



Hillside Park Elementary

15 Hillside Avenue - Lower Sackville, NS - B4C 1W6

Tel # (902) 864-6873 Website: hpe.hrce.ca Email: hpes@hrce.ca

Principal: Jacquelyn Reid

Vice Principal: Emily Ripley-Davis

Administrative Assistants: Carol Sheldon and Gayle Griffin



Dear Families,

Welcome to June! It's hard to believe we've arrived at the final chapter of another amazing school year. As we reflect on the past months, we are filled with gratitude for the learning, laughter, and growth that have shaped our days at Hillside Park.

This year has been full of proud moments watching our students take on challenges with courage, show kindness in big and small ways, and grow in knowledge, confidence and character. We're excited to celebrate our incredible Grade 5 students at their closing ceremony later this month as they prepare to take the big step into junior high. What inspiring role models they've been!

We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated team here at Hillside—staff who give their all each and every day to support our students. Thank you to our wonderful families for your partnership, encouragement, and trust throughout the year. You are a vital part of our school community, and we appreciate you more than words can say.

You can expect another message from us in mid-June with details outlining the final day's (mid-morning) dismissal, staffing updates and supply lists. For now, let's make the most of this final stretch—June promises to be full of fun and celebration.

Yours in Education,

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



We are actively looking for Lunch Monitors for **next** school year. If you are interested in this opportunity, please email Ms. Ripley-Davis: Emily.Ripley@hrce.ca



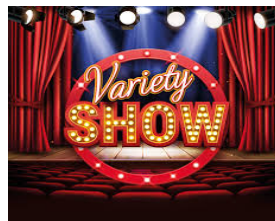
Date	Event
June 5	Primary Orientation ★ Pre-Primary students to visit Primary classes (8:15-9:15 AM) ★ Family Meeting in the Library (8:15-8:45 AM)
June 10	Grade 5 Orientation to AJ Smeltzer (permission forms coming this week) Grade 5 Family Meeting at AJ Smeltzer
June 10	SAC/PTG Final Meeting 6:00 PM
June 11	2 Kelloway/Davis, 2/3 MacNeil, 5 Dunn to Cineplex
June 13	3/4 Gordon and 4 Parsons to Blue Beach Fossil Museum
June 19	Field Day and Variety Show (Rain Date June 20)
June 24	Primary Reed, Primary/1 Brilhante, 1 Hausman to Shubenacadie Wildlife Park
June 25	Grade 5 Closing Ceremony (12:30 PM in the Gym)
June 27	Assessment & Evaluation Day (no school)
June 30	Last Day of School

Field Day & Variety Show

Mr. Sutton has planned a Field Day of outdoor activities for our students on the morning of Thursday, June 19th (rain date Friday, June 20th). Please ensure that your child has comfortable sneakers, a water bottle, a hat and sunscreen.



Ms. Ripley-Davis is organizing a Variety Show on the afternoon of Thursday, June 19th where students will showcase their talent and skills! This day will coincide with Field Day, so if that gets rained out, we will move the Variety Show to the rain date of Friday, June 20th. Students who are participating will need to ensure they bring any equipment or materials for their act.



Spring Fling Thank You!

Our Spring Fling was a tremendous success! We are so fortunate to be part of such a supportive community that knows how to have a good time.

Our Raffle Baskets were fantastic and we truly thank you for your contributions. Thank you to all who contributed delicious cupcakes!

A huge thank you to our PTG members, staff, families, and community partners for making our event a great success.



Thank You to Our Spring Fling Corporate Supporters!

- ★ Boston Pizza
- ★ Giant Tiger (Lower Sackville)
- ★ Scentsy- Courtney MacKay
- ★ Great Roads Brewery (Lower Sackville)
- ★ Sobeys (First Lake)
- ★ Day & Ross
- ★ Smile with Stina (Nu Skin)
- ★ Superstore (Sackville Dr)
- ★ Pet Valu

- ★ Tim Hortons Cobequid Rd.
- ★ Cineplex
- ★ The Brace Space
- ★ Peelers
- ★ Foosing Restaurant
- ★ Subway
- ★ Billy Gillis Councillor (District 15 Sackville Beaver Bank)

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. 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](#).



Bus Information 2025-26

Information about student transportation for the 2025-26 school year will be available to view online through the BusPlanner Parent Portal later in July.

- Families eligible for transportation will receive an email to access the Parent Portal to view their child's bus information once it is available.
- Once you receive the email, you must follow the instructions to activate your new Parent Portal account and create a password. Using previous Parent Portal login information will not work.
- If you can't find the email, please contact transportation@hrce.ca or 902-431-4723 for assistance.

Over the summer, the HRCE Student Transportation team will also reach out to new HRCE families and those families who may require special needs transportation for their children with more information about busing.

Reminder: The Student Transportation team is available to assist you and answer questions about busing all summer at transportation@hrce.ca or 902-431-4723. When contacting the team, please ensure you have your child's name, grade, school name and student ID number ready. Your child's student ID number can be found in PowerSchool or on the top of your child's report card

Be Tick Aware!

Sharing on behalf of Nova Scotia Public Health

In summer and fall, people spend time at Nova Scotia's many beautiful beaches, parks, and wooded areas. However, we need to be mindful of the presence of ticks and how we can protect ourselves. These small insects are found across Nova Scotia and can cause tick-borne diseases (TBDs), including Lyme disease and anaplasmosis.

Ticks like moist and humid environments and can be found in or near woods, shrubs, leaf litter, long grass, urban parks and gardens. They can be very small, which makes them hard to spot and their bites don't hurt, which makes it difficult to know when you've been bitten.



Visit NovaScotia.ca/TickSafety and learn:

- How to protect yourself - especially in grassy, wooded, or shrub-covered areas
- What to do if you find a tick on yourself/your child
- The signs and symptoms of tick-borne illnesses

Report Cards

Term 3 report cards will be sent electronically on June 30th. To view your child's Report Card/IPP report you will need to: Click on the link: Report Card. The password is your child's date of birth in the format YYYY-MM-DD.

Tips to Support Reading and Writing at Home

As parents and caregivers, you play one of the most important roles in helping your child become a strong, confident reader and writer. What you do at home can make a big difference in your child's success in school and beyond. When reading and writing become part of family routines — like bedtime stories, writing notes to each other, or making shopping lists together — children see them as enjoyable and meaningful activities.

Here are some ideas and tips:

1. Create a dedicated writing space

Set up a quiet, well-lit area where your child can focus. Stock your writing center with essentials like paper, pencils, crayons, and even fun extras like family photos and old magazines to spark creativity.

2. Read often

Reading is one of the best ways to become a better writer. When children read a variety of books, they naturally absorb vocabulary, grammar, and different writing styles. Encourage daily reading to build their language skills and inspire their own writing.

3. Encourage reflective journaling

A journal is a great outlet for expressing thoughts and feelings. Prompt your child to write about everyday events at home and school. Suggest using sensory details — what they saw, heard, or felt. This helps develop descriptive writing. Provide real-life experiences that they can later write about. Remember, only read their journal if invited.

4. Offer real-world writing opportunities

Help your child see writing as a practical skill. Let them write thank-you notes, grocery lists, birthday invitations or letters to family. Consider finding a pen pal to make writing feel more authentic and fun.

5. Be a writing role model

Let your child see you writing too! Whether it's a grocery list, an email or a note to a friend, show how writing fits into everyday life. Talk about the purpose of different types of writing and their audiences. Try having a "family writing night" where everyone writes and shares together.

6. Start a vocabulary notebook

Introduce a few new words each week and encourage your child to use them in writing and conversation. Turn it into a game for using words creatively.

SchoolsPlus Supports for Summer

Did you know? SchoolsPlus operates 12 months of the year! SchoolsPlus is a confidential, free service available to every school in Nova Scotia. Families and students (12+) can self-refer to SchoolsPlus by contacting the SchoolsPlus facilitator for our school, April Peckham (april.peckham@hrce.ca). Learn more [here](#).



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.

Phone: 902-464-2041

Email: schoolsplus@hrce.ca