



# Hillside Park Elementary

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September is just flying by! This year's opening was a lot about the new Covid19 rules and routines surrounding school and our new ways of doing. For example, we changed our drop off procedures, opened more doors and staggered our recess and lunch. Teachers have had to think of new ways to deliver the curriculum and with the paper policy new ways of sharing information.

Electronic communication via email is the schools number one way to communicate with families. Lower elementary teachers are using an App called SeeSaw and Upper elementary is using email and google classroom.

Please check the website and your email inbox frequently for updates.

We have been sanitizing our hands and high touch surfaces more than ever before. The students are doing a great job wearing their masks on the bus and in the upper elementary. We give them daily reminders that they do not have to wear their masks outside where they can maintain physical distancing. Some students are choosing not to remove their masks. I would suggest that families talk to your children about taking a break from the mask to breathe the fresh air.

The beginning of the year is always so exciting with all the hope that a new year brings. This year especially my hope is that, every student has success at Hillside Park and that students know that anything is possible!

It's the little things, the hard work and the dedication of the staff that make Hillside a great place to come to work. The families are truly lucky to have such a dedicated staff. I appreciate all of it!

Daily Before School Check:

- Fill your child's water bottle, snacks and lunch
  - Use the Covid19 checklist for back to school. If they have any symptoms keep them home and call 811.
  - Read the other memos sent out by the school posted on the webpage over the last few weeks.
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**September 25**

Professional Development Day-  
**No classes for students**

**October 1**

Terry Fox Class walk!  
Coin donations welcome.

**October 12**

Thanksgiving Day No school for students

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In a  
WORLD  
where you can be  
anything  
BE KIND

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- Practice social distancing at drop off and pick up. Parents should wait on the sidewalk for grades 1-5. PP, and Primary (1 parent/family member can come onto the playground) to walk their child to the door.
  - Drop off is between 7:45am-8:00am If you are late (after 8am) please ensure that your child enters the door by the blue wall and rings the bell to gain entry. They will receive a 'Ticket' (late slip) to get into class
  - At dismissal bus students will leave the building first. Once buses are loaded and leave the remaining students will exit the building and walk to the driveway/hill/ grass by the sign with their class of walkers. We ask that once you have your child/children you exit the area to reduce congestion.



### Safety Reminder

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. RCMP have been notified that this is an issue and will be giving out tickets in the coming days.



### LOCKDOWN DRILL

The safety and security of our students and staff is a top priority for **Hillside Park Elementary School** and the Halifax Regional Center for Education. We have been implementing a number of measures as part of a comprehensive plan aimed at ensuring our school remains a safe place for our students to learn.

One of the procedures our school will be practicing is a lockdown drill. During a lockdown drill, classroom doors are secured and the students remain inside the room until instructed by the teacher to resume their activities. All exterior doors are locked and no one is permitted to enter or leave the building.

Students are kept inside the school and classrooms when circumstances make it safer to stay in the classroom rather than evacuate. Just as we prepare our students to properly respond to a fire drill, they also need to be aware of the proper response during a lockdown drill. These drills should be treated with the same level of importance as fire drills.

Please be assured that staff at our school will spend time discussing the importance of this procedure with students prior to running a drill. We will also take time after the drill to remind them that it was only a practice

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and there was no danger. When possible, our School Liaison Officer may assist us in conducting the lockdown drills just as the Fire Department assists with evacuation drills.

Please take the time to speak with your son/daughter about this procedure and reinforce its importance. We practice these drills to ensure our school remains a safe place for teaching and learning. We will have a drill this week!



### Safe Arrival

Please call the 24 hour **Safe Arrival Line: 864-6877** if your child will be absent from school. This is another way for the school to ensure your child's safety. For this reason, as well as children getting sick during the school day, it is **very important** that we have current phone numbers and emergency contacts.

**ALLERGY  
ALERT**

### Life Threatening Allergies

We have students at Hillside with severe life threatening allergies to peanuts and tree nuts. Please do not send foods containing peanuts/tree nuts to school. If your child has an allergy that we should know about, please drop into the office to fill out the required forms.

For those who are returning "Welcome back" and for those who are new "Welcome to Hillside! A reminder there is no school for students on Friday as it is a PD day.

If you have specific questions, please feel free to contact us directly at the school by phone or by email [hpes@hrce.ca](mailto:hpes@hrce.ca) **Our school website - [hpe.hrce.ca](http://hpe.hrce.ca) and twitter - @HillsidePark1.**

Kelly Joy, Principal and Courtney Smith, Vice Principal

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