



Office Phone

Please remember that the phone in the office is for emergency calls only, not for making after-school arrangements. After-school arrangements are to be made the day before, and students are not permitted to ride on buses they are not registered for in order to go to a friend's house. Your understanding is appreciated.



The September school start-up was quite busy and a little different than other years, with several changes, but we are well on our way now! We'd like to thank our staff for all their hard work and caring dedication supporting our students and families last month. We would also like to thank our parent community for being so understanding and flexible!

It was awesome to see all the families that were able to attend our Welcome Back BBQ, as well as the increased number of parents who attended our first Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting on September 13th. Please read on for some reminders and details about the amazing October events and activities we have planned at HPE.

Mr. Ellis
(Principal)

Mr. Ward
(Vice-Principal)

Student Health

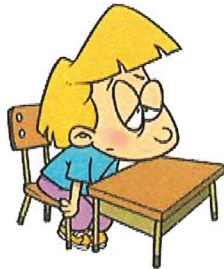
Just a reminder that families are responsible for their child's health check in the morning prior to school. Health checks will not be performed by teachers, but students showing any symptoms of sickness may be sent home. This is especially important as we approach Cold and Flu season. The health of our students and staff are very important for the effective functioning of our school and for optimal learning to occur on a daily basis. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Student Attendance

For safety reasons, it is important the school knows at all times where children are.

Therefore, students who arrive at school after the bell need to be sure to check in at the office and also make their teacher aware that they have arrived.

Parents picking a child up early are asked to ensure that teacher and office are informed before they leave. Your cooperation and understanding are appreciated.



Student Supervision

Morning supervision begins once the first bus arrives (7:30). Students who do not come to school by bus should not arrive before this time. After school supervision is at the front of the school only, until the buses leave. For safety reasons, students *should not* wait for parents at the back playground. Please meet your children at the front of the school where supervision is provided. Please keep in mind that the school is responsible for your children from the time they leave home for school until they return home after school.

Literally, "from fence post to fence post". For this reason, it is important that all students, bussing or walking, **go directly home after school.** If they wish to return to the school to play **after checking in at home**, it is up to parents to make that decision. Once the buses have gone, there is no supervision at the school and the doors are locked. Please be vigilant about teaching your children about safety to and from school. They should always walk with a buddy or a small group, and ensure that your child knows to go directly to and from school without pit stops or detours.



Goal Setting Conferences

This year, our parent-student and teacher Goal Setting Conferences take place from 8:00am-2:00pm (and possibly longer if staff make themselves available) on Thursday, October 26th. Students only attend school with their grown-ups during their conference time to set goals with teachers. We are using a new system this year; Microsoft Booking. More information will be sent home about how to schedule a Conference time.

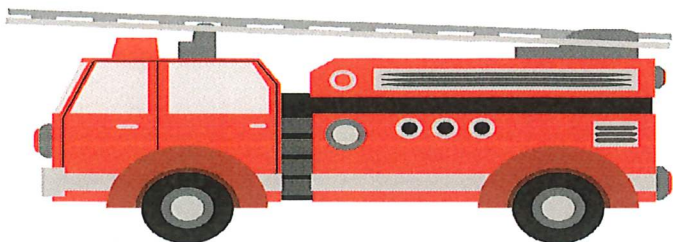


SCHOOL GOAL #1: Improve student Literacy skills, with a focus on style (impact of language) and conventions (punctuation).

SCHOOL GOAL #2: Improve student skills demonstrating 4 quadrants of Circle of Courage (Generosity, Belonging, Independence, Mastery).

Fire Prevention Week

October 8th to 14th is Fire Prevention Week. Local firefighters will be doing presentations and tours of the Fire Hall for interested classes. Cooking Safety is this year's focus. Details can be found at: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/FirePreventionWeek>



Halloween Safety

Keeping children from going bump in the night is an important safety concern on Halloween. Some safety tips you may want to consider are:

- Most Halloween injuries are caused by falling – use of appropriate masks and costumes can prevent some injuries
- Masks and sunglasses narrow children's line of sight and can make it difficult to see obstacles. If your child is wearing a mask, make certain (s)he can see well and breathe easily
- Select brightly-coloured costumes that are fire retardant and attach reflective tape on areas or use glow-in-the-dark fabrics or fabric paint
- Dangling accessories can get snagged
- Don't allow your children to carry sharp objects, candles, or other dangerous accessories as part of their costume. Try to substitute alternative accessories for older children, and for younger children, encourage free hands
- Have children walk in familiar areas on a planned route. Equip them with flashlights or glow sticks
- Children should be warned to stop only at houses with lights on and should be firmly instructed not to go inside **any** home without specific permission from parents



Husky Strong

This month, our Circle of Courage focus is in the area of **Belonging**, with special attention towards *Cooperating*. We had an assembly to introduce this month's goal of cooperating with all people in our building, and how a Husky Strong student can demonstrate cooperating. Reinforcing these ideas at home would be much appreciated.



Bicycles and Wheels

Students need to lock their bicycles when they are at school. Bicycles and scooters are to be **walked** on the school grounds from Wood Avenue to the bicycle racks and are not to be used during the school day. Scooters can be taken directly into the school for storage during the day. As the year progresses, there will be opportunities for bicycle use on the school grounds. Students must wear a helmet if they are riding a bike or scooter. If students arrive without a helmet, their bike or scooter will be held at the school for them until they have a helmet. As a safety measure, very young students should be accompanied by an adult if they are riding their bike or scooter to school.



School Pictures

This year, our school picture day has been scheduled for Thursday, October 19th. Picture retake day will be on Tuesday, November 7th. Division pictures will once again be held in the Spring. The exact date will be determined and shared at a later date once it is confirmed.

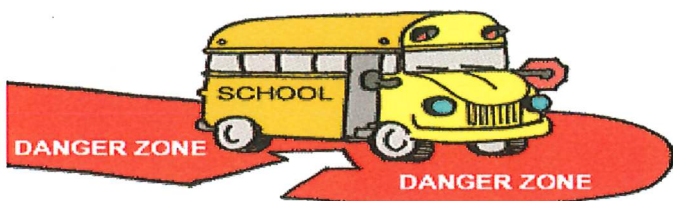


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School Bus Safety

School District No. 83 bus drivers take student safety very seriously. We would like to remind students, parents and staff about the 'Danger Zones' around a school bus. When school is opening in the morning and closing in the afternoon, it is a busy and crowded area. There are children being dropped off or picked up by either school buses or parents. We ask that all pedestrians cross the parking lot at designated crosswalk areas and NOT in between the school buses. Bus drivers cannot see you if crossing in the 'Danger Zone'. **Thank you for helping to keep our students safe!**



Handicapped Parking Spots

A reminder to all members of our Highland Park Community to please be aware of the various handicapped parking spaces around our school. We have staff and students that require these spaces and recently vehicles that do not have a handicapped sign are using the spaces designated for individuals that need them. Your cooperation and understanding are appreciated.



Hot Lunch Soupermeals/Munch-A-Lunch

Our Hot Lunch Program begins this month, and can be accessed from the Munch-A-Lunch link <https://munchalunch.com/schools/highlandparkarmstrong/?mibextid=Zxz2cZ> which is located on the PAC menu on the Highland Park website. This year, we will have a bi-monthly free option which provides a shared hot lunch experience for all students made from local ingredients. Soups are served with buns and fruit.

October 4	Chicken Noodle Soup
October 18	Vegetable Soup
November 1	Halloween Soup
November 15	Taco Soup
November 29	Corn Bacon Chowder
December 13	Turkey Soup

One of the goals of this program is to offer students an opportunity to try new or unfamiliar food. If you are worried about your child not liking the soup, feel free to send a lunch. What usually happens when students are surrounded by friends and peers is that many students will try the soup, even if they don't usually like soup at home. Ingredient lists for all soups are available upon request <https://shuswapfood.ca/> and vegetarian, halal, and gluten-free alternatives can be requested. If you do not want your child to participate, please notify the school. If you are interested in volunteering to help on Soup Days (or any Hot Lunch Day), please contact our Hot Lunch Coordinator Brittany Gee 780-243-4790.



Criminal Record Checks



For those people interested in volunteering at our school, having a current and valid Criminal Record Check is required. We are no longer accepting paper copies, but rather, Criminal Record Checks can be completed online with a link and code you can get from our school office. Please visit Mrs. Anderson at the HPE Office for more information.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Mon. Oct. 2: Truth & Reconciliation Holiday
- Tues. Oct. 3: Whole School Spirit Assembly AM
- Mon. Oct. 9: Thanksgiving Holiday
- Wed. Oct. 11: PAC Meeting 2:30pm
- Tues. Oct. 17: Mismatched Sock Spirit Day
- Thurs. Oct. 19: Student Photos (AM)
- Fri. Oct. 20: Provincial Pro-D Day
- Mon. Oct. 23: Cultural Performance AM
- Thurs. Oct. 26: Family/Teacher Conferences
- Mon. Oct. 31: Halloween

At Highland Park Elementary we believe:

- Respect of self, others, and property*
- Responsibility of self, others, and property*
- Right to enjoy lifelong learning*



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