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

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## The Hillside Park Press



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Dear Families,

Happy May! April was another busy month at Hillside. Our Family Dance was a huge success. We celebrated the achievements of our students at our Hillside High 5 Awards, and welcomed *Perform!* to facilitate Drama Club with our older students.

We continue to put a strong emphasis on our reading priority, building solid math fact fluency, and focusing on the wellbeing of our entire community. We've also received a grant from **Brilliant Labs** to help us get underway on creating a Makerspace at Hillside Park!



We are busy planning our upcoming Spring Fling on May 18th. This year we are asking families for contributions to class themed Raffle Baskets. Please continue to check for updates in the coming days.

Congratulations to a group of grade 4 and 5 students who participated in Orff Children's Music Day this past Saturday at Dartmouth South Academy. This whole-day workshop brought students from several schools together to create music. It was a wonderful experience for all, and a special thank you to Ms. Ripley-Davis for coordinating this opportunity for our students and spending the day alongside them!

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



May 16-17 May 24-25	Grade 3 Provincial Assessment- Literacy Grade 3 Provincial Assessment- Mathematics
May 18	Spring Fling 6:00-7:30 PM
May 22	Victoria Day (no school)
May 23	Primary Orientation (more info to follow)
May 26	Grade 5 Orientation to AJ Smeltzer (more info to follow)
May 30	Parent Meeting AJ Smeltzer (grade 5s- more info to follow)
June 14	Whole school trip to Shubenacadie Wildlife Park
June 19	Field Day and Variety Show (Rain Date June 21)
June 22	Grade 5 Closing Ceremony (more info to follow)

## School Trip!

P-5 classes will be going to Shubenacadie Wildlife Park on **Wednesday, June 14!** Details and permission forms will be sent out in early June. In addition to school staff, we will need volunteers to join us as chaperones to meet our adult/student supervision ratio. To be a chaperone/volunteer you will need:

- A completed Child Abuse Register - Request for Search Form, which can be found [here](#)
- 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



The Child Abuse Register Search and Criminal Records Check must be updated every three years. As soon as you have completed paperwork, please submit it to the office and we will keep it on file for you. It will be an awesome day for all!



Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 18th! Our Spring Fling will take place in the Gym from 6:00-7:30 PM. It is shaping up to be a fabulous night.

- ★ Games and Prizes
- ★ Face Painting and Balloon Twisting
- ★ Canteen
- ★ Cupcake Walk
- ★ Class Themed Raffle Baskets!
- ★ 50/50
- ★ Photo Booth

More information to follow in a separate email. We look forward to seeing you all there!

## Grade 3 Provincial Literacy & Mathematics Assessment

Students in grade 3 will participate in the Nova Scotia Provincial Assessment in Literacy and Mathematics this month. A detailed brochure will be sent to all families with students in grade 3 in the coming weeks. It is important that students are **present** on the mornings the assessment is being administered, and that they arrive **on time** so they are ready to start with the class. This will help set them up for success!

The assessment will be administered on the mornings of:

- May 16 and 17- Literacy
- May 24 and 25- Mathematics



## Gaelic Nova Scotia Month

May is Mìos nan Gàidheal/Gaelic Nova Scotia Month which is a time to celebrate and create awareness of the history, culture, language, contributions, and achievements of Gaels across the province.

We are very excited to welcome *Up With Gaelic!* to Hillside Park. Abby and Ella Hanson have developed a fun, interactive, and engaging presentation giving an overview of Nova Scotia's Gaelic culture and the influence Gaels have had on both our past and our present.



# Excel

The EXCEL program is a recreation-based, fee-for-service before and after school program run by the Halifax Regional Centre for Education, offering before and after school care for elementary-aged children.

At each school site, the dedicated and qualified staffing teams plan weekly games and activities that suit the needs and interests of the registered students. These individual plans are framed around EXCEL's overall philosophy which is focused on physical activity and positive social interaction in a safe and fun environment.

Highlights of our program include:

- structured and unstructured activities each afternoon.
- minimum of 45 minutes of structured physical activity every day.
- outdoor physically active play opportunities each day, weather permitting.
- opportunity for individual choice in programming each day.
- our own special guest presenters and external programmers.
- P.A.L.S. Playground Activity Leaders in Schools for participants in Grades 4-6.
- HRQ/Gym (Homework/Reading/Quiet Time/Gym) time each afternoon from 5:30 to 6:00 pm enabling those who wish to complete homework the opportunity to do so.
- EXCEL is a "High Five" registered organization.

Registration for returning children began April 24 and registration for new EXCEL participants will begin on May 8. [Click here](#) for more information.

## Homework Hub: Finish the year off strong!

Did you know students in grades 4-12 have access to Homework Hub? Finish the year off strong with the help of experienced tutors!

- GNSPES Access: Easy access to online resources and tutoring through your GNSPES account (gnspes.ca) by clicking on the Nova Scotia Homework Hub icon.
- 24/7 Access: Anytime access to video tutorials, practice questions and vocabulary review.
- Bilingual tutors available for students in:
  - Grade 7-12 on school nights 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.
  - Grade 4-5 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

[Watch this video](#) to learn more about Homework Hub!

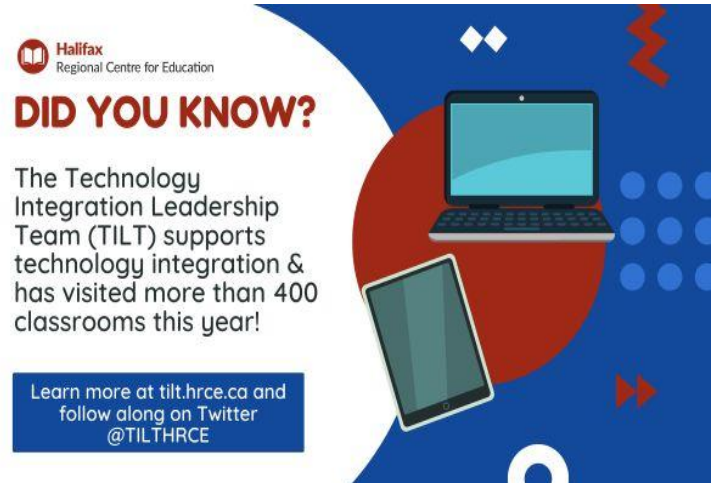


# Introducing TILT!

Did you know that our Technology Integration Leadership Team (TILT) works with teachers and students in Grades P-12 to support technology integration within the curriculum?

Did you know that all schools have access to different technologies used to increase student engagement and achievement, such as coding robots, 3D printers, podcasting equipment, and more?

Whether it be helping students write their own digital books, film a stop motion video, code their own virtual reality environment, or build a circuit-based interactive poster, the TILT team provides support for teachers to help students find alternative ways to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.



Curious to see more of what the TILT team has been up to? Check them out on Twitter at [twitter.com/tilthree]@TILTHRCE (no account needed to view).

## HRCE is Growing!

Almost 58 000 students are currently enrolled in the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE)! In the last five years, enrollment has increased by 7733. In fact, since September 30, 2022, we've welcomed more than 1000 additional students! As our region's population expands (Nova Scotia's population reached one million last year), new families register within our system on an ongoing basis. This is an exciting time for our province, our city and for HRCE!

With this growth comes a lot of important changes for our region. Please visit the [hrce.ca/growth]HRCE website for the latest updates!



# SchoolsPlus staff are here to support Hillside Park families.

## Did you know SchoolsPlus can:

### ***Help you with swimming lessons for your student?***

It's never too early to start planning your summertime activities! Did you know HRM offers free swimming lessons at some municipal beaches and the Halifax Common outdoor pool?

Many locations also offer free Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, and junior lifeguard programs for those interested in advanced swimming and lifeguarding.

Registration is required to take part in any of the classes. Registration for the first two sessions opens at 10am on Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. The next two sessions will open at 10am on July 13<sup>th</sup>.

Go to HRM Park & Recreation Programs & Activities website for more information

(<https://www.halifax.ca/parks-recreation/programs-activities>).

Please reach out if you require assistance navigating their page or the registration process.

REMEMBER: SchoolsPlus services are confidential.

Your Hillside Park SchoolsPlus Team is:

- Jen Fougere (Assistant Leader)
- Michelle Boudreau (Community Outreach Worker)
- Megan Shafi (Child and Youth Care Practitioner)

Contact us at 902-483-8367 (call or text) or [jfougere@hrce.ca](mailto:jfougere@hrce.ca)