



Hard to believe that it is already December, and the weather is getting colder! Please remember to dress your child appropriately for outside play, as students will continue to be outside for recess and lunchtime. Please also ensure that your child's outdoor clothes are clearly labeled with their name so that runaway clothing can be quickly and easily returned to the rightful owner. As for the snow, students have been reminded of wintertime expectations in regards to snowballs. We expect that "the snow stays on the ground" and snowballs should not be thrown around to help keep everyone safer. This is a season of giving, kindness and gratitude and we at Highland Park are grateful to our caring staff, supportive parents/guardians, and greater community for helping to make our school a wonderful place to be.

Rob Ellis
 (Principal)
 &
 Spencer Ward
 (Vice-Principal)



Food Bank Drive

From December 4th to December 15th, Highland Park students will compete with other classes to see which Division can bring in the most food and money donations for the Armstrong Food Bank this holiday season. Any assistance you could provide would be amazing and super helpful during these 2 weeks.



Winter Concert

This year's Christmas Concert will take place on Wednesday Dec 20th, in our Gym. We'll have 3 performances; K/1(2)'s, 2/3's, and 4/5's. Doors open 15-20 minutes prior to each show, and after families may meet with their children in their child's classroom for photos and hugs. Line up outside the **back gym door only** (closest to the blue and red 100 chart on the ground) prior to each show, to not disturb classes and learning. Students are encouraged to wear any festive attire they have at home for the performance.



<u>Grade</u>	<u>Doors Open</u>	<u>Show Time</u>
2/3	8:10am	8:30-9:15am
4/5	9:55am	10:15-11:00am
K/1(2)	12:45pm	1:10-1:50pm

Winter Recreation:

We are working with the Nor-Val Arena to have our winter skating program once again for Grades 1-4.



This will begin in January, and more information will follow about dates and times for each class. Our Grade 5 classes will go skiing at Silver Star on February 2nd, 12th, and 23rd. Our Kindergarten classes will participate in their own fun events and parents will be notified closer to the dates.

Askew's Gift Cards

Looking for a last-minute gift idea for friends or family that also supports Highland Park Elementary? You can support local and knock some items off your Christmas List by purchasing Askew's Gift Cards from PAC Treasurer Amanda Shaw. You can contact her at 250-307-3161.



Verification Forms & Fees

Please make sure your child's verification form is complete with any necessary changes, if any, and that student fees have been paid. If you are unsure of how much fees are please don't hesitate to contact the school. Also, if school fees are a financial burden, please let Mr. Ellis know and alternate arrangements can be made.



American Sign Language

On Tuesday, November 21st, five Highland Park students presented to SD83's Board of Education at their monthly Board Meeting. The students are part of an ASL (American Sign Language) group at school led by Miss Meagan and sponsored by Ms. Daughtry. It was an excellent example of inclusion and caring about others, and everyone is very proud of our staff and students for making this happen.



Cold Weather

It is important that students dress for the weather when coming to school. During very poor weather students will be permitted to play appropriately inside. Given our surrounding topography, when temperatures are in the range of 0 to -12 degrees at the school, students are typically expected to play outside as long as the windchill isn't too bad. When the temperature drops below -12 degrees at the school there is a good chance students will have an indoor recess and/or lunch. The decision to have indoor recess/lunch rests with the principal and is based on a number of factors (temperature at the school, windchill, shelters available, length of time outside, etc.). If your child arrives at

school before the bell, some teachers may choose to open their classroom doors a few minutes early on extreme cold weather days, or administration will decide to bring all students that arrive early inside to keep warm.



Handicapped Parking Space

We have members of our HPE Community whose mobility depends on having access to the parking space designated nearest to the building, whether their abilities are visible or not. As a result, we are asking that the parking space in the HPE parking lot be reserved only for those that need it, and/or for others who have a parking permit displayed. Your cooperation is appreciated.



Important dates:

- Dec. 5th Spirit Assembly AM
- Dec. 6th Spirit Day: Christmas Sweater
- Dec. 13th Term 1 Report Cards Distributed
- Dec. 18th Spirit Day: Who-Ville
- Dec. 20th Christmas Concert
- Dec. 21st Last day before Winter Break
Spirit Day: PJ's
- Jan. 8th School back in session

At HPE we believe:

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



GOAL 1: To improve student Literacy skills, in particular, the specific writing areas of style (impact of language) and conventions (punctuation).
GOAL 2: To improve student skills in demonstrating 4 quadrants of Circle of Courage at school (Generosity, Belonging, Independence, Mastery).