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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 April! We are looking forward to connecting with you about your child's progress this Thursday, April 4th. Please sign up for your appointments in the online portal [here](#). As we enter third term, we want to remind you that the instructional day begins at 8:00 AM. We are noticing an increase in students coming to school late in the morning. Please ensure your child arrives a few minutes beforehand so they can begin their day on time.

Our Spring weather is in full force and with it comes lots of mud and changes in temperature. We are asking families to send a spare outfit in your child's backpack. Each day we have students coming to the office looking for a change of pants, socks, etc.

We are sending the very best to one of our pre-primary educators, Samra Pepic, as she is taking on a new role with EIBI. We were fortunate to have Samra as part of our Hillside team this year. She will certainly be missed but we are very happy for her as she embarks on this new chapter!

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

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## Remembering Donna

We recently endured the loss of a beloved member of our Hillside family, Donna Muggah. Donna will forever be remembered for her vibrant spirit, sense of humour, fabulous laugh, and her capacity to love and care for the students of Hillside Park. She will be incredibly missed by everyone who had the privilege of knowing her.

We appreciate the support of our families as we navigate this challenging time for our school community. In the coming months, we will be collaborating with our staff, students and Donna's family to honour her legacy at Hillside Park.



## Education Week 2024

Nova Scotia's annual Education Week will take place from April 14-20, 2024. This year's theme is Connections to Community and recognizes the work of teachers, student support staff, administrators and Early Childhood Educators who take deliberate effort to enhance and empower their larger school communities, including families and the community at large.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank our Hillside staff for the impact they have on our students and the outstanding work they do in our school every day.

## April is Oral Hygiene Month

April is Oral Health Month in Canada and an opportunity to highlight the importance of maintaining good oral health as part of a healthy lifestyle. Hillside has received a donation from Colgate Canada and all students will be receiving a new toothbrush and toothpaste! Students will receive oral health education (how long to brush for, how to correctly brush teeth, etc.) from local dental offices from our community.



Happy Education Week to our hard-working staff! We appreciate everything you do for our students!





April 1	Easter Monday (no school)
April 2	Online Submissions for Out of Area Requests
April 2-5	Scholastic Book Fair
April 4	Professional Development AM (no school for students) Family/Teacher Conferences afternoon and evening (no school for students)
April 9	SAC/PTG Meeting 6:00 in the library
April 9	Eid Begins
April 22	Earth Day
April 25	Family Dance 6:00 PM in the Gym
April 26	French Language Day for grades 4-5
May 20	Victoria Day (no school)
May 23	Spring Fling 6:00 PM

## Scholastic Book Fair

**DATES:** April 2nd - April 5th in the Hillside Library

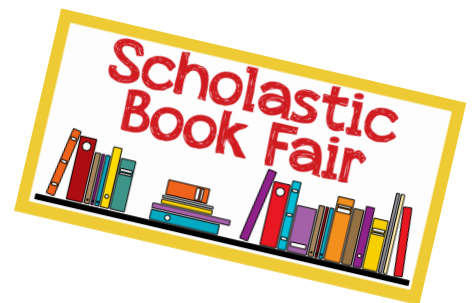
**TIMES:** Each day from 8:30 to 2:30

**FAMILY/TEACHER CONFERENCES:**

Families will be able to make purchases in-school during both Family/Teacher conferences (April 4th from 12:30 - 2:30 and 5:30 - 7:30)

**INCLUDED IN THE BOOK FAIR WILL BE:**

- Many of the latest and exciting titles
- Boutique items
- Posters
- Book draw for two students worth \$25.00 each



# Preparing for the Solar Eclipse

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is pleased to provide all students in Nova Scotia with eclipse glasses to view the upcoming solar eclipse safely.

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the Earth and the sun, obscuring the view of the sun from a section of the Earth.

This event is extremely rare, with the next solar eclipse not occurring in the province until 2079. Nova Scotia will be just outside of the zone of totality for the solar eclipse; for this reason, it is important that individuals have appropriate protection to view this historic event. The solar eclipse will begin at 3:27 p.m., reaching maximum coverage at 4:38 p.m., and ending at 5:44 p.m.



For more information, visit <https://thediscoverycentre.ca/solar-eclipse-solaire/>

## Volunteering at Hillside Park

We love welcoming volunteers into our school community. Whether you can lend a hand in the library, read with students, or accompany us on a field trip, we appreciate all the ways you share your time and talents.

Prior to volunteering with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education, all volunteers must provide:

1. A completed Child Abuse Register - Request for Search Form, which can be found [here](#)
2. 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



Please note: the Child Abuse Register Search and Criminal Records Check must be updated every three years.

## Hillside Welcomes Author Jessica Scott Kerrin

Jessica Scott Kerrin is the author of over a dozen books for kids—but she didn't always want to be a writer. She wanted to be an astronaut. Then she had to get glasses when she was grade two, and that put an end to her starry dreams. So instead, she started writing stories, and when she grew up, she had an astronaut sign her book about rockets!

But Jessica didn't stick with stories about rocket launches. She also writes about monster lobsters, creepy cemeteries and giant tree forts. Where does Jessica get her ideas from? Who has been her favorite character? Is it true that she's a terrible speller? Let's hear Jessica tell her story! We are so excited to welcome Jessica on April 11th to share her craft with our students!



## Family Dance!

Mark your calendar for **Thursday, April 25th** for the Hillside Family Dance. More details to follow soon. Come as you are and be ready to bust a move.



## French Second Language Grant

For the second year in a row, we have been awarded the French Second Language Cultural Connections Grant. On April 26th, students in grades four and five will participate in a whole school Tintamarre, traveling class to class. They will also rotate through stations that include language and culture games/activities, books, films, button making, the creation of a ceinture fléchée, crepes rapees, and a maple syrup tasting and tapping workshop.

