



January 23, 2019

HILLCREST ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

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Principal: Dr. Cammy Coughlin

Vice Principal: Ms. Julia Fellman

Admin Asst: Ms. Jolette Holland

School Goal: To increase students' experience, understanding, and awareness of Aboriginal ways of knowing across the curriculum. As students explore their own identities along with learning from the Aboriginal perspective, this will lead to further growth in their emotional and social development.

Hillcrest is a globally aware community that values acceptance, diversity and engaged learning while fostering and celebrating student successes

DATES TO NOTE:

Wednesday, Jan 23	PAC Subway Lunch
Thursday, Jan 24	Ready Set Learn Event (see poster below for more info)
Monday, Jan 28 - Friday, Feb 1	Kindergarten Registration Week (see below for more info)
Friday, Feb 1	PAC Pizza Lunch
Wednesday, Feb 13	PAC Subway Lunch
Friday, Feb 15	Pro D Day - <i>NO CLASSES</i>
Monday, Feb 18	BC Family Day Holiday - <i>NO CLASSES</i>
Tuesday, Feb 19	Assembly Saanich Fire Learn Not to Burn Program for grade 1's PAC Meeting @ 7 - 8pm
Wednesday, Feb 20	Next newsletter going home



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

I can't believe that we will be into February next week! So far, Mother Nature has been kind to us, and we appreciate that you are sending your child to school with warm mitts, hats and winter coats. Should we get a substantial snowfall, it is important to listen to the local radio stations to see if the schools are operating.

Our teachers and educational assistants will have the opportunity to learn more about how to use questioning in their teaching through a visit from Tiffany Poirier, author and school administrator. This is one of many professional development opportunities our teachers have been a part of over the school year. Many of our teachers are regularly collaborating with each other and are learning tech tips from Mr. Lim. Everyone at Hillcrest is a learner!

Cammy Coughlin



What is a “School-Based Team?”

The School-Based Team (aka: SBT) are members of the school who meet weekly to discuss, plan for and support students whose name are brought forward by the classroom teacher. Each team member has unique specialties that can bring a new perspective to a classroom situation. The SBT consists of the principal, vice-principal, school counselor, learning support teacher(s), speech and language pathologist (as required), English Language Learner teacher (as required), and the occupational and physical therapists (as required).

If a teacher is requiring extra support for a student, she would fill out a SBT referral sheet, and sign up for a weekly meeting. In the meeting, we discuss strategies, offer ideas, and give guidance for the teacher. Sometimes it is for a child who is struggling with appropriate behaviors, and other times a child may be struggling academically. Perhaps the teacher has noticed some speech irregularities – there are many reasons why a teacher might bring a child’s name forward. All of these meetings are confidential; however, the parents would have been notified if the child’s name is being brought to the SBT. If you would like further information on our SBT, please contact Mrs. Coughlin.

GOODBYE

We wish Alicia Williamson the best as she takes on a full-time teaching position in the district. Ms. Williamson worked Tuesday and Thursday afternoon in Mrs. Jay’s classroom, and Thursday morning in Ms. Fellman’s classroom. We should have someone in place for these two positions for next week.

We will also be sending our well wishes to Educational Assistant, Noa, who is expecting a baby boy at the end of the month. Noa has been working in Mrs. McConchie’s classroom and will be missed by the Hillcrest team.

WELCOME!

We are pleased to welcome Kimberly Bialkowski, our new Educational Assistant in Mrs. Aune’s class.

At the end of the month we will welcome Kanika Jackson who will be working in Mrs. McConchie’s classroom.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

January 28 - February 1, 2019 (English)

- **Regular Kindergarten Registration:**
Jan. 28 – Feb. 1, 2019 at your catchment area school between 8:00 am – 3:00 pm.
- **To request an out-of-catchment school within your District:**
Register at your catchment school and at the same time, complete a Kindergarten Transfer Application form. Leave this form with the Admin Assistant at your catchment school.
- **Out of catchment parents:**
If you already have an older child enrolled in one of our elementary schools and wish to have their younger child enrolled in the same school, you must register the younger child at their catchment school and complete a Student Transfer Application form. Leave this with the Admin Assistant at your catchment school.

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ABOUT ENGLISH KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
CLICK [HERE](#)

FOR DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTERING YOUR CHILD FOR KINDERGARTEN
CLICK [HERE](#)

You will not be able to register without this documentation

TO REVIEW THE STUDENT ENROLMENT PRIORITIES IN EFFECT FOR THE 2019/2020 SCHOOL YEAR
CLICK [HERE](#)

RAISE A READER

Mr. Lim submitted a proposal to the Times Colonist for the Raise a Reader program and we are thrilled to receive a grant for books for \$2,200.00. It will be exciting to order books that our students will love, and at their reading level!



Hillcrest Strings News

In the coming weeks, the Strings students will enjoy visits from Christine Prince, a violist in the Victoria Symphony Orchestra, and Jasmine Riseley, Strings Mentorship student from the University of Victoria. The Strings students will prepare pieces to perform in the Lambrick Park Family of Schools concert to be held in the evening of Thursday, March 14th. The students will perform alongside students from Gordon Head and Torquay.



CHOIR NOTES

The Hillcrest grade 3, 4 and 5 Choir began rehearsing again our first week back in January. The Choir will be singing at the February Stars Assembly which is scheduled for Tuesday, February 19th at 1 pm. The choir will also be participating in the District 61 Victoria Sings Concert scheduled for 7 pm on Monday, March 4th at the Farquer Auditorium, University Centre. Those choir members who will be singing in the concert are required to attend the rehearsal which is from 9-11 am on March 4th. We are very grateful to the PAC for funding a bus to drive the students to and from this rehearsal. Please note that Choir members are responsible for their own transportation to and from the evening concert. The Hillcrest Choir will be performing two songs on our own that evening as well as three massed songs with approximately 400 students from other schools within our district.

The Choir has also been invited to sing at the Lambrick Family of Schools Evening of Music scheduled for Thursday, March 14th at 7 pm. Choir members will meet in the library at Lambrick Park High School at 6:30 pm for warm-up and sweatshirt distribution.

Mrs. Seale and Mrs. McConchie



Physical Literacy with PISE

Physical Literacy is underway at Hillcrest for Kindergarteners through grade 3.

We had the first of our 8 Monday sessions this week, and it's going great!

Fifth Annual Ice Castle Morning!!

Hello Hillcrest families,

To celebrate Winter Carnival and to explore solids and liquids, we will be creating ice castles on the morning of Friday, January 25, 2019. It would be great if your child could freeze water in different shaped containers (adding food colouring is optional) and bring it to school in a box or cooler. Please label your cooler and containers and send your child with gloves or mittens to keep their hands warm. There will be a spot marked on the blacktop behind the school for the boxes and coolers to be dropped off in the morning. All students are expected to participate and contribute. We have been very impressed by past contributions. Thank you for helping us with this activity.

Sincerely, The Hillcrest Team

Please email: Mrs. Ball if you have any questions
(saball@sd61.bc.ca)

Tip: Removing ice from the containers at home is very helpful!



Stamp Club News

The Hillcrest Stamp Club continues to meet every Monday at noon in the library. It is wonderful to see so many students excited about collecting and trading stamps. A notice will come home with all members at the end of January with important information about the upcoming Stamp Show being held on March 9th and 10th. A special thank you to Mr. Lim for allowing the Stamp Club to use the library for our weekly meetings.

Sincerely,
Mr. Shorting and Mrs. Weston

Swim Club News

Does your child swim for a competitive swim club such as Island Swimming or PCS? If so, they are able to join the Hillcrest Swim Team for the City Championship swim meet which is being held on Sunday, February 24th at Saanich commonwealth pool. Please let Mrs. Wardle know if you would like your child to join us by February 1, 2019. More information to come about this meet.

Thank you,
Mrs. Wardle

Friday Is Popcorn Day



Friday, January 25 is popcorn day! Remember your \$2 for a tasty Kernel's popcorn treat after school! All proceeds go towards the gr.5 trip to Camp Pringle in June.

OUR WET WEST COAST WEATHER



Whenever possible, students will be going outside, rain or shine, during their recess times. Daily, outside, unstructured play time is important for children. We ask that parents dress their child for the wet/cold weather: rubber boots, hats, gloves, water resistant jackets, muddy buddies, umbrellas, etc. It would be helpful if the younger students had an extra change of pants and socks as well. We keep a small collection of extra clothing just in case, but most students prefer to wear their own clothing. Unless we are having a torrential downpour, students will be expected to be outside in the rain. Thank you for promoting outside play at our school!



Attention Parents

READY, SET, LEARN
OPEN HOUSE



A Special Invitation for Preschoolers (and their parents)

TOMORROW!!

Ready to learn...
Set to Visit...
Learn about fun when you go to school...

TOMORROW!!

- learn how to give your child a good head start for kindergarten;
- receive helpful tips for supporting preschool learning & development;
 - build a connection with your neighbourhood school.

Hillcrest Elementary School invites you to attend
an event filled with interactive activities, ideas for school readiness
and fun learning on:

Thursday, January 24th, 2019

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

To help us plan, please RSVP before Friday, January 18, 2019 to our school
@ 250-477-7273 or hillcrest@sd61.bc.ca with your name and how many children
you will be bringing.

We look forward to seeing you at Ready, Set, Learn
at Hillcrest Elementary School
Where all children are honoured...

TOMORROW!!

TOMORROW!!

Hillcrest Elementary School, 4421 Greentree Terrace, Victoria, B.C. V8N 3S9

1000X5

1000 Books by Age Five

Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria

January 27 - Family Literacy Day

...Donate books to increase early literacy



Do you know that reading books to babies and preschoolers is the most significant indicator of early school success? Cuddling and reading to your little ones shows that you value reading, builds comfort, enjoyment and early skills that last a lifetime.

Help make that true for those still to gain those habits. **January 27 is National Literacy Day.** As well as enjoying a new story with your child, please make an extra effort to drop of gently used picture books for babies and preschoolers in the drop box in the school foyer. All very young children benefit from being read to – help make that a reality for more. Thank you for being part of the 172,000 books donated over the last eight years.