



Highland Heights Public School

December 2018



Principal

Mr. D. Beaton

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www.highlandheights.kprdsb.ca

Transportation Information:

www.stsco.ca

Twitter: @HighlandHtsPS

Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Here it is December and we will soon be celebrating the holidays. We recognize that some in our school community

have just celebrated Diwali, while others will soon be celebrating Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa. Most importantly, we recognize that all faith groups share the common values of goodwill toward others and the importance of family. Certainly, we all know how important it is to share this precious time with our loved ones.

Holidays have often been a focal point of curriculum because of their wide appeal to both children and teachers. Holidays have the potential to promote appreciation of lifestyles, an awareness of the larger society and positive social interactions among children. They also offer high interest vehicles for teaching skills in all academic areas. It is a time when we celebrate simple truths such as the joy of having food, shelter, and living in a wonderful country like Canada.

As the holidays approach, many of us are also getting into the spirit of giving and sharing. This is a particularly special time of year when we think about loved ones, reflect carefully on how we can show good will towards others and work towards peace on earth. Through the example we set as adults, we hope that students will discover the real meaning of peace and goodwill towards others, not just in our own community but all over the world. After all, we really are just one global village on this planet and we must learn to live together in harmony.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 30th – Jr. Volleyball Tournament

Dec. 3rd – Intermediate Girls Rec Volleyball

Dec. 4th – Intermediate Boys Rec Volleyball

Dec. 13th - Meningitis for Grade 7 Students

Dec. 18th – Christmas Concert /Free Cycle Cafe

Dec. 21st – Last day of school before Winter Break/Christmas Holidays

Dec. 22nd to Jan. 6th – Winter Break/Christmas Holidays

Jan. 7th – School Resumes

Please remember in your thoughts those who are less fortunate and encourage your older children to volunteer during this season and support others in the community. As you know, this time of year is often very difficult for some families and we encourage everyone to keep an eye out for those of our neighbours who may find this a lonely and difficult time. If we could all take a few moments to reflect on how fortunate we are in so many ways, perhaps we would see a lot more mutual respect around us!

On behalf of the staff at Highland Heights, we would like to wish you all the very best for the upcoming holiday season! Please stay safe and warm, enjoy the time with your family, and treasure these special moments together!

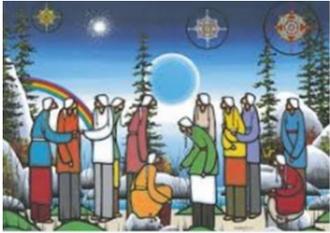
Sincerely,

Drew Beaton

Proposed 2019-20 school year calendar

KPR is seeking comments from students, parents, guardians, staff and community members regarding the proposed school year calendar for 2019-20. Please review the proposed calendar and comment using the online survey available on the home page of www.kprschools.ca by Monday, December 10, 2018. The dates being proposed for Winter Break next year are Monday, December 23, 2019, to Friday, January 3, 2020. Last day of classes before the break would be Friday, December 20, 2019, with students returning to class Monday, January 6, 2020. First and last days of school, March Break and PA Days can all be viewed on the proposed calendar.

December is “Little Spirit Moon” - Mnidoo-Giisoons (Anishinaabe First Nation)



Little Spirit Moon is the twelfth moon of Creation, a very spiritual time. At this time all Creation is being reminded of their journey set out by the Creator. During this time, the Little Spirit Moon journeys to Turtle Island as a healer and a seer in the hearts of all Creation. This is to ensure that the strength and power of the purist of Creation can flourish with the identity and diversity to make the journey from this world to the next.

Character Attribute for December is: R E S P E C T

I am polite, courteous and caring. I value myself and others. I treat all people with dignity and uphold their rights. I protect property and our environment.



Breakfast Program

Our Breakfast Program continues to run 5 days a week serving many students a nutritious, hot breakfast. There are many volunteers who help support this important program. Without these dedicated volunteers, this program would not run. Thank you to **Tracey Davidson, our amazing co-ordinator and all of her volunteers.** Thank you so much!



Cold Weather Has Arrived!!

The cold weather has arrived! It is very important that students come to school wearing warm clothing. Sending an extra pair of socks, mitts and pants is a good idea. Extra mitts and hats are available at the school, if needed. This is a reminder that students do go outside. It can be very cold on the hill, so students need to be dressed appropriately.

Winter Blizzards & Busses

It's that time of year when the weather changes, the snow starts to fall, and the driving conditions become a little more dangerous. The bus companies monitor the roads and determine whether there will be bus cancellations. If your child/children take the bus to school, please visit the STSCO Website to review which bus routes are cancelled or delayed at www.stsco.ca and click on the Delay & Cancellation Information Icon on the right hand side. Cancellations will also be announced on local radio stations. If busses are cancelled, we ask that parents of children who WALK to school, please call the SAFE ARRIVAL LINE at 1 844-434-8119 if your child(ren) will not be attending school that day.

Anaphylactic Allergies

Again this year, we have several students who have severe anaphylactic reactions to peanuts or nut products. Currently, we ask everyone not to send peanut products in their children's lunches. However, we believe we can continue to do more. In school, these students are not only exposed to their classmates, but to others on the yard. Taking this into consideration, we ask that all parents continue to avoid sending peanut butter and other nut products to school. Although this request will cause some inconvenience, if you reflect upon the potential tragedy that could occur, we believe you will agree that this is a reasonable request. Although we cannot guarantee a Nut Free school, we can certainly aim toward this goal. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in helping to keep a safe environment for all our students.

Bullying Prevention Measures



At Highland Heights, we take the issue of bullying extremely seriously. We believe that everyone has the absolute right to be safe and feel safe at our school, and we consistently strive to make our school environment a secure place for everyone. Students are given consequences such as restricted recess times or community service for smaller issues, and they are suspended for more serious infractions. Research indicates, however, that sometimes children don't report when they are being bullied, so we rely on you for information. Please call Mr. Beaton at the school if you ever think your child is either being bullied or is bullying others.

School Council December Report



The "Under One Sun" fundraiser has gone well, thanks to everyone who participated. We were able to raise \$510.00 for our school and the Haitian artisans made \$600. Students having the Lunch Box Orders are enjoying them. Please feel free to contact Lorraine Brown by email at lorrob@cogeco.ca or speak with her in person if you have any questions or concerns.

To find out what happens at our meetings, see the minutes of our meetings on the school website. The next meeting is January 21st, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. All parents/guardians are welcome. Please join us. Your input is appreciated.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Online Math Fun at Home

If your child is not already playing this game at home, please check out the Prodigy Math Game. Prodigy allows children to practice the math skills they learn in class in a fun, Pokemon-style video game. The game continues to improve students' confidence, abilities and test results in math, and continues to earn rave reviews from kids. You can sign up for a free parent account at www.prodigygame.com. If you have any questions about how your child can take full advantage of this fantastic online opportunity, please contact your child's teacher.

Literacy Lens

As parents, we are always looking for ways to help our children succeed in school. Parents are a child's first teachers and much learning takes place in the home. Here are some suggestions on how to use the time you have together to engage your child in fun, quick, and simple activities that impact learning in reading, writing, math and science:

- Read cereal boxes, signs, and labels, advertisements, logos, billboards. Media is a natural teacher of our children. Discuss the positive and negative messages that are being taught.
- Read the comics in the newspaper with your child.
- Use everyday experiences to promote literacy.....helping with writing their favourite foods on the weekly shopping list, finding the specials and the costs.
- Read directions together and follow the steps needed to prepare a recipe or to plan an event.
- Encourage writing to a friend or relative either on paper or through email.
- Play word games, such as scrabble and boggle.
- Read to your child daily and with older students have them give you a summary of their chapter or describe the setting, main character etc.
- Give positive comments about your child's work whenever possible.

Enjoy these activities over and over again. These fun activities will enhance your child's learning, bring you closer as a parent and child, and show your child you care about his or her education!

Family Time Over The Holidays

Some ideas to consider for fun and learning with your family:

- Hands on fun at the Canadian Canoe Museum
- Swimming at Trent or the YMCA or The Wellness Centre
- Reading at the Peterborough Public Library
- Having fun with family and friends
- Bowling at Peterborough Bowlerama
- Skating
- Cook together as a family
- Playing board games or cards
- Snowy outings at Jackson Park
- Hiking at Lang Pioneer Village

School Activities

Junior Mixed Volleyball

Mr. Conlin is coaching the Junior Mixed Volleyball team for their upcoming tournament on November 30th at Kenner.

Intermediate Girls Volley ball

The intermediate Girls volleyball team are practicing for their upcoming tournament on December 3rd at Adam Scott. Ms. McGarry is coaching them.

Intermediate Boys Volleyball

The Intermediate Boys Team has been practicing hard for their upcoming tournament on December 4th at Crestwood SS. Thank you to Mr. Stickle for coaching.

Christmas Concert December 18th

Don't miss our Highland Heights Christmas concert on Tuesday, December 18, 2018. Staff and students have been working hard to put on an amazing show for family and friends! The concert starts at 11:30. Please bring a food bank donation to support our food drive.



Kawartha Food Share Donations

In the spirit of giving, students are organizing a food drive with donations going to Kawartha Food Share. The food drive will take place from Monday, December 3rd until Wednesday, December 19th. If possible, we ask that students bring a non-perishable food item to school to contribute to the drive. Help us deck the halls of Highland Heights with your generosity!

Most needed food items include:

- pasta sauce
- macaroni and cheese
- canned beans
- baby items (formula, diapers, baby food)
- canned soup and stew
- rice
- canned fruit
- canned vegetables
- pasta/spaghetti

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Highland Heights White Elephant Swap is coming! This student community event allows for each student to visit our White Elephant Swap to choose gifts that they would like to bring home for their family members. This event is free of charge to the students, but we will need your help to ensure that our WHITE ELEPHANT SWAP is a success!

We are currently looking for donations of clean, gently used or almost new household items. *What are we looking for?*

- **Children's Items:** Toys, games, stuffed animals, books, etc.
- **Holiday Decorations**
- **Collectables and Jewelry**
- **Kitchen Supplies:** clean- gently used mugs, collector plates, serving bowls, etc.
- **Household Items:** Artwork, lamps, flower vases, candles, computer speakers etc.
- **We are also looking for wrapping supplies and gift bags (including tags)**

**** We will not be accepting clothing donations for the White Elephant Swap.**

Please remember that all items to be donated are for **student use**. Instead of cash, the students are asked to bring a donation for the food bank.

Please drop your donations between 8:30- 4:00 by Monday December 10, 2018.

The White Elephant Swap will take place on Thursday December 13, 2018.



Be IB for a Day!

Experience the unique IB program for yourself

Tuesday, December 11th • 9:00 am – 3:00 pm



Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute: an IB World School
kenner.kprdsb.ca

RSVP to Peter Mullins • 705-743-2181

