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

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# The Hillside Park Press

September Newsletter 2022

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Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year! My name is Jacquelyn Reid, and I am delighted to introduce myself as your new principal here at Hillside Park School. Although I've only been a part of the team for a short time, it is clear that this is a vibrant community school with dedicated staff, amazing students, and supportive families. We are also very excited to welcome our Music teacher, Ms. Emily Ripley-Davis, to her new role as vice principal.

I'd like to share a bit about myself. This is my 17th year in education and there is nothing in the world I would rather do. For the past 9 years, I taught upper elementary at Crichton Park School in Dartmouth, and was vice principal for 4 years. I have taught almost every grade level in elementary in many schools across HRCE and also spent two years teaching in Moscow. Most of my professional focus and passion in recent years has centred around best practices in literacy instruction, technology integration, and instructional leadership.

Having worked with hundreds of unique, amazing children over the years, I've learned they usually share a few things in common. They want to know someone cares about them. They want to be strengthened by their learning environment. They want time to shape and share their passions. School should be a special place in your child's life, and we are committed to building classroom communities that foster a love of learning and a sense of belonging.

There is something familiar and comforting about the first days of a new school year, coupled with the buzz and excited anticipation as we embark on another chapter in the Hillside Park story. We hope you all had a wonderful summer, and that you and your families are looking forward to getting back into the swing of things.

Please find attached our school supplies list, and the *Hillside Park Handbook for Families*. This outlines many procedures, policies, and general information about our school. My hope is that it will serve as a reference point for you throughout the year. Next week once we've settled into our routines, I will send out our 'official' September newsletter. For now, welcome to all our new and returning families and staff!

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

# Welcome to our Students, Staff, and Families!



## First Day Procedures

- Class lists will be posted on our main doors on Friday, September 2 at 2:00pm. You will need your child's 10-digit provincial student number. This is located on the top left of their report card.
- On Wednesday, buses will arrive at the school at 7:45 am
- School staff will be outside to assist you in finding your child's teacher
- P-2 teachers will be outside on the play pad (left side of school) to welcome their students
- 3-6 teachers will be on the basketball court (right side of school)
- Students will remain outside with their teacher until the bell rings at 8:00 am
- Pre-primary students will meet their teachers at the front door (blue *Hillside Park Elementary School* sign)
- Please bring all school supplies to school on Wednesday
- On Thursday, we will return to our staggered entry. Students can enter the building any time between 7:45-8:00 am.
- We can't wait to see you!

# Important Dates

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| September 1       | Organization Day (no school for students)                                       |
| September 2 and 6 | Professional Development Days (no school for students)                          |
| September 7       | First Day of School for Students!   |
| September 8       | Stand Up Against Bullying Day- wear pink  |
| September 22      | School Picture Day<br>Curriculum Night and Ice Cream Social (details to follow) |
| September 27      | SAC and PTG Meeting (6:00 pm in the Library)                                    |
| September 29      | Orange Shirt Day  |
| September 30      | Truth & Reconciliation Day (no school)  |
| October 10        | Thanksgiving Day (no school)  |
| October 28        | Provincial Conference Day (no school)   |

## Stand Up Against Bullying Day

In 2007, Berwick Nova Scotia classmates David Shepherd and Travis Price bought and distributed 50 pink shirts after a student at their school was bullied for wearing a pink shirt.

With that act of kindness, Pink Shirt Day was born!

On **Thursday, September 8th**, we encourage all staff and students to wear pink. Teachers will be engaging students in activities that focus on the importance of building healthy relationships with and among each other. What a great way to set the tone for the year.



**More information to follow! For now, we look forward to a great start to the 2022-23 school year.**