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

The Hillside Park Press



Dear Families,

Happy March! For a short month, February was jam-packed. We celebrated African Heritage Month by honouring the culture, legacy, achievements, and contributions of people of African descent, and it was wonderful to see our students so engaged in their learning! We danced and sang with Keonte Beals, had a successful Family Dance, a performance by our very own Drum Club, and many other awesome learning opportunities in between.

A special thanks to Ms. Parsons for organizing Chess Club for students in grades 2-5, and Ms. Ripley-Davis, Ms. Dunn, Ms. Parsons and Mr. MacNeil for organizing a Running Club for our 2-5 students.

We wish all our families a safe and relaxing March Break. As always, reach out to us if you need anything at all. We appreciate your support.

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

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Date	Event
March 7	Assessment and Evaluation Day (no school for students)
March 10-14	March Break- no classes
March 26	Report Cards sent home via email
April 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Professional Development AM (no school for students)★ Family/Teacher Conferences afternoon and evening (no school for students)

Coins for Books!

Hillside Park, your generosity and community spirit during our Campaign for Books has been truly inspiring! Over the past month, our students embraced some friendly competition, and together we've raised an incredible **\$3778.04!** A special shoutout to **Pre-Primary** for leading the way as the top fundraising class!



With this impressive total, we'll be able to fill our classrooms with beautiful new books for our students to enjoy. Thank you for making a difference and helping us build a love of reading at Hillside Park!

Muddy Weather is Upon Us!

You might like to pack an extra set of clothes for your child as the grounds are thawing and muddy. Socks and pants are the most popular requests this time of year :)



New Year, New Mascot!!

The students have spoken! We are officially . . . **The Hillside Park Huskies!!** Students were drawn to the characteristics often associated with huskies, known for being friendly, intelligent, playful, and dignified. Sounds like a great mascot for our school.

A special thank you to our Changemakers for taking the lead on selecting a new mascot. Stay tuned for our official logo launch, new school merch, etc.

March is Nutrition Month

Did you know? March is Nutrition Month! This year's theme, Nourish to Flourish, highlights the important role that food has on our physical, mental and emotional health and well-being.

Whether it's planting an indoor or outdoor garden, cooking together with family, or enjoying a meal with friends, food provides opportunities for building social connections that can support improved feelings of belonging and overall well-being.

This is a great time to explore and learn about food. An important part of this is food literacy, which includes having the knowledge and skills to grow, choose, prepare, and talk about food.



*March is
Nutrition Month*

Provincial Student Attendance and Engagement Policy

Regular school attendance plays a key role in setting students up for success. We understand that sometimes special circumstances arise and we work collaboratively with our families to navigate these challenges. We are seeing many of our students arriving late each day. Please note that our soft start begins at 7:45 AM and morning instruction begins at 8:00 AM. **It is important that students are ready in their classrooms at this time to begin their day off on the right foot.**



Please let us know if there is anything we can do to support regular, consistent attendance for your child. You can also read more about the provincial policy [here](#).



School Bus Safety Tips

A few bus safety reminders for all riders:

- 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.



Halifax

Regional Centre for Education