



École Publique Hillcrest Public School

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Thanks & Happy Holidays

Everyone will be looking forward to a change of pace as we move into the Holidays. We wish everyone a relaxing vacation and hope that each member of our school community has a rejuvenating holiday as we move into 2024. As we draw closer to the winter break, we wish to extend a huge thank-you to all parents, students, staff, and volunteers who have worked so diligently this fall to promote student success and to create a warm, welcoming learning environment. We hope that the Holiday Season brings a few moments of relaxation and a chance to reflect on all that we have accomplished together in 2023. From our family here at school to yours at home, Happy Holidays.

Holiday Celebrations

During the month of December, different holiday theme days will be celebrated. We are grateful for Mme Verroen and her students and Organizing Staff who have been working hard planning the holiday assembly. These dates can be seen in the "Upcoming Events" section of this newsletter. We appreciate the Student Parliament's leadership in creating and facilitating these days and events which will make coming to school fun and exciting for our young learners.

Upcoming Events

November 30

School Colours Day

December 1

Photo Retake Day

December 4

Book Fair – 4th to the 7th

December 7

Grade 7/8 Vaccinations (for children of families who have registered their child online)

December 9

Hillcrest Fundraiser Night at Johnny G's in Petrolia

December 15

Spirit Wear Day (Ugly Sweater)

December 18

Hillcrest Holiday Dinner – 12:00

December 22

Last Day of School
Holiday Assembly

January 8

First Day of School in 2023

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Just by way of follow-up, we wanted to make sure that we thank everyone who attended a Parent/Teacher Conference. Your participation in these conferences promotes student success. Parents can reach out to staff at any time of the school year to discuss their child(ren)'s progress. The more communication between home and school the greater likelihood that student success is at the forefront and each child's needs are being met.

Head Lice

As we get into the colder months of the year, and there is the possibility of students sharing toques (despite home and school's encouragement to avoid this), etc., all students should be reminded of steps they can take to reduce the likelihood of getting head lice. Even though lice do not jump or fly, they can spread from one student to another by sharing combs, brushes, clothing, hats and more. Anyone can get head lice; all members of the household need to be checked when there is one case of head lice in your immediate family, or the cycle of treatment and infestation can be continuous.

Holiday Dinner

The Hillcrest Holiday Dinner will return on December 18th, at 12:00 p.m. Students will be treated to a turkey dinner, with potatoes, and vegetables, all prepared by Burn's Restaurant. The cost for this meal is mostly subsidized, but we are asking for a \$2 payment on School Cash Online for the meal. Please consider adjusting the amount of food sent in your child(ren)'s lunch(es) that day. If you feel that your child will not eat a lot of the food we are providing, please consider sending an amount, closer to what you normally would for any given school day. Please contact us at the office if you have any questions about this meal.

Winter Dress

With the ever-changing weather, please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately in hats, boots, waterproof mittens/gloves (waterproof are best), and warm coats. This is also a great time of year to wear layers so that children can adjust their clothing as the temperature warms throughout the day. Our students enjoy playing outside twice a day for twenty minutes each break and we want all of them to feel comfortable. Please reach out to the school if your family is in need of any of these items or any other essentials. We always have ways by which we can help and we would love to support you and your family!

Legion Art Competition Submissions and Remembrance Day

Congratulations to all of our Petrolia Legion Art Competition Participants this year. Thanks for putting your best foot forward and striving to do your best with Remembrance Day Art, Poem, and Essay entries!! Also, thanks, M. Triest, Mme Nesbitt, and Mme Van Troost for your encouragement and all the teachers who supported students in this effort. We also want to thank the students of M. Triest's

class and all students who participated in our 2023 Remembrance Day Assembly. It was an effective opportunity to reflect on and appreciate our beloved freedom and to consider how we are going to live our lives in such a way as to merit the blessings created by the sacrifice of so many.

Students, we are so proud of all of you. Thanks for teaching us!

Inclement Weather

In cases of severe weather consider one of these options to obtain bus cancellation information for our school, that is located in Zone 4:

- Listen to The Fox, 99.9 and the Cool 106.3. starting at or before 6:30 a.m.
- Information is also posted at [School Bus Info](#)
- Follow the Bus Info link on the LKDSB website (top left of the website)
- Perhaps the best method to determine if buses are running, or if they are on time or running late, is this. Student Transportation Services offers the [MySBI mobile app](#) to receive instant notifications of school bus delays, and cancellations. Just download the free app from Android/Apple app stores, and subscribe to Weather Notifications, as well as to your school bus(es). Please visit this link for additional details.

Fundraising Reports

Thanks to everyone's efforts in assisting with fundraisers that have been run through School Cash Online. We are extremely pleased to announce that as a community we have raised \$312 for the Petrolia Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, as well as \$1955 for the school's Nutrition Program. Additionally, we helped raise \$678 for the Christmas For Everyone initiative here in Petrolia. Thanks, everyone for your continued effort to support our school and area communities.

Hillcrest is again collecting for "Petrolia's Christmas for Everyone Campaign". There are many ways for families to contribute. Until December 6th, the School will be accepting online donations through School Cash Online. We will also be accepting non-perishable food, new, unwrapped toys, and gift cards. We appreciate everyone's efforts for this worthy cause. Please call us at the office here at Hillcrest if you have any questions about this campaign.

Leaving & Returning to School Following the Holiday Break

We are encouraging students to take their belongings home during the winter break. This promotes the practice of inventorying what students currently have, and what they need for the upcoming second term, and permits the school to be organized and tidied for everyone's return after the December Break.

Additionally, we look forward to seeing everyone when we return on Monday, January 8th. We hope that you and your family have a well-deserved holiday. Thanks again for all of your support in 2023!



From our school family to yours,
we wish you the happiest of
holidays and a very rewarding
2024!

 **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS**

Save the Date!

Dear families,

Mark your calendars! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to
our school!

Our school's Scholastic Book Fair will take place on

December 4th-7th.

Your investment in your reader helps our whole school. All
purchases earn Scholastic Dollars that can be redeemed for
books and educational resources for our school's
classrooms and library.

The countdown to more Bookjoy is on!

See you at the Fair!

