

Hillcrest Public School—Newsletter

From the Principal's Desk

It is my pleasure on behalf of myself, Mrs. Burnagieli and the school staff, to welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year. Being new to Hillcrest, I look forward to getting to know students, families, and the community so that I can continue to support the outstanding care and opportunities provided by our school. I hope that your child(ren) has/have enjoyed the summer holidays and are feeling rested and ready for another great school year! A special welcome to the new families and to our new staff members who have joined the Hillcrest School community.

The information in this newsletter serves as an important reminder for families old and new to Hillcrest.

School Entry and Dismissal

There are 4 designated entry and exit doors for students. JK/SK students are dropped off and picked up on the South side of campus nearest the OEYC and Daycare area. Parents and caregivers should bring their JK/SK student to the fenced area and await adult supervision in the am (8:55). Students are dismissed by classroom staff at 3:30 to designated caregivers—**Please Note:** parents will need to access the Kinder area by going around the building at afternoon pick-up. The gates by the daycare will be locked. Gr.1 & 2 students enter and exit through the rear doors around the back side of the building. All Gr. 3–8 and 2/3 class students enter and exit through the North side designated doors off the playground. Please meet your child(ren) in their designated area, we ask that parent's not enter the building to collect their student(s). Upon entry and exit Hillcrest becomes a very busy place and we ask for parents assistance in helping us to keep a calm and orderly environment by not accessing the building.

School Concerns

Should you need to speak with your child's teacher please call or visit the office to make an appointment with your child's teacher. This will help to ensure that you have ample time to meet with the teacher as they are often preparing for instruction prior to the school day. Mrs. Burnagieli and myself are always available to meet with parents should you have concerns that can't be met by the classroom teacher, we do encourage parents to first make efforts to connect with classroom teachers as they know your child best and can solve classroom problems very effectively.

Parking

The parking lot is closed to parent traffic between 8:45-9:15 and again from 3:10– 3:50 as we have over 10 different school vehicles dropping off and picking up students. Your child's safety is very important to us and we ask that you keep clear of the parking lot. If you need to drop your child off for school we ask that you use Melvin Street to do so. There is a crossing guard located at the school yard entrance to assist with ensuring that your child makes it safely to campus.

Finally, we are reminded that education plays a vital role in each child's development and a strong partnership between home and school is essential. High expectations in the areas of homework completion, goal setting, academic achievement, the arts, athletics and citizenship are a focus at Hillcrest. We encourage each child to be the best they can be as we support them on this very important journey. We also want to thank our parents and the community for working with us as we work together to support our children.

Mr. C. Blunsdon

Principal

Spartan News – September 2018

SAFETY REMINDERS

Office Hours

The school office is open from 8:45 a.m. to 3:45p.m. Mon to Fri.

Supervision

The playground is supervised at 8:55– 9:10 and 3:30-3:45.

Busing

Please contact the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board transportation department at **905 523-2318** with any bus-related concerns.

WE ARE A NUT SENSITIVE SCHOOL

Parents are asked to carefully read labels of all food items that are brought to school to make sure that they have no trace of nuts or nut products. Many products now carry a clearly marked "Nut Free" logo.

We appreciate your cooperation in providing a safe learning/work environment for our students and staff.

School Organization for 2018-2019

OFFICE STAFF			
Blunsdon, C	<i>Principal</i>	Bishop-Dove, J.	<i>Office Admin</i>
Burnagieli, L	<i>Vice-Principal</i>	Nagel, C.	<i>Office Assistant</i>

STAFF	
Albertson, L.	EA
Aragain, P.	Phys Ed
Bedford, J.	Gr. 5
Beaton, M.	Gr. 4/5
Bortolussi, D.	Gr. 8
Buchanan, S.	Gr. 2
Campbell, H.	French 4-6
Clemens, A.	Phys Ed
Cote, K.	EA
Cuthill, D.	Gr. 2/3
Doucette, D.	Gr. 4
Easson, A.	Jr Comp
Edwards, E.	LRT
Evans, P.	Gr. 2
Fisher, C.	EA
Franks, T	EA
Gailing, K.	FDK
Gross, P.	EA
Humphreys, S.	LRT
Jackson, A.	Music
Jacobs, C.	Gr. 6
Johnson, R.	EA
Johnston, C.	EA
Karlash, S.	Gr. 1
Killam, M.	EA
Kin, S.	Gr. 3/4
Large, L.	EA
Merkus, C.	Library
Moore, A.	EA
O'Callaghan, K.	EA
Olsen, J.	Gr. 7
Peterson, J.	JIDD
Pot, D.	EA
Preston, K.	French 6-8
Prunean, A.	Gr. 6
Robbins, A.	FDK
Rogerson, K.	DECE
Scime, T.	Gr. 3
Ramjit, C.	DECE
Simpson, M.	Gr. 3
Sinasac, S.	Gr. 1
Smith, C.	FDK
Hayward, W.	DECE
Small, G.	LRT
Swanton, J.	PJDD
Turner, B.	EA
Turner, L.	SSEA
Utjesinovic, H.	Reading Specialist
van der Vinne, C.	SST
Van Sligtenhorst, S.	Library
Weaver, P.	Gr. 5
Whitefield, M.	Gr. 1/2
Wiggins, E.	Gr. 7/8
Zambiasi, S.	Gr. 8
Chamberlain, R.	Head Caretaker

Attendance Policy

If your child is unable to attend school, please contact the office at (905)549-3076 . Please call before 8:40 a.m. if possible. Our answering machine is available any time of the day or night. Please leave the student's name, class, and reason for the absence. Students arriving after the entrance bell will not be permitted into class without a late slip from the office. Our office staff must contact the home of each and every student marked absent as part of our safe school policy and we thank you for your continued co-operation in helping to minimize the number of calls we must make.

BE ON TIME!!! BE AT SCHOOL EACH DAY!!!

Regular attendance and punctuality are essential for student success. All students are expected to be at school, on time each day. Our school day begins promptly at 9:10 am and we dismiss at 3:30 p.m.

FORMS....FORMS....FORMS

Each child will receive a package of very important forms. Please take the time to neatly and accurately fill them out and return them to the school with your child this week. These forms include important information regarding lunch breaks, walking trips, emergency closures, weather policy and more. It is absolutely imperative the school receives this package back in a timely manner.

Telephone Use

The office telephone is for emergency use only. All other arrangements are to be made ahead of time including extra-curricular and social activities. We will not be passing along messages to students during the school day.



Follow us on Twitter to catch all the latest happenings @Hillcrest_HWDSB

Visit our school's website www.hwdsb.on.ca/hillcrest

PLEASE UPDATE THE OFFICE

Please notify the office any time there is a change in your child's registration information. **It is very important that any EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION on file is accurate and up to date at all times throughout the school year.**

If there are any special arrangements concerning your child, please ensure that this is clearly communicated in writing and discussed with the homeroom teacher and the office.

CUSTODY AND ACCESS ORDERS

If there are any special arrangements for your child(ren) which the school needs to be aware of, please ensure that the office has an updated copy of the court orders for access or custody, signed by an Ontario Court Judge. The school provides information on a child's progress when requested by a non-custodial parent who has legal access.

LOST AND FOUND

Our Lost and Found tub is located near the Gym corridor. We ask that you **LABEL ALL ITEMS WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.** We ask that you encourage your child **NOT to bring expensive items to school.** We also recommend that students do not bring large sums of money to school except with family permission to purchase items occasionally offered at school. **NO VALUABLES OF ANY KIND SHOULD BE LEFT IN THE CHANGE ROOMS DURING GYM CLASSES OR IN A BACKPACK IN THE HALLWAY.** Please help your child(ren) learn these personal management skills just as we as adults ensure that our own valuables (purses, wallets) are kept safe. Items in the bin will be emptied at the end of each month and donated.

SAFE SCHOOLS

In accordance with the SAFE SCHOOL PROGRAM, we remind parents to use the school's front entrance which are the doors closest to the office. If you have to drop off items for your child, please deliver them directly to the office and we will call them down during break to prevent interruptions during classroom instruction time. **All students enter and exit from the playground, unless being dropped off mid-day.**

If you are volunteering in the school, please sign in at the office and use the "Visitor" tags to identify yourself while in the school. Safety is everyone's responsibility.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Our school is pleased to welcome parent volunteers to support our programs here. If wish to volunteer, please contact your child's teacher. Please note that as per Board policy, all volunteers must supply the school with a copy of the Police Clearance Report before interacting with our students.

Parents who wish to volunteer to support our nutrition program are invited to attend an initial **information session Monday Sept. 11th at 9:10 am in the Nutrition Room.**

Agendas

Every student in Grades 1 to 8 will be given an agenda . The agenda contains important information about our school such as the Code of Commitment as well as general information regarding our day to day procedures. *Agendas are designed to help students develop important organizational skills—recording homework, announcements, special events, teacher information.* Agendas can also be used as a communication tool for parents and teachers. Please be aware that this does not mean that the agenda will be used by teachers as a daily journal, recording every event that has transpired throughout the day. **Please read and review all the important information in the agenda with your child(ren) and sign at the bottom of page one to indicate you have read the handbook. The cost of the agenda to the school is \$5.00. If you would like contribute to help offset the cost to the school please feel free to do so however, this is an optional fee and there is no charge for the agendas this year.**

Medication, EpiPens & Inhalers

Please note we must have your written permission (on the approved form) to dispense or supervise the intake of medication for your child. Forms are available at the main office if your child requires medication. **Please note that permission must be renewed annually and your family physician must also sign the medication form.**

If your child requires an EpiPen, the Anaphylaxis package must be completed and returned to the school office as soon as possible.

If your child has Asthma and requires an inhaler, the Asthma Protocol package must be completed and returned to the school office, as soon as possible.

Please contact the office at 905-549-3076 if you have any questions.

YWCA GirlSpace

The YWCA will again be hosting the GirlSpace program here at Hillcrest. YWCA GirlSpace reaches out to girls with quality programming addressing key social issues facing young women. The program offers girls the opportunity to explore themselves, personal achievements, and build on positive self esteem. GirlSpace is accessible and affordable to girls and young women in grades 3-6. This is a free program available to Hillcrest students.

The program will run daily from 3:30pm until 5pm beginning Tuesday September 4th.

Hillcrest School Council starts up in September. If you are interested in becoming a member of council please feel free to attend the first council meeting of the year which will be held on September 20th at 6:30pm in the library. Following Meet the Teacher Night!

School Council

September 2018

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 LABOUR DAY	4 <i>Day 1</i>	5 <i>Day 2</i>	6 <i>Day 3</i>	7 <i>Day 4</i>
10 <i>Day 5</i>	11 <i>Day 1</i>	12 <i>Day 2</i>	13 <i>Day 3</i>	14 <i>Day 4</i>
17 <i>Day 5</i>	18 <i>Day 1</i>	19 <i>Day 2</i>	20 MEET THE TEACHER 5:00 School Council Mtg. 6:30	21 P.A. DAY NO SCHOOL
24 <i>Day 4</i>	25 <i>Day 5</i>	26 <i>Day 1</i>	27 <i>Day 2</i>	28 <i>Day 3</i>

Meet the Teacher Night!!

Thursday September 20th!!

5:00-6:30pm

Come out and meet your child's teacher! Come learn how you can be involved in your child's education and how you can have input into initiatives at Hillcrest School.