



The Hillcrest Herald

December 2020 edition

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Note from the Principals

Dear Families

A school is a lovely place to be as the Holiday Season approaches. Children are excited about Holiday events and decorations, they are learning songs and busy making cards and gifts for friends and family. They are also working hard to achieve their learning goals before 2020 comes to an end.

As parents, you play a tremendous role in developing and influencing your child's learning ability. During the "season of giving" one gift that children find most important is your time. It does not cost a thing and you can give of yourself and your time daily. Time spent with your children is far more valuable and important to your little ones than any present you could buy.

It is also a time of year for reflection and to think about what we want for ourselves and our loved ones as the New Year approaches. Happiness is what we wish for all of our Hillcrest students and families. Take the time to remind your children that there are times in everyone's life where they may feel sad or lonely and that there are always people they can talk to at home or school.

We want to wish you and your families a blessed holiday season. We are grateful to be part of this wonderful and amazing school where students can come to learn and grow daily. May you have a restful holiday and a New Year filled with good health and much love. We will see you back in 2021 on Tuesday, January 5th.

Mrs. Lazaris & Mrs. Butler

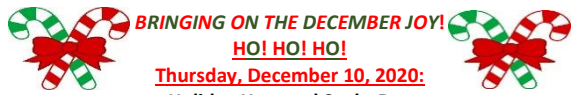


IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Dress Code/Uniform:** Hillcrest has a uniform policy adopted by our Governing Board. Students may not wear hoodies/sweaters in class that are not part of the school uniform. Solid navy blue sweaters are acceptable however, they may not have ANY logo on them.
- To ENSURE student safety parents must refrain from making dismissal changes. **Only if absolutely necessary**, parents **MUST** inform the office before 12:00 p.m. at 450-688-3002 ext.5415. Also, please call or email the office before 8:30 a.m. to report any student absence. You **MUST** state the reason for the absence.
- **Clemenceau drop off/pick up gate:** There is a very high volume of traffic in this zone. In order to ensure the safety of the students and facilitate the drop off/pick-up **for all parents**, it is essential that you leave immediately after having dropped off or picked up your child. Once they have made it through the gate we will do our part to ensure their school entry and safety. There is NO need to watch them walk all the way into the school. This waiting and watching impedes upon the ability of other parents to park. Also, the zone painted on the road with stripes indicates a no parking/no stopping zone. Please respect this by not letting your child get in or out of the car where prohibited by the lines.
- **Dressing for the Weather:** With the freshly fallen snow students must come to school wearing appropriate attire for outdoor play. COVID restrictions force us to keep our class bubbles intact during outside play and students must stay in their respective zones. Students will be sent out onto the snowy fields even if they come without boots or snow pants.



Upcoming Events



**BRINGING ON THE DECEMBER JOY!
HO! HO! HO!**

Thursday, December 10, 2020:

**Holiday Hats and Socks Day
Show off your Holiday and School Spirit!**

Friday, December 11, 2020:

**Holiday Dress Up or Dress Down Day
Wear your holiday finest or your most cozy clothes!**

Monday, December 14, 2020:

**Holiday/Christmas/Red/Green/Ugly Sweater Day
In class cookie decorating and milk for all.**

Tuesday, December 15, 2020:

PJ Day-Hoooray!

Free Holiday Brunch for All Students

Holiday Parade: Students watch from the windows. Time TBD.

Wednesday, December 16, 2020:

Pedagogical Day

Thursday and Friday, December 17th and 18th

Students stay home, check and connect to be offered by teachers.

December 19, 2020 to January 3, 2020:

Holiday Break

Monday, January 4th:

Pedagogical Day

NO DAYCARE

Calendar Changes: Please take note of the changes made to the school calendar that was recently sent home. Three pedagogical days have been added as per the directives from the minister of education. Teachers will be participating in training related to distance learning on these days. Daycare will be open for those registered.



PARENT INTERVIEWS- Our new format of ZOOM and phone interviews proved to be highly successful. Thank you for your flexibility as we continue to adapt to this new reality.



AGAPE DONATIONS— Collections will continue until December 11th for the Food Drive. AGAPE is counting on the generosity of our school community to help feed the less fortunate this Holiday Season. Please continue to send in non-perishable items and toiletries.



SCHOLASTICS BOOK FAIR — Reminder our Virtual Book Fair is still on! Our very own shopping site will be open until November 27th!!! All purchases help our school earn Rewards for new resources. Share this link with all your family and friends!!! Everyone can participate in the Virtual Book Fair from the comfort of home. Book Fair shopping link. <https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5150836>



HAHSA to Home

Hillcrest Home & School Association: HAHSA fundraising team is continuously looking for different ways to raise money for our school and enrich the lives our children. Last year our fundraising efforts paid for our amazing outdoor classroom and many other exciting events and activities.

TCBY & Pizza Day Registration: We will be opening the registration for TCBY and Pizza Day in mid-December for the start of the 2021 year. Registration will only be available for 8-week periods due to the current situation. An email will be sent to parents once registration is open. Reminders and updates are always posted on our HAHA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/haafterschool>.



Pizza Kit Fundraiser: We would like to thank our Hillcrest community for their continued support. Our Pizza Kit Fundraiser has been a huge success. We sold 163 pizza kits!!! Reminder that if you ordered a pizza kit the pickup is on Friday November 27th between 4:00pm-5:30pm.



Hospitality Committee: We want to give a big thank you to our amazing Hospitality Committee who took time out of their evening to come and decorate the school for the Holidays!!!



Compliments of the Chef

Should you have any inquiries or questions, please call us anytime at 514-490-1235.
Team Merenda

Managing Holiday Stress and Anxiety

Often times when there is a stressful situation or unwanted emotion in our lives, we feel like we have lost our control, but there are still a lot of things that we can control in our lives, even if we feel like we can't. Here is a list 50 things you can control to help you stay grounded in your life, even during a stressful time, unwanted emotion, or a crisis. Parents, this is a good activity to do alone or with your kids to spark a conversation about what they can control in their lives. Have your child check off the things they think they can control.

https://sunriseelementarycounseling.weebly.com/uploads/1/3/1/2/131275711/things_i_can_control.pdf



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