

Hidden Valley Elementary School Newsletter

Newsletter #6

February 1, 2016

HVS School Council News

The HVS School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the School Library. All parents are welcome.

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Dear Parents/Guardians

We are in the middle of the most valuable learning time of the year. Between January and March, classes cover a lot of ground. There are very few holidays and kids generally stay focused. These months are good months to spend 15 minutes or so reading each night with your children, or for older students, having them read silently for 30 minutes. Many families are already doing this.

Self-regulation is a big focus in our school this year.

It's important that children know how to calm themselves first in order to self-regulate. A preferred strategy of calming must be practiced regularly, so like a habit it can be used when most needed. Consult http://www.yesnet.yk.ca/staffroom/selfreg/calming_strategies.pdf to learn more about calming strategies.

A child with good self-regulation knows:

Step 1: What it looks like to be calmly focused and alert.

Step 2: How to recognize stressors and how to return to the optimal state of regulation.

Enhancing a child's ability to regulate him or herself has a dramatic impact, not only on the child's wellbeing and capacity to learn, but an equally dramatic impact on the wellbeing of parents and educators: www.self-regulation.ca

Self-regulation is quite different than compliance, as self-regulation builds capacity in the child for self-direction and to cope with stressors. Self-regulation can be defined as the ability to stay calmly focused and alert, which often involves, but cannot be reduced to self-control. It involves arousal states, emotions, behaviour, and as the child grows older, thinking skills.

As parents, we have an important role to play in the development of self-regulation in our children. The concept of co-regulation is that regulatory skills are first learned through others, and then internalized by self. This points to the importance of adults to be regulated themselves before they can help children regulate. We need to teach ourselves how to be calm and not react, and we do that through learning what our stressors are so that we can find the tools to allow us to cope more effectively rather than react when we are triggered.

Sincerely,
Riana Robinson
Principal

Spelling Bee

The event will take place in the foyer of the YG Admin Building on Friday, February 26, 2016. English participants must register between 11:45 AM and 12:30 PM for a 1:00 PM start. The French competition will begin first, running between 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM, with registrants signing up between 8:00 AM and 8:45 AM. The awards are presented immediately following each contest. The contest is open to all English, French or French Immersion students from grades 3-9 enrolled in all Yukon schools.

Check out the Rendezvous site for all the words for the Yukon Spelling Bee.

(www.yukonrendezvous.com/#!/spelling-bee/ccae)

Electronic Device Rules

Hidden Valley School promotes quality academic experiences, as well as, healthy social relationships and personal development.

The use of any electronic communication devices (ECDs), as well as other electronic games and players are restricted during school hours. Students may only use and have in their possession, electronic devices prior to 8:15 am and after 3:07 pm during the school day. As a condition of this permission, all electronic devices must remain off and put away during the school day and students assume all risk of loss, damage or theft of their electronic device.



Polar Games

Polar Games is a "fun" participation games opportunity for Grade 6 students from around the territory. The Games use several of the downtown schools and the Canada Games Centre for the various activities. These include: Basketball, Soccer, Handball, Curling and Bowling.

On Thursday, February 4th and Friday, February 5th, the grade six students will be attending the annual Polar Games with students from other Yukon Schools. Polar Games Schedules, permission forms, rules and expectations will be sent home as we receive them.

Christmas Silent Auction

Thank you to Eclectic Video Productions for donating the \$50.00 gift certificate for Earls in the Christmas Silent Auction. It was listed as an Earls donation in error.

We apologize for anyone else we may have missed in our last newsletter. Please know we appreciate everyone who contributed!

Report To The Office

We would like to remind parents to use the main entrance only, and to report to the office on arrival at school.

Thank you for keeping Hidden Valley School NUT Free.





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Violence Threat Risk Assessment Notification to Parents

Re: Yukon Education Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The safety of our children is a top priority for everyone. The tragedies that have occurred where students commit violent acts against other students and educators in Canada and in the United States have caused government officials, educators, parents, students and other community members to assess how we make our schools and communities safe for our children and students.

Public Schools Branch staff members have been involved in an intensive safety training program with our community partners, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Yukon Department of Health and Social Services, Yukon Department of Justice, and Yukon College. From what we have learned in this training we know that student acts of violence are not random; individuals do not suddenly 'snap' and commit serious acts of violence. In cases where serious acts of violence have occurred there have been many indicators and escalating signs that these individuals are on a path to commit serious harm to themselves or others. The training has helped our professionals to recognize these signs, assess them, and put in place interventions to support and reduce the level of risk. Together with our community partners, Public Schools Branch has developed a plan to respond to situations in which students may be demonstrating behaviours that pose a risk to themselves or others.

We wish to advise parents that we have adopted a protocol which requires schools to undertake a threat assessment in all cases of students making threats to harm others. These threats may be physical, verbal or written, they may be gestures or messages posted on the Internet. The purpose of the Yukon Education Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol is to determine how best to support students considered at risk so that their behaviour does not become hurtful or destructive to themselves or others.

The complete Yukon Education Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol is available at www.education.gov.yk.ca. Parents can play an active role in keeping our schools safe by advising the school of any information communicated to them from their children concerning threatening behaviours that their children may have been subjected to, in or out of school, and continuously monitoring their children's use of the Internet and Internet chat lines.

This letter is intended to provide you with notice that all Yukon schools will respond to all threats in a professional manner that provides for safe, healthy, and caring learning environments. Any threats or threat making behaviours will be taken seriously and assessed accordingly.

We are pleased to be able to provide this level of support to our school communities and appreciate having the ongoing support of our community partners.

Yours sincerely,

Riana Robinson
Principal

Whitehorse Kindergarten pre-registration for the 2016-17 school year begins on **February 8, 2016, at 9 a.m.**

On this page, you can

- Learn about Kindergarten options
- Find out how to register for Kindergarten

Kindergarten is not a required program in Yukon, but most families choose to start their children's education there.

Kindergarten in Whitehorse

In Whitehorse, children can start Kindergarten when they have reached 4 years + 8 months of age by September 1st of the school year. That is, they must be 5 years old on or before December 31.

Kindergarten in Whitehorse is a full-day program.

In addition to the regular English-language Kindergarten program, Whitehorse parents can choose French Immersion and Catholic education. Admission into these programs is not guaranteed.

Registration

Fill out the online [Whitehorse Kindergarten pre-registration form](#)

We use the form to assign children to schools.

The form asks for information about your child and allows you to specify your first and second program choices. Children are expected to attend school in their attendance area. Admission into French Immersion and Catholic education is not guaranteed.

If you need help completing the online Kindergarten Pre-Registration Form, or if you need to change or correct any information after submitting the form, call the Department of Education at 867-667-5068 or email Jamie.Richardson@gov.yk.ca.

School assignment

Children are assigned to schools in the order in which pre-registration forms are received, so it is very important to complete the online form as soon as the pre-registration period opens in early February, especially if you are requesting French Immersion or Catholic education.

In assigning children to schools, we consider:

- Parents' requests for special programs
- Class sizes
- Attendance areas
- Schools attended by siblings
- Support for any special educational needs child may have

The pre-registration form allows you to specify a first and second preference. If your first-choice school is full, your child will be assigned to an alternative school, taking into account your second preference.

Completing the registration process

When we have processed all of the pre-registration forms, we will tell you which school your child has been assigned to.

Once your child has been assigned to a school, the school will ask you to show a birth certificate or other proof of age for your child, and you will fill out some additional forms.

The school will give you a list of required school supplies and invite you to an orientation session.

If you have requested a school outside your attendance area, we will advise you no later than May 1 whether or not your request is approved. In the meantime, a spot will be held at the school in your attendance area or at an alternative school.

‘A multi-grade project' constructing a fort

Intermediate students have been busy helping the primary students build a snow fort outside during recess. They have used food coloring and water to decorate the snow blocks. Great work!





Resource Services

Student On-line Resources

Yukon students can access the following online resources from home using the login information and web URL provided below.

Username: YukonEd
Password: resources

Worldbook Encyclopedia - worldbookonline.com



Ebsco Databases - <http://search.ebscohost.com>



Gale Databases - <http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/yukonsha>



Video Streaming Resources



www.accesslearning.com

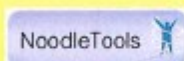
www.jobspeopledo.com

www.learn360.ca

www.curio.ca

www.nfb.ca

Other Tools



Research tool for note-taking, citation, document archiving, collaborative research, ...
Gr 6-12 Ask your teacher for URL and login details



Online vetted research environment & interactive project tools, Gr. 6-10 – Ask your teacher for URL and details

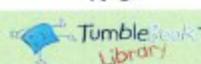


Young Learning Centre Games
<http://www.learnnowbc.ca/learning2/>

PS – the login is different for the resources below ↓

eBooks- TumbleBooks - www.tumblebooks.com

K-3



UN:Yukon, PW: books

3-7



UN: Yukon2, PW: login

6-12



UN: Yukon, PW: login

ebooks - Yukon School Library Collection - <http://educationlibraries.gov.yk.ca>

1. select your school library, 2. select **Catalog**, 3. select **PolkottShelf**,
4. enter the guest login - UN: Yukon, PW: books OR ask your Library staff for your personal login

December 3rd, 2014

Husky Helper Winner for the Month of January

Emerson W-V

****PROGRAM AT HIDDEN VALLEY ELEMENTARY ****

Learning Together is a drop in program that runs Tuesday-Friday. Tuesday is from 9:00– 11:30 am and 12:35 pm–3:00 pm. Wednesday—Friday is from 9:00 am—11:30 am. every morning.

Learning Together is a positive, play based learning environment for parents/ caregivers and their children that provides learning opportunities to enhance children's skills in all areas of development. It is a program that targets 3-5 year old children although ages 0-5 are welcome.

The program is drop-in and free! Snack served as part of the program.

Play centers, gym time, storytelling, games, crafts and so much more!

Park at the front of the school in the parent parking lot and enter the school from the primary wing door.

For more information contact the school at 667-8164.



Wrestling

Wrestling has started for students in Gr. 1-7.

Practices are every **Tuesday** after school from 3:15—5:00pm.



Alyssa R.	Damien G.
Sophie G.	Alex G.
Josephine D.	



Wall of Fame

We have a Wall of Fame at school. Please send in any newspaper articles/clippings of Hidden Valley Students excelling in activities for us to display on our wall. It is located outside the door to the gym. Come check it out!

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Upcoming Events

Healthy Lunch (Chili/Spaghetti)	Feb. 3
Polar Games—Grade 6	Feb. 4 & 5
School Council Meeting @ 6:00 pm (Library)	Feb. 9
Basketball Championships	Feb. 12
Basketball Championships (Finals)	Feb. 13
Cabane a sucre (sugar shack) PM	Feb. 18
Pancake Breakfast (8:30—9:30 am)	Feb. 18
Whole School Swim (12:15—1:45 p.m.)	Feb. 19
Bison Hunt Begins	Feb. 21-25
Heritage Day (No School)	Feb. 26
Parade @ 1:00 pm	Mar. 1
Report Cards go Home	Mar. 4
Spring Break	Mar. 7-18
Good Friday (No School)	Mar. 25
Easter Monday (No School)	Mar. 28
Bison Feast @ 5:30 pm (Gym)	Mar. 31

