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The Hillside Park Press



Dear Families,

Happy May! April was another busy month at Hillside as we welcomed a local author, celebrated French Language Day, and cheered for our students at the Hillside High 5 Awards. Our Family Dance was a huge success. Thanks to all who were able to join in the fun.

We are busy planning our upcoming Spring Fling on May 23rd. Once again, we will be asking families for contributions to class themed Raffle Baskets. This was a huge success last year! Please continue to check for updates in the coming days.

Yours in Education,

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

Provincial Student Attendance and Engagement Policy

Regular school attendance plays a key role in setting students up for success. We understand that sometimes special circumstances arise and we work collaboratively with our families to navigate these challenges. We have started reaching out to families of students who have over 10% absenteeism. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to support regular, consistent attendance for your child. You can also read more about the provincial policy [here](#).



May

May 14, 16 May 22, 23	Grade 3 Provincial Assessment- Literacy Grade 3 Provincial Assessment- Mathematics
May 14	SAC/PTG Meeting 6:00 PM in the Library
May 15	Black Excellence Day
May 20	Victoria Day (no school)
May 23	SPRING FLING! 6:00-7:30 PM
June 11	Grade 5 Orientation to AJ Smeltzer (more info to follow) Grade 5 Family Meeting at AJ Smeltzer (evening; more info to follow)
June 19	Field Day and Variety Show (Rain Date June 20)
June 21	Grade 5 Closing Ceremony (more info to follow)
June 27	Assessment & Evaluation Day (no school)
June 28	Last Day of School

Spring Fling

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 23! Our Spring Fling will take place in the Gym from 6:00-7:30 PM. It is shaping up to be a fabulous night.

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



- ★ Games and Prizes
- ★ Tattoos and Balloon Twisting
- ★ Canteen
- ★ Cupcake Walk
- ★ Class Themed Raffle Baskets!
- ★ 50/50

Asian Heritage Month

Asian Heritage Month is an opportunity for us to learn more about the diverse culture and history of Asian communities in Canada, as well as to acknowledge the many achievements and contributions of people of Asia.

The theme for Asian Heritage Month 2024 is *“Preserving the Past, Embracing the Future: Amplifying Asian Canadian Legacy”*. This theme celebrates the rich heritage and contributions of people of Asian origin in Canada while also looking forward to the future with optimism and hopefulness.



Gaelic Nova Scotia Month

May is Mios 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.



Scottish Country Dancing:

Ready, Set, Dance!

Students in grades 3-5 will be able to learn Scottish Country Dance throughout May! Community dance leaders Glen and Yvonne will teach students the traditional steps and provide cultural insights while bringing our students together to have fun!



Black Excellence Day

Monday, May 15th is Black Excellence Day, which highlights the brilliance, achievements, and talents of students of African descent.

The inaugural celebration was held on June 17, 2022, in schools across the province. Celebrating Black Excellence in schools provides an opportunity for us to acknowledge and recognize the past and present achievements, stories, art, and innovations of people of African descent.



Keyboard Club

Ms. Ripley-Davis will share her piano knowledge with students as they learn beginner piano techniques and tunes. Students will meet once a week to build on their skills and will have the opportunity to share their new talents at our upcoming school Variety Show!



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 14 and 16- Literacy
- May 22 and 23- Mathematics

2024-25 EXCEL Registration

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.



Registration for returning children began April 29 and registration for new EXCEL participants will begin on May 13. [Click here](#) for more information.



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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**
Tutors available for students in:
 - Grade 7-12 on school nights 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.
 - Grade 4-6 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Find the Homework Hub at gnspes.ca or call 1-888-444-6607