

Wildcat ROAR!

December 2020-Harwich Raleigh Public School

Website: <http://harwichraleigh.lkdsb.net>. School Twitter: @harwichraleigh

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All the Good News from HRPS!

From the Office

Thank-you to our families who were available to connect with their child's teacher(s) for Parent Teacher Interviews. We enjoyed having the opportunity to share your child's progress to date. Please feel free to connect with your child's teacher if you have any concerns about your child's progress throughout the year. Thank-you also to families who participated in Chatham-Kent's "The Gift" Initiative. The generosity of the community was incredible and we are so fortunate to live in such a caring area.

Daily COVID-19 Screening Tool

Thank-you to our parents/guardians for assessing their children daily and reporting whether they are experiencing any signs of illness. Please refer to the Ontario screening tool <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. The screening tool will advise you whether you should send your child(ren) to school or not and will also advise you of next steps. All students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must not attend school and should seek appropriate medical attention as required. Your continued co-operation with the screening tool and reminding your children to wear a mask (Grade 4-8), and to socially distance is greatly appreciated. All of these efforts help to keep our entire school community safe.

Automated Safe Arrival Calls

Effective **December 8th**, the Lambton Kent District School Board will be implementing an automated attendance messaging system for Harwich Raleigh PS. The system will notify parents/guardians if your child has been marked absent and the school has not been notified of the reason for the absence. To follow-up, we will contact the parent/guardian phone numbers and email addresses that we have on file and ask that you call the school to confirm the absence and provide the reason. You can help by ensuring that the school has your most updated contact information and by notifying the school office in advance if your child will be late or absent. Thank-you for continuing to report any absences. Please note: School voicemail messages are checked regularly.

Holiday Break

The last day before the Holiday Break is December 18th and classes will resume on Monday, January 4th, 2021.

On behalf of the entire HRPS Staff, we wish our students and their families a wonderful and healthy holiday.

Continue to stay safe and see you in 2021!

School Spirit Days-Dec 14-18th

The following spirit days for the final week of December include;

Monday-Red/Green/White Day

Tuesday- Winter/Holiday Pajama Day (no slippers, stuffed animals and/or blankets)

Wednesday-Holiday/Winter Hat Day

Thursday-Winter/Holiday Socks

Friday-Holiday/Winter Sweater Day

Kindness Holiday Tree

Our focus on kindness as a school community continues with a school wide project. For our Holiday tree this year we have created large snowflake ornaments and have asked each class to record how they can show kindness to others. Let's keep up the great acts of kindness each and everyday, Wildcats!

Holiday Treats

Due to COVID-19, we are not able to have treats, candies, baked goods, and other items coming into the school and distributed. We appreciate your understanding during these uncertain times.

Bus Cancellations-Zone 7

Just a reminder to listen listen to local radio stations or check the transportation website at www.schoolbusinfo.com or download the MySBI app by CLASS for any bus cancellations and/or delays.

Our school is located in Zone 7. Please keep in mind during inclement weather days, if busses are cancelled in the morning, they do not run in the afternoon.

ROARS-Character Assembly

Our classes will conduct their own ROARS celebration event during the week of December 14th. The character traits for November and December have been Responsibility and Co-operation. Keep up the excellent work, Wildcats!

School Playground

Please be advised that our playground equipment is now closed and will not re-open until the Spring. The Ontario School Board Insurance Exchange advises the closure of school playgrounds due to the following reasons:

Freezing temperatures - At temperatures below 0 deg. C, very few types of protective ground surfacing remain resilient enough to offer any degree of protection to a falling child - regardless of depth. If the ground cover is frozen, the play equipment is NOT safe for use.

Snow build-up - Snow can cause two problems on a play structure - first, it can make play surfaces very slippery; secondly, it can create suffocation hazards if the openings at the end of tube slides or similar structures become closed in by drifting snow.

Ice or freezing rain - As noted above, ice or freezing rain can make play surfaces, hand grips and stairways very slippery, increasing the risk of slip and fall injuries.

Clothing - Winter clothing is much different than normal clothing. Synthetic materials, such as nylon, reduce sliding resistance, particularly on plastic slide beds. This can increase the travel speed on this equipment to a dangerous level, and if combined with frozen ground cover can increase the chance of injury. Winter clothing is also very bulky and is more likely to have drawstrings or hooks and clips which can become entangled in components of the equipment. Please remind your child to not use the school equipment outside of school hours during the winter months.

Lost and Found Items

We have accumulated a few items in our Lost and Found Centre. If your child is missing some articles of clothing, students are encouraged to check our Lost and Found Centre. These missing items are on display for our students. Any unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity after the Holiday Break.

Pediculosis Check

Sometimes students arrive at school infected with pediculosis. Spring and fall are the seasons when head lice is most prevalent in school children. Your assistance in early detection is greatly appreciated. Please check your child for head lice weekly. If you find evidence of head lice, please contact the school immediately. This will allow us to notify other parents in the classrooms affected, so that they may check their child. Infestation by head lice is an unpleasant nuisance, but not a health problem. Head lice do not carry or spread disease. If we detect head lice on your child, you will be notified and asked to come to the school to pick up your child. We then ask that you use the necessary treatment on his/her hair. Your child(ren) are welcome to return to school when the pediculosis is no longer evident. Hopefully by working together we can control the spread of head lice.

Virtual Scholastic Book Fair

This year we are working with Scholastic to offer a Scholastic Book Fair to families. It will be open from **November 25 to December 9**. If you are interested in participating, you can use the following link:

<https://bookfairs-canada.myshopify.com/pages/5152932>

Your support of this literacy event helps promote reading and every purchase earns Book Fair Rewards that can be used for resources to support the school. Purchased items are shipped directly to your home. Enjoy this opportunity and the new books. Thanks to Mr. Jackson for working with Scholastic to facilitate this event.