



Hillside Park Elementary

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

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Principal: Devin Ashley Vice Principal: Erin Dunn

Administrative Assistant: Shelley Drake



Hillside Park Elementary

NEWSLETTER | September 2026

Welcome Back!!!



PRINCIPAL UPDATE

It is my absolute pleasure to welcome you all back to this the 2026-2027 School Year! My name is Devin Ashley and I am thrilled to be joining the Hillside Team as your Principal this year.

I feel so lucky to have Ms. Erin Dunn joining me for the first part of the year as Vice Principal while Ms. Ripley-Davis enjoys this first year with her family!

I look forward to getting to know you all over the coming weeks! If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me here at the school, or stop me in the parking lot!

COMMUNICATION

Messages have been sent to all families with information regarding first day procedures. If you have not received these, please ensure your information is updated in PowerSchool! This will be the main way of getting important information out to families as well as during emergency procedures.

SAFE ARRIVAL

Safety is our top priority. Because of this, ensuring you record known absences by calling Safe Arrival at 1-833-582-6940 or report via [SchoolMessenger](#). If there is a same day change to your child's end of day plan, please **CALL** the office. E-mails are not checked regularly enough to ensure messages are relayed to classroom teachers. Your support is greatly appreciated!



WELCOME NEW STAFF!

A warm welcome to our new staff joining the Hillside Team!

- Mr. Ashley - Principal
- Ms. Dunn - Vice Principal
- Ms. Kapur - Music & Grade 4/5
- Mr. Brown - Physical Education
- Ms. Melbourne - Grade 1-2
- Ms. Malloy - School Counsellor
- Ms. d'Entrement - Prep & Marking
- Ms. Moran - 50% Learning Centre
- Ms. Capouya - Pre-Primary Support
- Ms. Reshma - 50% EPA

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Sept. 2:** Professional Development day (No classes)
- **Sept. 3:** First day for students!!
- **Sept 7:** Labour Day (no classes)
- **Week of Sept 7:** Fire Drill
- **Week of Sept 14:** Lockdown Drill
- **Week of Sept 21:** Hold and Secure Drill
- **Sept 10:** Stand Up Against Bullying Day (Pink Shirt!)
- **Sept 15:** SAC / PTG 6:00 pm
- **Sept 17:** Curriculum Night/Ice Cream Social - 6:00-7:00
- **Sept. 24:** Terry Fox
- **Sept 25:** PD Day (no classes)
- **Sept 28:** School Picture Day
- **Sept 29:** Orange Shirt Day
- **Sept 30:** Truth & Reconciliation Day (no classes)

CONTACT INFO

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HEAD LICE IN SCHOOLS



The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's (EECD) focus on the treatment and prevention of head lice is an effort to support student attendance and full participation at school. In accordance with these principles and healthcare standards, students with head lice should be treated at home and continue to attend school as usual. The confidentiality, privacy, dignity, and best interests of students and their families will be respected at all times.

"No-nit" or "no head lice" policies that keep children away from school are not effective. Head lice are common among students: they do not spread disease and cases of head lice are often misdiagnosed.

Treatment and Prevention

Nova Scotia Public Health recommends two head lice treatments (visit the link at the end of these guidelines for more information) to completely break the head lice cycle. The second treatment should be used 7 to 10 days after the first or as directed by the product.

The first treatment kills live head lice. Some lice may hatch after it but they are adolescent nits and cannot lay eggs. Combing your child(ren)'s hair and removing nits is a daily requirement. The second treatment kills the adolescent nits and breaks the head lice cycle.

Please note, the following guidelines are helpful in preventing the spread of head lice:

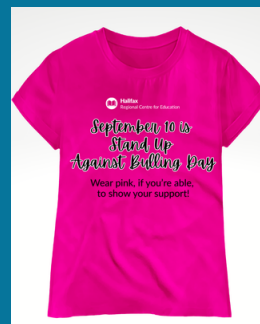
- Notify your principal and your child(ren)'s classroom teacher if your child(ren) has or have head lice and keep the school informed about head lice issues as they arise.
- Check your child(ren)'s head(s) and hair regularly, including:
 - once a week as part of your routine
 - after every sleepover
 - any time they have had contact with someone with lice
- Keep long hair tied back or braided.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Over the coming weeks, students and staff will practice a variety of drills to ensure we are all prepared if we are faced with an emergency situation. Please [click here](#) for the document that has been sent out to families regarding Lockdown and Hold & Secure Drills.

All staff have already been teaching these drills to ensure that every student is aware of why we do them, and how we do them!



STAND UP AGAINST BULLYING DAY

On Stand Up Against Bullying Day, we come together to promote kindness, inclusion and respect in our school communities.

Every student deserves to feel safe, supported and welcome at school. On Thursday, September 10, we invite students and staff to wear pink, if they're able, and help show that bullying has no place in our schools.

Together, we can help create school communities where everyone feels they belong.

SEPT

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20
26

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

		1	2	3 First day for students BACK TO SCHOOL	4	5
6	7 Labour Day (No Classes) 	8 Fire Drill this week →	9	10 Stand Up Against Bullying Day! WEAR PINK! 	11	12
13	14 Lockdown Drill this week →	15 SAC & PTG 6:00 pm	16	17 Curriculum Night/Ice Cram Social 6:00-7:00 pm 	18	19
20	21 Hold & Secure Drill this week →	22	23	24 Terry Fox Walk/Run	25 Professional Development Day (no classes)	26
27	28 Picture Day 	29 **Orange Shirt Day in Recognition of Truth & Reconciliation 	30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (no classes) 			