



# Highview Bulletin

## December 2017

### From the Vice-Principal's/Principal's Desk:

It is hard to believe that we are already entering the holiday season, with parent/teacher interviews and Progress Reports already behind us.

Please be sure to read through the newsletter so you will be aware of upcoming events including the Parent/Guardian performance of our Holiday Concert which is taking place on December 21st from 8:15 a.m.- 9:55 a.m. A second performance of the Holiday Concert will happen later in the day so that all of our students also have an opportunity to see all of the performances. More information regarding your child's involvement will be available through their classroom teachers, or please discuss this with your child(ren).

Highview is fortunate to have students who represent many different cultures and this is a season of celebration for many. We would like to thank our families and community for all they do to support the school, and whatever celebration you may be observing, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very special holiday season and every happiness in 2018!

Ms. Corbin-Harper  
Mr. Pellizzari

### School Council:

Highview School Council, encourages parents to join us at Council meetings throughout the year. Everyone is welcome at all meetings, it's never too late!

The scheduled School Council meeting date for this month is **Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

We look forward to seeing and hearing from as many parents/guardians as possible!

### Lunch Days

Pizza Days occur every Thursday. (Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017).

We will be introducing Pita Pit on December 8th

Our Sub Day will be on Dec. 15.

### Winter Clothing Drive:

What started as a conversation between the students and educators in Ms. Depew and Ms. Quinn's Kindergarten classroom, sure became something much bigger!! It became an initiative that showed what an incredible community the Highview Community is, bringing students and families together in support of each other, and in support of students in another community within the HWDSB.

Thanks to Ms. Depew's leadership, her class along with the support of Ms. Kellner's grade 6 class and many others including staff members and volunteers, pulled together a "Winter Clothing Drive" that collected an incredible amount of new and gently used clothing including: coats, hats, mittens, scarves, snow pants, boots, vests, etc... Highview families then had an opportunity to visit the school on December 1<sup>st</sup> to find items for their own children. Because of the amount of clothing collected, not only is a collection of winter clothing on hand at the school for our own students, many bags were delivered to another school within the HWDSB to be available within their "Winter Clothing Closet" for their community.

Thanks Highview Community for making this such a huge success, and a special thanks to Ms. Depew for leading us through this process!!

### **School Council Poinsettia Sale:**

On December 8th, between 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., parents/guardians who purchased Poinsettias through the School Council Fundraising Sale are asked to pick them up. Pick-ups should happen through the back door of the gymnasium off of the parking lot off of Green Meadow Rd./Kerr St. Thanks for all of your support of this fundraising event that raised approximately \$900 to support Eco Initiatives at the school!!

### **School Council "Samko and Miko" Toy Sale Fundraiser:**

Please be reminded that any Samko and Miko receipts are due back to the school by December 18<sup>th</sup>. Please also note that you can still support the school by buying online using the code FHIG2. All funds raised will go to the Highview Nutrition Program.

### **Parking:**

We understand that finding parking around the school can be a challenge. Having said that, in order to keep all of our students safe, we ask that you please avoid entering the staff parking lot off of Queensdale Ave. as this is creating a very dangerous situation for all, especially the students who are exiting vehicles and those walking along the sidewalk.

### **School Excursions/Events/Purchases & School Cash Online:**

Thanks to all our families who have signed up and use School Cash Online to help us with collecting funds. Use of this site is a **safe and secure way** to make payments to the school using debit cards, personal credit cards, and prepaid credit cards. Paying through School Cash Online avoids the need for students to carry large amounts of money to school, and also makes the collection of money at the school much more efficient, removing the need for staff to collect/count/store/deposit large sums of money. If you haven't already signed up, and you need help, please visit the support link on the School Cash Online website. Please remember that no special code is necessary, all you need is some basic information that all families have on hand to get started. We look forward to being a "cashless" school in the future!! <https://www.schoolcashionline.com/>

### **Volunteering at Highview:**

Whether it is helping out in a classroom, on an excursion or in our school library, volunteers are important to us at Highview.

If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, please request a volunteer package from our office. As per HWDSB policy, a volunteer package must be completed annually and a Vulnerable Sector Screening every three years. This screening can be obtained either by visiting the King William HPS location or applying online. <http://www.policeresolutions.ca/checks/services/Hamilton/>

Please stop in at the office if you have any questions.

### **Safe Welcome Protocol:**

As you know, the HWDSB has initiated a Safe Welcome Program. The program supports a welcoming learning environment by ensuring that parents and other authorized visitors can access elementary schools while keeping students and staff safe. At our school, all exterior school doors will be locked during the instructional day, and visitors must access the school via the main entrance. Please be reminded that the front entrance is equipped with a video/intercom access system which is to be used to gain access. Once granted entry, **all visitors must report directly to the office**. Anyone needing to travel beyond the office will be asked to sign in and to wear a visitor's sticker. Thanks in advance for your cooperation in keeping all of our students and staff safe!

## **Homework Help for Students Grade 7 to 10:**

Homework Help is free online math help and resource for students in Grades 7-10. Homework Help provides free, live one-on-one tutoring from Ontario teachers Sunday to Thursday from 5:30pm – 9:30pm ET. The program is funded by the Ontario government and administered by TVO's Independent Learning Centre. To log in, students will need to register with their Ontario Education Number (OEN), found at the top of their report card near their name. (Your child's OEN never changes so any of their Ontario report cards will have it.) <https://homeworkhelp.ilc.org/>

## **Website Update Notifications:**

Would you like to receive an email notification each time our school website is updated? If so, please take a minute to visit our school website at <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/highview/> click on the "Subscribe" link found on the right side of the page near the top> enter your email address >choose if you would also like to subscribe to other HWDSB messages and click on submit. Once submitted, you will receive a notification confirming your subscription.

Please note that this feature has become more important as we continue to move away from a paper copy monthly newsletter towards a digital means of communication which is not only more environmentally friendly, saves the school \$\$ on paper/printing, but also allows communication to become more timely.

## **Inclement Weather:**

On days with questionable weather conditions, if you are wondering if schools are closed, please be reminded that you can check with local media, visit the HWDSB website at [www.hwdsb.on.ca](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca), or visit the school's website at <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/highview/>. The HWDSB will also initiate callouts to homes via Synervoice to notify families of any closures....please ensure all telephone numbers are up to date with the school office.

For more information regarding winter weather, visit the "Severe Weather" page of the HWDSB website at the following link: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/severe-weather/>.

## **Holiday Food Drive:**

Between December 11th and 19th, Highview students are asked to bring in non-perishable food items where possible to support the "Neighbour to Neighbour" Holiday Food Drive. Thanks to Mr. Kaszas and his class for facilitating this collection of food where these students will not only collect the food, but also engage in some real life math while doing so. Although the main goal is to support the Neighbour to Neighbour food bank, some prizes will be available for those classes collecting the most food items in each division.

## **Roots of Empathy:**

Thanks to Ms. Quinn for her facilitation of the "Roots of Empathy" program within her classroom at Highview School!

Because of this, the students in Ms. Quinn's/Ms. Depew's kindergarten classroom are fortunate to be learning through the visits of a baby along with his Mother to their classroom. During these visits, students have an opportunity to: observe the baby, interact with the baby, dialogue with the educators, ask questions, share their own experiences, learn about the development of the visiting baby, and more which supports their own personal social and emotional growth as individuals.

According to the Roots of Empathy Website, this program is: "an evidence-based classroom program that has shown significant effect in reducing levels of aggression and bullying among school children while raising social/emotional competence and increasing empathy." For more information please visit the Roots of Empathy website at the following link. <http://www.rootsofempathy.org/>

### **Collectible Cards/Toys at School:**

Although we understand why our students like to bring cards and toys to school, these items cannot only sometimes become a distraction, but can also get lost or go missing.

Please remind your children, as we have also via morning announcements, that the best place for toys and collectible cards is at home, where they are safe and will not become a distraction to learning. Thanks for your cooperation!!

### **Pets on School Property:**

Please be reminded that we respectfully ask that all pets be kept off of school property as students, staff, or other caregivers may have allergies to these pets or not be comfortable in their presence. We are also always concerned that a student might approach pets in a manner that results in an undesirable response from the animal. Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

### **Supporting Your Child's Learning in Mathematics:**

Parents often ask how they can support their children in learning math. If you are looking for a great resource to help with this, please see the description and link to "Mathies.ca" below as there are a collection of activities/links to activities and resources for parents & students of all ages.....

*"Mathies.ca, hosted by Ontario Association for Mathematics Education (OAME), is designed for Ontario K – 12 students and parents. This website includes games, learning tools, activities, and additional supports for students to explore, build and enhance their mathematical thinking. A parent 'Frequently Asked Questions' section includes: "How can I help with the learning of mathematics?", "What mathematics activities can we do together?", "What digital supports are available?" and "What additional support is available?" (From Mathies.ca)*

<http://oame.on.ca/mathies/>

### **Every Child Reading By the end of Grade 1:**

At Highview School we're committed to supporting a goal where every child is reading by the end of Grade 1, where developmentally appropriate.

A child who is reading by the end of Grade 1 is set up for positive academic outcomes and future success.

In September 2017, HWDSB celebrated the deployment of 48 Reading Specialists across the district to work directly with students and educators in all Kindergarten and Grade 1 classrooms. Reading Specialists are working with children within classrooms, alongside classroom educators, to deliver appropriate strategies and/or interventions. They support reading acquisition and respond to student learning needs.

We're pleased to welcome Ms. S. Porterfield in our school this year. If you have any questions about the Reading Specialist and their role in your child's class, please contact the school.

### **TipOff Anonymous Reporting: (Text or Call 905-963-0066 )**

Once again this year, all schools in the HWDSB are subscribed to TipOff , a service that allows anonymous tips of bullying, or any other types of inappropriate behavior, to be reported to the school Principal/Vice-Principal. For more information regarding this service, please visit the following link:

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/elementary/supports/safe-schools/bullying-prevention/tipoff/>

## **Newsletter Feedback/Ideas:**

If you have any ideas, suggestions, or feedback regarding our monthly newsletter, please send us an email to [highview@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:highview@hwdsb.on.ca).

## **December Happenings:**

December 4<sup>th</sup>: Red, White, & Green Day (K-8)

December 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>: Holiday Colouring Contest (Gr. 1-4)

December 5<sup>th</sup>: "Let's Talk Science" Presentations (Gr. 2)

December 5<sup>th</sup>: "How to Use Twitter" Session for (Gr. 1 Parents)

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>: Holiday Carolling (K-8)

December 6<sup>th</sup>: JSKC Walking Excursion to Dollarama

December 6<sup>th</sup>: School Council Meeting-All Parents/Guardians Welcomed

December 8<sup>th</sup>: Pyjama Day (K-8)

December 8<sup>th</sup>: Excursion to "Children's International Learning Centre" (Gr. 2)

December 11<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>: Holiday Food Drive for "Neighbour to Neighbour"

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>: Holiday Read-Alouds for Primary Classes by Grade 8 Students

December 14<sup>th</sup>: Kindergarten Holiday Craft Day

December 15<sup>th</sup>: Ugly Christmas Sweater/Crazy Hat/Crazy Hair Spirit Day (K-8)

December 21<sup>st</sup>: Holiday Concert

December 21<sup>st</sup>: Kindergarten Excursion to "Playtown" (FDKA Fortman/Nguyen & FDKB Depew/Quinn)

December 22<sup>nd</sup>: Classroom Holiday Celebrations (K-9)

December 22<sup>nd</sup>: Winter Wonderland Dance (Gr. 6-8)

December 22<sup>nd</sup>: Kindergarten Excursion to "Playtown" (FDKC Jones/Graydon & FDKD Catsoudas/Currington)