

# Highland Heights Public School December 2016 Newsletter



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#### **Upcoming Events**

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> – JR. Mixed Girls' Volleyball @ Kenner CVI

Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> & Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Pizza Days

Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> – Caring Kids Challenge Bake Sale

Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> Clothing Swap in Gym

Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Last day of school before Winter Break/Christmas Holidays

Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> – Winter Solstice Celebration

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> to Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> – Winter Break/Christmas Holidays

Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> – School Resumes



### **Educating the Future Together**



Hello everyone!

Kappy Kolidays

It's unbelievable how fast the first part of the school year has gone as we move forward into 2017. Staff and students have worked very

hard during these past months. As I enjoy popping in and out of classrooms on a regular basis, their continued commitment and dedication to student success is evident.

As a staff, we continue to focus on our School Improvement Plan, dedicated to improvement in the areas of numeracy and growth mindsets. We also have a school improvement plan to support student well-being. Through this goal we focus on being in the outdoors to do a portion of our learning. As a school, we are always striving to improve ourselves as educational leaders and help our students move forward as learners and leaders. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come to see me in the office or give me a quick call. I am not too busy.

It was nice to see so many of our families join us at our Remembrance Day assembly. Teachers worked with students leading up to the assembly discussing the important aspects of Remembrance Day so that our students have a better understanding of the importance of the day. We also had our grade 7 and 8's attend the service at the cenotaph and as always they were respectful and excellent ambassadors of Highland Heights.

### Dee Gannon

dee gannon@kprdsb.ca

#### Registration for the 2017/2018 School Year has begun!

It is time to register your child for full-day, every-day Junior or Senior Kindergarten starting in September 2016. You may register your child to start school in September 2017 if:

Junior Kindergarten – your child is four years of age by December 31, 2017

School Council Chair Ruth Rusaw ruthrusaw@gmail.com

Superintendent of Student Achievement Steve Girardi Steve girardi@kprdsb.ca

Trustees Rose Kitney Rose kitney@kprdsb.ca

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## **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 unless it is -20 C. 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 if your child(ren) will not be attending school that day.



The Steeped Tea fundraiser was a success. A profit of \$508.80 was made. Thank you to Samantha Wilkie for coordinating this fundraiser. Our next school council meeting will be Monday, January , 2017. All parents are

welcome. Please join us.

The Highland Heights' School Council would like to wish everyone a wonderful, relaxing and safe Holiday Season.

# **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 Hiking at Lang Pioneer Village Reading at the Peterborough Public Library Having fun with family and friends



Bowling at Peterborough Bowlerama Snowy outings at Jackson Park Skatina Playing board games or cards Cook together as a family

# <u>School Activities</u>

**Intermediate Boys Volleyball** – The Intermediate Boys Team showed great school spirit at their tournament on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Way to Go Boys!! Thank you to Mrs. Henzie for coaching.

**Junior Mixed Volleyball** – The Junior Mixed Team participated at their tournament on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at Kenner CVI. Thank you to Mrs. Hepburn and Ms. Wood for helping the team prepare for their tournament.

**The grade 8 students** visited Adam Scott as their potential Secondary School on the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Transition Day.

**<u>Remembrance Day Assembly</u>** - Thank you to Ms. Wood for organizing the Remembrance Day Assembly on November 11<sup>th</sup>. The gym and the main hallway was filled with some amazing student artwork. Students shared songs, choral readings and poems. Ms. Brown's grade 7/8 class and Ms. Hedges' grade 6 classes went to the Cenotaph. As always, students showed great respect.

## **Caring Kids Challenge**



Highland Heights has decided to spend this school year fundraising to help the babies at the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) at PRHC. Our first fundraiser in November, "Bucks for Babies" raised \$70. This month's fundraiser will be a bake sale on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> in the school library. If you wish to donate baked goods to be sold, please drop them off at the school on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> in the

Library. Please make sure all baked goods are nut free! Parents and students can purchase bake sale items during both Nutrition Breaks-10:45 to 11:25 a.m. and 1:05 to 1:45 p.m., as well as 3:30 to 4:15 p.m., during the Clothing Swap.

### <u>Clothing Swap</u>

Date: Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

Where: School Gym

When: 10:45 to 11:25 a.m. 1:05 to 1:45 p.m. 3:30 to 4:15 p.m.



If students come after school hours, they will need to attend with an adult please. Please send in your gently used, clean clothing, footwear and outdoor gear for donation by Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!



# A Book On Every Bed

Start a lifelong, holiday tradition that gives the gift of reading in your own home and in your community!

## How it's done:

- 1. **Select a book.** It can be a new book, a donated book, or a cherished book that is handed down from one generation to the next with a heartfelt inscription.
- 2. Wrap it. A gift carefully wrapped, holds the mystery of what story or adventure is waiting to be discovered, and presents the book as the special gift it is!
- 3. Place the book at the foot of a child's bed. It will be the first thing she sees on Christmas morning, the first day of Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or any holiday you celebrate!

Promoted with permission from the Family Reading Partnership.

For more information about this exciting tradition, go to www.kidtalk.on.ca

Kawartha Food Share Donations – Please donate this holiday season... We will be collecting non-perishable food items from December 12<sup>th</sup> to December 19<sup>th</sup> at the school for the Kawartha Food Share. Please do not send money.

# Character Attribute for December is: INTEGRITY

I behave in an ethical and honourable manner even when no one else is around. I am genuine, in that my actions consistently match my words.

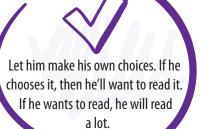




Integrity is doing the right thing when no one is watching. Praise successes. Make his day with a positive word and show genuine interest in whatever he is reading and writing. A pat on the back, school work on the fridge, a smile and the words "good going"... these are gestures that will show him you are proud and motivate your son to love reading and writing. It takes time to build confidence and skill. It's not how hard the book is that counts, it's the amount of reading that matters. Let your son choose the books he wants to read, even if it's below his reading level. He will feel successful about his reading skills and be more confident to try more challenging material.

Help Build His Confidence...

Reading includes more than books. Newspapers, magazines, video game instructions, street signs and websites all offer a chance for children to practise their reading skills. Share a wide variety of texts with him.



Talk to your son's teacher for updates on his reading and writing. Discuss ways that you can help encourage your boy's literacy skills.

Help Him Choose Texts... TOP TIPS

to Help Boys with Reading and Writing

Tap into your son's hobbies and interests. Boys often prefer to read and write non-fiction including: humour, rap songs, edgy or silly topics. Give him books and magazines about things that he already finds fun and interesting and he'll soon discover that reading can be interesting too. Use the internet. It is loaded with great sites. Check out pg. 13 in this Parent Tool Kit for some virtual field trips: www.ontariodirectors.ca/Parent\_ Engagement/PA%20Downloads/34918\_ CODE\_Tool\_Kit\_Book-ENG\_sm.pdf

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Make Learning Social Read to him. If he chooses a text that is interesting but too hard for him to read on his own, share the reading with him.

Make reading and writing a part of your child's daily routine. Be a role model. Let him see all the ways you read and write throughout your day. If he sees you doing it, he'll value the activity more.

Talk to him about what you are reading together or what he is reading on his own: ask questions, share favourite parts, talk about information you have learned.



KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD Boys continue to lag behind girls in reading and writing skills, so it is vital for parents to be engaged in their child's learning at home. Research shows that parent involvement can have a significant impact on students' through better grades, less absenteeism, better behaviour and increased confidence. Here are some simple tips to make a difference at home.

Find more information here: www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/parentGuideLitEn.pdf