



HIGHLAND PARK

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER #3

November 2019

It's been a cold ending to October! Hopefully, the snow stays away for a long time!

October was a busy month at Highland Park Elementary. What would October be without Halloween? There were so many amazing costumes and activities for the students. November promises to be just as busy with our Remembrance Day Assembly, field trips and a cultural event.

Please read on further for events happening at the school. November will be a busy month.

Sincerely,

Rob Ellis

Donations

A huge thank you to the Lions Club, Royal York Ladies Club and Garden Club for their generous donations to our school. These donations go a long way to providing support for our Breakfast Program!



Garbage free Snacks

Please help us keep our playground litter-free by sending litter-free snacks to school with your children. Students will be encouraged to take a snack out with them and leave the garbage inside.

Some suggestions are granola bars, cookies, and fruit, which can be peeled before leaving the building. If we continue to work together, we can maintain a clean, healthy environment, both inside and outside of our school.



Toonie Tuesday

A huge thank you to our school community! Through your generosity, our school raised close to \$350. This year's Toonie Tuesday global funds will go to support a village in

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Nicaragua. As always, schools will be able to apply to our District Student Leadership "Me to We" Committee for funds to support local projects.

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

Dear School District No. 83 Kindergarten to grade 8 parents:

The BC Ministry of Education and our School District are in the midst of developing curriculum and reporting documents that better meet the needs of families. Our goal is to provide parents with a better way of understanding where their children are at in their learning journey.

Part of this change involves increased opportunities for parents to meet formally with teachers to discuss their child's progress. To accommodate this change, the district has asked each school to schedule an early dismissal day in November to provide time for scheduled parent/student/teacher conferences. Our school will have **early dismissal on Thursday, November 21st**. Dismissal will be at 11:25 and buses will run accordingly. Parents are asked to book their meeting time through Parent Connect.

These conferences will provide an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's areas of strength and needs and set learning goals for their child's continued academic and behavioral growth.

We know that community-building and establishing strong relationships between home and school are what promotes learning in the most fundamental way.

Therefore, dedicating two hours of learning time over the course of a school year to Parent/Teacher meetings is a valuable use of instructional time. Research indicates that this method of reporting was found to be more meaningful and informative for teachers, parents, and students.

We look forward to meeting with all of you to discuss your child's progress and set goals for the remainder of the school year.

The Six Core Strengths for Healthy Brain Development

Each of the following six core strengths developed by Dr. Bruce Perry, Senior Fellow, The Child Trauma Academy, www.childtrauma.org, is a building block in a child's development.

Together, they provide a strong foundation for his or her future health, happiness, and productivity.

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ATTACHMENT – Be a friend. The most important gift you can give a child is the gift of attachment, the ability to form and maintain healthy emotional bonds with another person. It is first acquired in infancy, as a child interacts with a loving, responsive and attentive caregiver.

Healthy attachments allow a child to love, to become a good friend and to have a model for future relationships. As a child grows, other consistent and nurturing adults such as teachers, family friends and relatives will shape the child's ability for attachment.

What you can do to promote the development of healthy attachment: The most important ingredients in building attachment in your children are your time and approval. At every age these two factors develop and strengthen attachment.

For Very Young Children

- Read a story together, pausing to talk about what is happening.
- Sing a familiar song with your child or make up a new one
- Go for a leisurely walk hand-in-hand
- Remind them at every opportunity, and at least three times a day, how special they are to you.
- Limit the amount of time your child spends watching television and substitute an activity where you interact together

For Older Elementary School Children

- Tuck a "love note" into their jacket pocket and give plenty of hugs.
- Sit together while they do their schoolwork and you read or make your grocery list.
- Work on a special project together: cooking, gardening, model building, etc.
- Display their artwork and school papers in a place of honor.
- Continue to limit the amount of time your child watches television or plays video games in favor of interactive activities.

Fire Chief for A Day

Congratulations to Lucy Lockhart, who won our school draw for Fire Chief for A Day. Lucy got to ride in a firetruck and have lunch with our local firefighters. Way to go Lucy!



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Winter Concert

Christmas Concert: Wednesday Dec 11th 6:00 pm at PVSS

HPE presents...A New World Christmas!...Mark it in your calendars now!

Students do not need any special costumes or colours this year but we do ask that they dress up in something nice. Holiday colours would add to the festive feel but are not necessary. It would be nice if parents/family members could dress up too. The students put so much time and effort into putting on a great show for you, it will help make the night feel special for everyone if we all dress up.

Also, due to the high turnout at the Christmas Concert last year, we will be trying a new system to help keep the gym from passing the fire safety capacity numbers and ensure that all audience members can see the show, the staff have a place to be available to help assist/support their students and of course that the students themselves have the space they need to perform.

Every family will get 4 tickets sent home with the oldest/only child. You must bring the tickets on the night of the show. If you have extra tickets that your family does not need, please bring them back to the office. If your family would like to bring more than 4 people, please check with the office for any extra tickets that have been returned. We will not issue any extra tickets beyond the maximum capacity that the PVSS gym can hold. We are hopeful that this will help to keep the audience numbers at a manageable level while still allowing close family members to attend the show.

Thank you for your understanding, the students and I are excited to perform A New World Christmas for you! See you on December 11th at 6:00 in the PVSS gym!

Mrs. Lelond



At Highland Park Elementary School
we believe:

Respect of self, others, and property

Progress in Math foundational concepts and skills

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IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 11 th	Remembrance Day Holiday
Nov. 12 th	Pro-D
Nov. 15 th	Mr. Benge and Ms. Coombs classes at PV Manor
Nov. 18 th	Grade 5 VIP Program session
Nov. 18 th	Archery at Hansen Arena
Nov. 20 th	Crazy Hair Day
Nov. 21 st	Parent Conferences, 11:22 dismissal
Nov. 25 th	Grade 5 VIP Program, second session
Nov. 26 th	Mrs. Terrell and Mrs. Dolinar's classes at Science Centre
Nov. 29 th	Christmas Tree Decorating downtown

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