

**HIGHLAND PARK  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER #3  
November 2023**



October was a busy month at Highland Park Elementary, and we'd like to express our gratitude to our school staff and the extended HPE community! You are all very much appreciated! There were so many amazing activities for students from field trips to assemblies to Parent-Teacher Conferences combined with awesome daily learning experiences in

every classroom. We had fantastic costumes and activities for the students to conclude the month, and as we shift our focus and look ahead to November, we can see it is just as busy. We change our clocks back an hour, students have photo retakes, we have our Remembrance Day Assembly, the Remembrance Day holiday, a Spirit Day, as well as a Pro-D Day. Please read on for events happening at the school this month.

Sincerely,

Rob Ellis  
Principal

Spencer Ward  
Vice-Principal

### 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.



### Halloween Memories

It was wonderful to see so many unique and original costumes on Tuesday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. The students enjoyed fun activities and all our classes participated in a costume parade. Well done, everyone!



### Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

Our School District set aside Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> for parents and students to meet with teachers to discuss progress so far and to set goals for the rest of the first term. The aim was to provide parents with a better way of understanding where their children are at in their learning journey. Each meeting was scheduled for 15 minutes, and parents discussed their child's areas of strength and areas of need. We know that community-building and establishing strong relationships between home and school are what promotes learning in the most fundamental way.



### Remembrance Day

As a way to honour our veterans each year, we hold a Remembrance Day Assembly. Students and staff are encouraged to wear red or black on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, and any students who are in Cubs, Scouts, Brownies or Guides are encouraged to wear their uniforms to school on that day for awareness. Our school wide assembly will take place in the morning, and it is somber and reflective in nature. Please review with your child the expectations of this assembly, and that we can respect those who have sacrificed for our freedom by being quiet, sitting still, and being on our best behaviour.



**GOAL 1 – Literacy:** To improve student ability in Literacy in the writing areas of structures and conventions.

**GOAL 2 – Empowerment:** To improve student skills in demonstrating 4 quadrants of Circle of Courage at school.

## Report Cards

This year, students will have 3 formal report card assessments. Term 1 Report Cards will be distributed in mid-December and indicate student progress from September, including the strengths and stretches discussed by the teacher and family during Conferences in October. Since students learn in different ways and at different rates, this will be a great time to reflect and celebrate student growth and development since the start of this school year.



## Winter Concert

This year's winter concert will take place in our school Gym and students will be singing Christmas Carols to cooperate and spread holiday cheer. Specific class times are in the process of being organized, and once they are finalized, classroom teachers will inform families, so they are aware. Our Winter Concert will take place during the week of December 18<sup>th</sup> to December 21<sup>st</sup>.



## Daily Health Check

As we enter Cold and Flu Season, families are encouraged to complete a daily health check (an example is located on the HPE website) with their child prior to sending them to school each day. The following guide may also be of assistance to families, as we aim to keep everyone at Highland Park as safe and as healthy as possible. Your understanding and cooperation are appreciated.

### Deciding when your child is too sick for school is not always an easy decision.

Children should not come to school if they are sick and unable to participate fully in routine activities. If you have questions and concerns about your child's health, talk with a qualified healthcare professional.

### Keep children at home if they have:

- a fever, and keep them home for 24 hours after the fever is gone away without the help of medication.
- vomiting or diarrhea, and keep them home for 24 hours after the last episode.
- a severe sore throat.
- a rash with no known cause.
- a severe cough especially with other symptoms like a runny nose and headache.
- redness, swelling or discharge of the eyes, ears or skin, unless treated.
- been acting unwell and have little energy to join in school activities.

## School Goals: Empowerment & Circle of Courage

This past month, our Circle of Courage focus was in the area of **BELONGING**, with special attention to **COOPERATING**. A student from each class will be honored at our school wide assembly on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> for their cooperation. We saw many examples of our students behaving well together and working well together. For the month of November and into December we will continue our focus on Belonging, and we will pay special attention to **RESPECTING**.



## Important Upcoming Dates

- |                |                                 |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Fri. Nov. 3:   | Bus Evacuation Drills           |
| Tues. Nov. 7:  | Photo Retakes                   |
| Wed. Nov. 8:   | PAC Meeting 2:30pm              |
| Thurs. Nov. 9: | Remembrance Day Assembly        |
| Fri. Nov. 10:  | Remembrance Day Holiday         |
| Wed. Nov. 15:  | Buster the Bus Presentation K's |
| Wed. Nov. 22:  | SPIRIT DAY: Canadian Lumberjack |
| Fri. Nov. 24:  | Pro-D Day (no school)           |

## 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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