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**Principal:** Jacquelyn Reid    **Vice Principal:** Emily Ripley-Davis    **Admin Assistant:** Carol Sheldon

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## The Hillside Park Press

November, 2022



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Dear Families,

It has been another exciting, jam-packed month at Hillside Park! Students were so engaged in their learning about Mi'kmaq culture through music, art, storytelling, and the significance of the peace and friendship treaties. Our focus continues to be on strong literacy and numeracy practices, social-emotional learning and well-being through an equitable and responsive lens. We are so proud of the collective hard work of staff and students.

On November 10th at 1:00 pm we will hold our Remembrance Day service, led by Ms. Ripley-Davis and many of our students. We invite those who have served and currently serve to attend the ceremony as our honoured guests. Please RSVP to Ms. Ripley-Davis ([emily.ripley@hrce.ca](mailto:emily.ripley@hrce.ca)) by November 7th if you can join us. This year we will be bringing back our Wall of Heroes. If you have family members who have served or are currently serving, please consider sending their photo to Ms. Ripley-Davis via email or you can send the photo in and we will scan it for you. To all members of the Canadian Armed Forces in our Hillside community, a heartfelt thank you for your service and sacrifice to our country. Students who partake in Girl Guides or Scouting may wear their uniforms. Please note that schools are closed on Friday, November 11th to observe Remembrance Day.

Just a reminder that there is no supervision before 7:45 am. Please do not send students to school before that time. 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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# What's Happening at Hillside in November?



## Important Dates

November 10	Remembrance Day Service (1:00 pm in the Gym)
November 11	Remembrance Day Observed (no school)
November 15	Author Visit- Nancy Rose
November 16 and 17	Dal SuperNOVA STEM workshops
November 21	Assessment & Evaluation Day (no school for students)
November 29	Report cards emailed home PTG/SAC Meeting (6:00 pm in the Library)
December 1	Professional Development AM (no school for students) Family/Teacher Interviews PM (no school for students)
December 2	Professional Development Day (no school for students)
December 6	Holiday Concert Afternoon- 12:30 pm in the Gym Evening- 6:00 pm in the Gym
December 7	Holiday Concert Snow Date

**MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW ABOUT OUR HOLIDAY CONCERT  
IN THE COMING WEEKS!**

# REMEMBRANCE DAY



## Veterans' Week Poster

Service, Courage and Sacrifice. At home, around the world, and across generations.



Canadians have a long and proud tradition of military service. Today's Canadian Armed Forces members serving on land, at sea and in the air carry on the impressive legacy of those who came before them. From the major wars of the first half of the 20th century to fighting in Afghanistan, from overseas peacekeeping operations to helping during floods and forest fires in Canada – the contributions have been many. Canada's military is a reflection of our country. People from a broad cross section of our diverse society have served in uniform over the years. Standing up for the rights of everyone – both around the world and here at home – is a reflection of the values we hold dear.

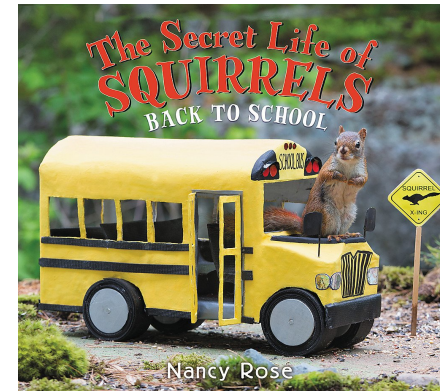
This special commemorative poster features a Royal Canadian Air Force pilot settling into the cockpit of a CF-18 jet fighter at an airbase in Eastern Europe in September 2018. The Canadian Armed Forces have deployed to the region for years as part of Operation REASSURANCE to support our North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies.

## Author Visit!

We look forward to welcoming local author Nancy Rose to Hillside Park. Nancy is the author of *The Secret Life of Squirrels*, *Merry Christmas Squirrels*, *The Secret Life of Squirrels: A Love Story*, and *The Secret Life of Squirrels: Back to School!*

A passion for nature and wildlife, Nancy was inspired by the red squirrels who visited her bird feeders right here in Nova Scotia! Nancy creates squirrel size props using cardboard, clay, and assorted craft supplies. She arranges them in miniature settings and she has created numerous scenarios on her backyard deck where the inquisitive squirrels find themselves in some rather human-like poses as they search for peanuts hidden in the props.

We can't wait to meet Nancy and hear all about "The Secret Life of Squirrels!"



## Halloween Howl!

A huge shout-out to our staff and families for making our Halloween Howl a great success! It was a blast and the kids really enjoyed it. We are always looking to welcome new families to our Parent Teacher Group. It's a nice way to get involved and connected. Please reach out to me if you would like to join- it's never too late.

## Dal SuperNOVA Workshops

We can't wait to get our Science on with Dal SuperNOVA. Each class will have a session exploring a unit of study. From time traveling whales, light, liquids & solids and matter, it's sure to be a fabulous learning experience for all!



**SUPERNOVA**  
DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY | HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

# A Message From SchoolsPlus

SchoolsPlus staff are here to support Hillside Park families.

Did you know SchoolsPlus can: Help you navigate getting Christmas support, such as toys and food, for your family? We understand the rising costs of everything has had a big impact for many families, which may lead to Christmas being a financial difficulty. Please feel free to reach out to us if you require Christmas support through local agencies. We can help you find the forms to apply for food/gift support, fill in the forms with you, and even pick up your Christmas hamper if needed.

NOTE: Registration for the main Christmas support programs are already open and there are deadlines as early as December 7th so please reach out ASAP.

REMEMBER: SchoolsPlus services are confidential. Just give us a call! Your Hillside Park SchoolsPlus Team is Jen Fougere (Assistant Leader), Michelle Boudreau (Community Outreach Worker), and Megan Shafi (Child and Youth Care Practitioner) Contact us at 902-483-8367 (call or text) or [jfougere@hrce.ca](mailto:jfougere@hrce.ca)

## Parent Café at Hillside Park!

Join us in the SchoolsPlus Family Room (room 103 – first floor right beside the pre-primary classrooms) for drop-in parent café on Wednesdays from 8:00-10:00am. We'll have the coffee ready, along with other hot drinks! Looking forward to seeing you!!





## **Roots of Empathy**

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### **Racines de l'empathie**

## Roots of Empathy at Hillside Park Elementary School

We have some exciting news at Hillside Park! We have been invited, through SchoolsPlus, to participate in a program called Roots of Empathy (<https://rootsofempathy.org>)

This award-winning program supports children learning to respect one another and increases children's kindness, caring, including, sharing, and helping behaviours as they develop empathy. Research shows us that as empathy develops, aggression and bullying behaviours are reduced.

You may want to watch this 1 minute animated video that shows the impact of the program.  
<https://youtu.be/BZHD5dO0kVg>

A Roots of Empathy Instructor, Michelle Boudreau, will be introducing us to Baby Addie, a baby from your community, who will be our "Tiny Teacher". We will get to know Baby Addie through 9 monthly visits to our 4/5 classroom (Ms. Ball). Over the course of the school year, we will watch the baby grow and share the baby's milestones.

We are excited that we've been chosen to participate in Roots of Empathy, and we hope you are too.

Stay tuned for Baby Addie updates throughout the school year!





One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely at school each day. You are able to report future absences using an app, website, or toll-free phone number.

If a student is going to be absent from school for any reason, you have 3 options to report the absence:

- 1) Call Safe Arrival toll free at: 1-833-582-6940
- 2) Report via [SchoolMessenger](#)
- 3) Download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices and use your username and password for the PowerSchool Portal.

All three methods are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Up to five consecutive absences can be recorded at once. If your student is absent and the absence has not been reported in advance, you will receive notifications via email, text, and phone calls from School Messenger.

If SchoolMessenger cannot reach you, office staff will follow up. Please make sure you contact Safe Arrival before 8:00 am as teachers will be completing their attendance at that time.

*Children arriving late must sign in at the office.*

## Arrival and Departure Safety Reminder

We'd like to remind you of how you can help keep our students safe as they arrive and leave our school grounds:

- ★ PLEASE do not park in the no stopping zone at drop off/pick up. This creates a safety issue for the buses and for the walkers as the bus cannot make the turn. Please drop off on the school side of the street.
- ★ Students and families should only walk up the hill to our school via the second driveway. When facing the school from Hillside Drive families would walk up the driveway on the left of the building. This is not the driveway closest to the blue wall or main entry door. This is the driveway that Mrs. Reid and/or her helpers monitor to ensure that students and buses are not a safety risk.
- ★ For the safety of students, please remember to park on the street and DO NOT drive up into the parking lot. Please keep the driveway and areas near the driveway clear for the buses to get in and out safely.

