



# Holbrook Happenings

## October

### HAPPY



### THANKSGIVING

Dear Parents/Guardians, Most of you know that the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) mandates that a series of assessments to be written by our Grade 3 and 6 students in May / June of each school year. These "tests" are written in; Reading, Writing and Mathematics. The work of each student is marked and assigned a Level ranging from 1 to 4. Levels 3 and 4 ( equivalent of 75 % or higher) are at or above the provincial standard. We received the following overall results in Gr.3; 77% in Reading, 77% in Writing and 38% in Mathematics and in Gr.6; 55% in Reading, 62% in Writing and 38% in Math. It is important to note that these percentages represent the percentage of students who achieved at levels 3 or 4 in these areas of the assessment. You can view a summary of our school, board and provincial results at; [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com). As with any student data, we as a staff review and use this data to build upon as we move forward this year in our School Annual Planning. Individual student results for students who were in Gr.3 last year will be sent home with students next week.

Just a reminder that our Holbrook School Council has started their Fresh From the Farm fundraiser which continues until Monday October 15th. Hopefully students will have the opportunity to see family and friends over the course of the long weekend to share this fundraiser. All orders and payments are due on October 15th to the school please. Please note that we cannot accept cheques! School Council will notify you regarding the date for pick up. Thank you for your support with this fundraiser!

On October 30th you will be receiving your child's Fall Progress Report for students in Gr. JK-6 The first page of the report for Gr. 1-6 focuses on 6 Learning Skills; Responsibility, Independent Work, Initiative, Organization, Collaboration and Self-Regulation which will be assessed based on; E-Excellent, G-Good, S-Satisfactory and N-Needs Improvement. Learning Skills are at the core of all learning in all subject areas and it is important to focus on building a solid foundation in this area both at the beginning of each school year and throughout a child's school career. The second page of the report is for teachers to report on a student's progress to date in a given subject area but will be reported on as follows, Progressing Very Well, Progressing Well or, Progressing with Difficulty.

November 2nd is a P.A. Day set aside for parent –teacher interviews so please keep this date free to meet with your child(ren)'s teachers.

Just a reminder of our board's Nutrition Policy which has been in place in schools for the past few years. Within this policy each school has the latitude to choose a number of days when we can 'veer' from this policy for the purpose of a school-wide "special celebration". Hallowe'en would certainly be one of those celebrations and as such we will be continuing the Holbrook tradition of taking our Halloween parade across the street to Idlewyld Manor for 1:45pm. Teachers will share further details with you regarding each classroom's specific celebration.

On October 4th Holbrook opened a third FDK classroom to help alleviate our large class sizes in our kindergarten classrooms. Our third FDK has opened in Room 11 and Miss Wilkie Smith has moved over to Room 11 to open the new classroom. We welcome Mrs. Meir to Room 10 FDK. Mrs. Meir will be working with Mrs. Burch with all the students in Room 10. As well, we welcome Mrs. Gruenig who will be working with our FDK classes to support their studies in physical education and the Arts as well as supporting the Gr.3/4 class for their Science and Social Studies curriculum.

Enjoy the great fall season which October brings!

E. Birch-Jones

Ms. E. Birch-Jones  
Principal

Ms. L. Millar  
Office Administrator

Mrs. L. Romano  
Superintendent

Mr. W. Hicks  
School Trustee

### Attention:

- **Picture Day—Friday, October 19th**
- **School Council-meets on Thursday, November 29, 6:00 pm**

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### IMPORTANT!

**We have several students with severe nut allergies. For their safety, please do not send peanut butter, Nutella or nut products to school in your child's lunch.**

**Thanks!**

# October

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Having volunteers at Holbrook creates more opportunities for our students. There are many ways to get involved at Holbrook. Here are some examples:

- School Council
- PIZZA LUNCH
- Nutrition Program—shopping, preparing or cleaning up
- Class/ School trips
- Literacy support—reading with students
- Classroom resource (cutting, copying...)

All volunteers require a current vulnerable sector police check which can easily be done on line. **We are planning a Volunteer Orientation.** At this time we will review ways to be involved in the school. We welcome you to use your talents and time to support our students.

## Pizza

New pizza order forms will be sent home on Wednesday, October 10th and will be due back on Monday October 15th. Pizza days for this period will be Oct. 24, 31, Nov 7 and 14th. Please note: Late orders cannot be accepted. Thank you to our pizza volunteers!

## Milk



Milk tickets can be purchased at the office for \$5.00 for 5 milks. Milk is sold during first and second break everyday (depending on availability) Thank you to

Mrs. Legault and Room 2 Moo Crew for making milk possible!



Please note: Holbrook School can not accept cheques for any reason. Thanks for your understanding

## Staff List October 2018

ROOM	TEACHER/EDUCATOR	GRADE
9	Mrs. Hickey Mrs. Malik, DECE Mrs. McKechnie, EA	JK/SK
10	Ms. J. Meir Mrs. Burch, DECE	JK/SK
11	Mrs. Wilkie-Smith Ms. Toltesi, EA	JK/SK
3	Mrs. Helm	1
7	Mrs. Gordon Ms. Carey, EA Ms. Ashby, EA	1/2
8	Mrs. Lupal	2/3
2	Mrs. Legault Ms. Ashby, EA Ms. D'Allessandro, EA	3/4
12-3	Mr. Singh	4/5
12-4	Mrs. Weresch Ms. D'Allessandro, EA	5/6
5	Mrs. Kenehan Mrs. Arnold, EA	Jr. Comp. Class
12-2	Mrs. Sacchetti Mrs. Johnston	LRT School Support
French	Mdm Maharajh	1
	Ms. Thompson-Pyper	Primary Social Studies Science
	Ms. N. Gruenig	
	Mrs. Stirling Mr. Laszlo	Custodial team
	Ms. L. Millar	Office Administrator
	Ms. Birch-Jones	Principal





## School Messenger



School Messenger sends automated calls that come to the primary phone number listed on your contact verification form.

Attendance is completed by the classroom teacher. This information is submitted to Ms. Millar. By 9:20 a.m. the attendance is entered.

If your child is absent for a known reason, Ms. Millar will enter that onto the computer. You will not receive a school

messenger call as the reason for the absence is known. However if the reason is unknown, or if the student is late, the computer school messenger system will call the primary number.

School messenger may also be used by the principal to make important announcements or reminders. It would be helpful if you would please listen to the message first instead of immediately calling

the school to find out who called from the school. There are several phones in the building and Ms. Millar is not aware of each person who has called home.


We do want you to contact us with concerns. However listening to the message first will help reduce the number of calls Ms. Millar has to navigate. Thank you for your understanding.

Thank you so much from Ms. Millar for all of your patience during the busy month of September. Please remember that the office can be a very busy place and there is lots of work to do. Please try your best to have your child bring their lunch, water, hats, mittens and any necessary money with them in the morning. We make every attempt to avoid interrupting the classrooms. If you do need to drop something off, please understand that we will call your child down when it is convenient. Thank you for your understanding.

## Planning for success:

Often parents will ask what can they do to set the tone for a new school year to help maximize their child's success. Here are some suggestions that may help as you begin the new school year:

- Always be positive when speaking to your child about school. If they sense that you didn't like school, they are likely to adopt the same attitude.
- Check out how you can be involved in school activities. If you are involved, your child will see your excitement and be excited too!
- Communicate regularly with your child's teacher.
- Establish bedtime routines on school nights. Children require approximately 10 hours of sleep a night to be alert and attentive during school.
- Establish morning routines that include a nutritious breakfast and timely arrival at school. Students arriving late miss important lessons and instructions that cause them to fall behind.
- Establish homework routines on school nights. If no homework has been assigned, play math games, be active, read, read, read.
- Most importantly, talk to your child about school. Ask "What was your favourite part about your school day?" Asking further questions helps your child practice how to answer questions fully. These conversations lets them know you are interested in their school day and value their school experience.



***No Smoking***  
Just a reminder that smoking is prohibited in all school buildings and on all H.W.D.S.B. Property.

## HALLOWEEN!

We will be following Holbrook's tradition of celebrating Halloween by having a costume parade to Idylwyld. This is a fun event for our students and brighten's the day for the residents at Idylwyld. Students will change into their costumes at first nutrition break. The parade will start at 1:45. Please feel free to come to the front of the school to watch the children as they cross over to Idylwyld. Please send a costume that your child is able to put on easily themselves and is safe for walking.