



Hart Highlands Elementary School

January 2020

Newsletter

2233 Sussex Lane Prince George, B.C., V2K 3J1
Phone: 250-962-9211 FAX 250-962-8636

Calendar

- Jan 6** **Back to School**
- Jan 8** **PAC Meeting**
- Jan 10** **Gilbert, Lee, and Elson's students start Swim Lessons at the PG Aquatic Centre**
- Jan 17** **Hot Lunch – Pizza 73**
- Jan 27** **Professional Development Day (No school)**
- February 14** **Hot Lunch – Hotdog Day**
- February 17** **Family Day (No school)**
- February 24** **Primary Report Writing Day (No school for K-3 students. Grade 4 students in Mr. Elson's Grade 3/4 class should attend school on this day)**

Financial Hardship Application Process

As per Policy 5101, "fees will not be a barrier to student participation in school curricular and co-curricular activities".

If fees for curricular and co-curricular activities present a financial hardship for your family, please contact your child's classroom teacher or administration at 250-962-9211.

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s), Staff, and Students,

We hope everyone had opportunities to connect with those special to them during the Winter Break. Taking time to reinforce the networks you rely on for support is a critical element to living a well-balanced and healthy lifestyle.

The period before the Winter Break was incredibly busy at HHL. It is wonderful to see how our school community finds ways to connect that contributes to the ethic of care prevalent in our school. A great example of this was the 'Giving Tree' which invited all students to bring in gifts and food ideas for a family in need. We had so many students eager to give that PAC had to add items to the wish list on a daily basis. Other events worth noting are the Winter Café, which brought in over 600 guests, the Scholastic Book Fair, which raised \$3080, and the Grade 6/7 Band Celebration of Learning, where the students played several songs for the entire student body AND their parents/guardians.

At the end of December, after 33 years, Mrs. Clarke retired from teaching. Mrs. Clarke went from teaching in Northern Manitoba to Mackenzie and ended up spending her last 7 years as a Husky at HHL. We know that Mrs. Clarke is a HUGE Canucks fan and has plans to start her retirement catching a good ol' hockey game. So, the next time you are watching the Canucks, watch close and maybe you will see her smiling face in the crowd.

We would like to welcome Ms. Ashley Chau (Teacher), who is taking over for Mrs. Clarke and to Mrs. Farrah Small (EA) who joined the class at the beginning of December. We know these two are just going to love it here.

As we start the New Year, everyone at HHL will be working to re-establish positive and productive routines for our students. We will also continue to emphasize academic and social learning for students. Keeping a positive outlook and a growth mindset are important at school and at home. We appreciate your support in helping our students to focus on their growth and improvement in a way that builds confidence toward hard work and perseverance.

Sincerely,

Mr. D. Watt
Principal

Ms. S. Whitehead
Vice Principal

Mrs. L. Day
Secretary

Farewell Mr. Bond

December 20, 2019 was Mr. Bond's last day as a Hart Highland Husky. On January 6th, 2020 he started a new position as Principal of Quinson Elementary where we are confident he will continue to create a powerful community of learners among the students, the teachers, and the families of his new school. Mr. Bond, we hope you never lose your spunk! Show them Quasars what you've got!



What's up Leadership?

December was 'Random Acts of Kindness Month' and to help celebrate, the Leadership Group wrote enough affirmations for EVERYONE at HHL. That was 403 uplifting, kindhearted, inspiring, cheerful messages to share. During the outside break a few of our Leaders snuck into classes and stuck these messages to the desks to help spread kindness. Teachers had a great time allowing their students to share the messages with each other.

Photo: Leadership students get ready to deliver messages of kindness to students and staff at HHL.



PRE-LOVED HUSKY SHIRT

If you have pre-loved HUSKY shirts at home that your child(ren) has outgrown and no longer wears, we would love to find it a new home.

Please send them to the office and we will put them in the 'recycle' bin.

HHL PAC MEETINGS

Together, with administration and staff, the HHL PAC is dedicated to providing effective communication between home and school; encouraging parents to become valuable contributors to educational decisions and strengthening the role of families in education and schooling.

The HHL PAC organizes a variety of fundraising events throughout the year, such as Hot Lunch, Ice Cream Socials, and Movie Nights. Money raised through fundraising activities is used to directly benefit the students of HHL. We encourage every parent to participate in a PAC meeting to see firsthand how we partner with the school and community and the positive impact we have on the students.

Our next meeting is:

Wednesday, January 8, 2010. 7pm. Library.

Winter Weather Reminders and News for Bus Families

As we all settle back into school routines after the break, it's a good time to remind everyone about our winter weather policies. Schools will continue to stay open during winter weather events, but on occasion bus service may have to be cancelled for the day if roads are considered too dangerous to travel due to snow or icy conditions. Announcements regarding bus delays or cancellations are made via local radio stations on the affected day. You can subscribe to **My School Bus Monitor** at www.diversifiedbus.ca to receive notification of delays on your route. Thank you for ensuring children are dressed for the weather and for reminding them not to play on roadside snow piles. We ask that students are at their stops 5 minutes before the scheduled arrival time, but they are not expected to wait more than 15 minutes beyond the regular pick up time. Safety is always our first priority.

Over the next number of months, Diversified will be installing video recording equipment on the bus fleet. This technology will serve as another tool to support the safety and well-being of everyone on board our buses. Bus drivers are especially thankful for students who ride safely by sitting in their seats, by keeping the volume of conversations at a low setting, and by showing respect for others as well as the bus and its equipment. In turn, we are thankful for our drivers who have the important responsibility in our district of safely transporting nearly 4000 students each day!

REMINDERS

No Drop-Off Zones

Please be aware the handicap/disabled parking stalls in our parking lot should **not** be used for pickup and drop off. These spots are reserved for those who have permits. We realize we have a busy parking lot and appreciate your understanding with this.

Morning Supervision

Outside morning supervision does not begin until 8:20am. For personal safety, students are to arrive no earlier than the start of supervision.

Field Trip Forms

A reminder that Field Trip Forms are due no later than 1 day before the planned Field Trip. We will no longer be phoning the day of the field trip for permission. This will allow staff to plan and organize with accurate numbers (i.e. How many are going, how many are needing an alternate location during the field trip, etc). Thank you for your understanding.

Reminder: Nut Aware School

Hart Highlands Elementary is a nut aware school. All districts in BC must comply with the ministerial order which states: "special care must be taken to avoid exposure to allergy-causing substances."

At Hart Highlands we have students and a staff member with an air-born sensitivity. This means they can have an anaphylactic reaction without ingesting the allergen. It can be a severe and life-threatening allergy for these individuals. As a result, we ask students, and staff, not to bring foods that may contain nuts or traces of nut products. We also encourage students to: be aware of classmates with allergies; always wash their hands; watch for foods that could make allergic friends sick; get adult help if worried about an allergic friend.

We discourage students from sharing food, straws, drinks and utensils.

What's up in the Library?

December was an incredibly busy month in the library. We started the month with the Scholastic Book Fair, where we raised \$3,080.00 worth of new books and resources for our school. With these rewards, we will be ordering some new display carts and other items to brighten up our library. As well, over \$600.00 worth of books were purchased directly from the Fair. Thank you to all who were able to make it out in the snow and for such patience when our debit machine was less than cooperative! The winner of the Family Door Prize was Barret in Mrs. Brulotte's class. Barret won \$25.00 worth of books to take home and an equal amount for his classroom. Congratulations Barret! Our next Book Fair will be in April. Keep an eye on this space for more details in the Spring.

Following the Book Fair, students across the country participated in "Coding Week." At Hart Highlands, every student in the school received at least one hour of coding activities in the library, with Mrs. Hanlon, and in the classroom. Way to go Huskies!

Mr. Young's class completed the first 3D Printing projects for our school. Students designed and created their own 3D objects using TinkerCad. We saw everything from Christmas ornaments to name plates to wacky characters.

Thank you Division 16 for agreeing to be the guinea pigs for this new program offered through the library.

In the month of November students and staff borrowed about 2700 books. It looks like the number for December will be even bigger, so far. Mrs. MacLean has certainly been kept busy keeping up with all the shelving, discharging, and checking out. This is just a small part of what she does to keep our collection fresh. Students, don't forget to show your appreciation in the New Year and give her a big thank you for all she does.

Reminder: Overdue Notices are not a bill, just a friendly reminder to check at home for missing books. If a book cannot be found, just drop me a note. Primary students should also still be bringing their books back and forth to school in their plastic bags.

Don't forget to visit www.pgpl.ca for information about activities available at the Bob Harkins and Nechako Branch libraries. They have many exciting programs running all the time.