will kiss a farm animal! Eww!

Students will be given a donation envelope to bring home. Donations can also be made on our school's behalf at the Heart and Stroke Foundation's web site.

The JRFH school event will be held on Thursday, May 16th starting at 12:45.

Parent volunteers are needed to help with the Primary stations. Please contact Ms. Dolinar at mdolinar@sd83.bc.ca if you would like to help out.

Important dates:

- **May 2nd** Cross country at AES, 12:30 Div. 13/15 at Enderby Cliffs Div. 14 at Askews
- **May 3rd** Div. 5/6 at Gardom Lake
- **May 6th** Music Monday
- **May 7th** VIP program for Grade 5's
- **May 8th** PAC Meeting, 6:00
- **May 9th** District Cross Country Meet
- **May 10th** Class Pictures
- **May 13th** Kindergarten Orientation
- **May 14th** VIP Program for Grade 5's LWMS Ambassador's visit
- **May 15th** Div. 9 field trip to Kingfisher
- **May 16th** Jump Rope for Heart
- **May 17th** Pro-D
- **May 20th** Victoria Day Holiday
- **May 21st** Grade 4/5 classes at Gardom Lake
- **May 23rd** Mr. Benge's class camp out
- **May 24th** Safari/Camping Spirit Day Grade 5's visit LWMS
- **May 27th** Parent Tea , 10:30
- **May 28th** Div. 10, 11 & 12 field trip to Kangaroo Farm
- **May 30th** Bike Rodeo
- **May 31st** School Triathlon

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At Highland Park Elementary School we believe:

Respect of self, others, and property

Responsibility for actions and decisions

Right to enjoy lifelong learning

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