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**Principal:** Jacquelyn Reid    **Vice Principal:** Emily Ripley-Davis    **Admin Assistants:** Carol Sheldon and Gayle Griffin

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# The Hillside Park Press



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Dear Families,

What a fabulous first month we had at Hillside! We had Pink Shirt Day, participated in the Terry Fox Run, and held fire, lockdown, and hold and secure drills. Students were engaged in lots of great learning this month, which ended with honouring Orange Shirt Day as part of our ongoing commitment to Truth & Reconciliation. We look forward to celebrating Mi'kmaq Heritage Month, Diwali, Halloween and everything in between!

Communication between school and home is very important. Last week, you would have received an email from the PowerSchool system asking you to update your child's information (Demographic Update). Even if your info is current and up to date, please follow the instructions in the link and submit the form. The 'consent for publication' form is embedded within the student demographic link, as well as dismissal plans in the event of an early closure. If you need help completing this, please call the school and we will assist.

Just a reminder to please pack a water bottle every day for your child. Please also ensure you pack spoons/forks as we do not have a supply on hand. It's also that time of year where the weather changes throughout the day. We like to get our students outside as much as possible, so layers are always a good idea. Thanks for all you do! We appreciate your support.

Yours in Education,

Mrs. Reid, Ms. Ripley-Davis and the Hillside Park Team

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# October

October 1	Mi'kmaq Heritage Month Begins Treaty Day
October 2	School Picture Day
October 8	SAC/PTG Meeting 6:00 PM in the Library (all welcome!)
October 11	Professional Learning Day (no school for students)
October 14	Thanksgiving Monday (no school)
October 23	Brilhante, Reed, Hausman, Kelloway & Davis to Willowbank Farm
October 24	MacNeil, Gordon, Parsons, Dunn to Skate Canada Scotiabank Centre (tentative... more details to follow)
October 24	Halloween Howl (6:00-7:30 PM)
October 25	Provincial Conference Day (no school for students)
October 31	Diwali Halloween

## Upcoming Dates

November 8	Remembrance Day ceremony (1:00 PM in the Gym)
November 11	Remembrance Day (no school)
November 22	Assessment & Evaluation Day (no school)

## October 5th is World Teachers' Day!

World Teachers' Day started in 1994 and is now celebrated in over 100 countries around the world.

We have a phenomenal team at Hillside Park! It takes a village, and this is truly a great one to be part of.



# Mi'kmaq History Month

The theme for Mi'kmaq History Month this year is Food Brings Us Together. Food gathers us together for celebration, nourishment and comfort. It is central to our ceremonies, considered part of medicines, and key to resiliency. Sharing freely honours each other's families and communities.

## Lunch Monitors Wanted!

We are in need of lunch monitors. This is a paid position. If you are interested in coming aboard, please reach out to Ms. Ripley-Davis ([emily.ripley@hrce.ca](mailto:emily.ripley@hrce.ca))



# Volunteering at Hillside Park

We would love to welcome volunteers into our school this year! We are specifically looking for help with our Breakfast Program and our Library (Thursdays). If you are interested, please reach out to Ms. Ripley-Davis ([emily.ripley@hrce.ca](mailto:emily.ripley@hrce.ca))

Prior to volunteering with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education, all volunteers must provide:

1. A completed Child Abuse Register - Request for Search Form, which can be found [here](#)
2. A certified and true copy of a Criminal Records Check with Vulnerable Sector Check available [here](#), from your local Police or RCMP detachment or through online organizations endorsed by Nova Scotia law enforcement agencies



Please note: the Child Abuse Register Search and Criminal Records Check must be updated every three years. If you completed yours last year, we still have them on file!

# HALLOWEEN

- ★ Our **Halloween Howl** will take place on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 6:00-7:30 PM. We will need volunteers to make this a great success.
- ★ Please consider coming to our Parent/Teacher Group Meeting on Tuesday, October 8th (6:00 in the Library)
- ★ If you can volunteer for a 30 minute shift at the Halloween Howl, please email Ms. Ripley-Davis at [emily.ripley@hrce.ca](mailto:emily.ripley@hrce.ca)
- ★ We are also looking for donations of Halloween decorations- new or used! Please send them in as soon as possible.



# What is SchoolsPlus?

SchoolsPlus is a confidential, free service available in every school in Nova Scotia. Our goal is to build positive relationships between families, schools, and communities. We can help families navigate complicated situations when they are involved with many different services. This helps ensure everyone is communicating clearly and working on shared goals.

SchoolsPlus can also help connect families to community resources and offers mental health support in schools. Contact the SchoolsPlus Facilitator for your school to make a referral. You can find additional information [here](#).



## School Bus Safety Week

October 21-25, 2024 is School Bus Safety Week in Nova Scotia! Did you know that more than 30,000 HRCE students ride the school bus every day?

School Bus Safety Week is a great time to remind students, families and schools of a few daily safety tips that everyone can follow to ensure all students get to school safely.



### Bus Stop Safety

- Be on time for the bus and please don't run to/from the bus.
- Stand back off the road and don't push or shove when waiting at a stop.
- Always cross in front of the bus. Walk three metres (10 feet) in front of the bus to a point where you can see the driver and wait for the driver's signal to cross. Proceed to the centre of the road, STOP, LOOK & LISTEN and cross the road when it is safe.
- Never crawl under a school bus or cross the road behind the bus.
- Know the danger zones around the bus.

### School Bus Safety

- Please respect and listen to the driver and avoid distracting them.
- Please keep noise levels to a minimum.
- Do not stand or move seats while the bus is in motion.
- Never put your hands, arms, feet or head out of the bus window.
- Ask the driver for permission before you open the bus windows.
- Do not throw anything inside the bus or out of the windows.
- Keep the aisle clear at all times when the bus is in motion