



*December 2021*

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Safe Arrival: 902-864-6877

Dear Families,

As we reflect back on the last three months, I wanted to say a big "THANK YOU." Thank you to our families, staff, teachers, Custodial staff, EPA's and Lunch Monitors we couldn't do what we do without all of the help and support from you our community and colleagues. Children are happy coming to school each day, they have learned how to manage with the new normal and are resilient as always. We still continue to hand sanitize on a regular basis and wear masks. Thank you for continuing to do the daily COVID19 checklist before sending your children to school.

Safety is very important at Hillside; You may have noticed that during the morning we are encouraging students to walk up the white line on the side of the 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway. Please drop your children off at the 2nd driveway further away from Cobequid Road. When the driveway becomes slippery, we will not have to worry about the bus coming up the hill behind students. This is for everyone's safety, a few extra steps at the top of the driveway on the sidewalk will make a huge difference! Also families, please remember to keep toys, stuffed animals, dolls, Pokemon cards and personal sports equipment at home.

Our focus this term has been on reading. I have observed students selecting books, reading, having whole group and small

group lessons targeting specific reading behaviours. Please continue to practice reading at home with your child.

Even though we have, 11 days left before break I just wanted to take a moment to say however you celebrate, enjoy!

Kelly Joy, Principal

**Hillside Park does not have any affiliation or contribution to information on any community social media platforms/groups other than our school website - [hpe.hrce.ca](http://hpe.hrce.ca) and twitter - @HillsidePark1. Please check our website often.**



### Safe Arrival

When students will be absent from school or become ill and will not be attending, we ask that families call the **Safe Arrival line at 902-864-6877** or if after 8:15 am call the main office at 902-864-6873



## **School Cancellations**

Decisions on school closures are posted on the Halifax Regional Center for Education website at [www.hrce.ca](http://www.hrce.ca), on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/HRCE\\_Official](https://twitter.com/HRCE_Official), recorded on 464-INFO (4636) and communicated to all local radio stations. You can also receive notice of school and bus cancellations by e-mail or text message by following the link: <https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/subscribe-notifications>. In case of a school closure during the day, you can help us to ensure that your child is dismissed safely by ensuring we have up-to-date contact information.

## **Delayed Start Time**

If a delayed start time is declared by HRCE, students will start school 2 hours after the regular start time of 7:45 am which, for our school, means 9:45AM.

School busses would be picking up students 2 hours later than their regularly assigned time pending any other local weather delays.

Our lunch, afternoon and dismissal times will remain at their regularly scheduled times.



## **Mask Wearing**

A reminder to families to please send extra masks in your child's backpack. Students often like to change their masks throughout the day. We are going through a lot of disposable masks so we ask for your cooperation.



## **Water Bottle**

Please send your child with a full water bottle daily. Please help us to help the earth! I often hear, "my parents forgot" from our students so I'm asking you to please make a water bottle equally as important as a lunch and snack!



## **Outdoor Clothing!**

We are heading into a period of time where the weather can be unpredictable. As much as possible we want the children to be outside playing. It is important that the children have proper footwear and outdoor clothing. It is encouraged that there is an extra pair of socks packed in the backpacks in case feet get wet. For the younger children, an extra pair of clothing may help avoid a phone call home if someone gets wet.

## **Library**

Library books are due on Wednesday Please do your best to help your child return their books on time!

## **Upcoming dates**

### **December 21**

Last Day of Classes before Christmas break!

### **January 4**

First Day of Class after Christmas Break