



Hidden Valley Elementary School Newsletter

Newsletter #4

December 11, 2017

ZWANI.COM

Dear Parents/Guardians

HVS School Council News

The HVS School Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in the School Library. All parents are welcome.

In This Issue

- Christmas Concert
- School Activities/Sports
- RESP's
- Early Dismissal
- New Reporting

Administration E-Mail:

John Duclos
Principal
John.duclos@gov.yk.ca

Shelley McInnis
Administrative Assistant
Shelley.mcinnis@gov.yk.ca

Web:
hve.yukonschools.ca

HVS School Council:
hvscouncil@gmail.com

Dental Therapist:
667-8360

This is the final couple of weeks of my first year at Hidden Valley School. I have to say that I have loved being in this school working with amazing children, staff and families.

Our Christmas concert is on Thursday, December 14th at 6.30. I am looking forward to seeing you all at our concert!

On behalf of myself and the staff I would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and all my best wishes for the new year.

Thank You!

- * to all the teachers who prepared report cards and carried out our Kwata Kets'adan Ku night.
- * to all the parents and students who attended the Kwata Kets'adan Kun night and gave us feedback on our website.
- * to Mr. Clubbe and Ms. Boardman for coaching our volleyball teams.
- * to Ms. D., Ms. Klein and Ms. Dawn for coordinating the book fair.
- * to Mr. Clubbe, and the Gr 6/7 students for coordinating the Halloween Carnival.

Sincerely,
John Duclos
Principal

Early School Closure

All Whitehorse schools will be closing early
Wednesday, December 20, 2017.
Hidden Valley School will be closing at **11:50 am**.

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Our school participated in a wonderful Remembrance Day Assembly on Thursday, November 9th. Thank you to Ms. Byblow and Mr. Wiliam for coordinating this special service as well as all the classes who participated in the ceremony. We were also very fortunate to have our

special
horse Roy-
White-
bury for
family



guests, Andy Mac-
al Canadian Legion,
horse Royal Cana-
saying a prayer in
members join us for this special occasion.



Leod; piper of the
Joe Mewwett from
dian Legion, Hazel
Southern Tutchone



White-
the
Bun-
and

Guidelines for photos & videos of students at school and public events

For parents and school councils – We ask that parents please check with school staff and other parents before they take, share or post photos or information about other peoples' children during programs at school (example: posting a photo of your child with classmates to facebook or identifying who the other children are online). Please check with the teacher before you take photos in a classroom.

Food Bank:

Please support our annual school-wide Holiday Food Bank. Donations of canned and non-perishable food items will be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off in the front foyer from now until December 20th. Please add your donations to the food bank box during our Christmas Concert festivities. Thanks for caring about our community.

Clothing

Now that we are seriously into winter, it is **very important** that children be dressed appropriately for the conditions. All students are expected to go outside for recess and lunch breaks. Please ensure that your child has snow pants, proper boots, warm coats, hats, socks and mittens. **Please label all clothing.** Minus 25 degrees Celsius is our cut off temperature for students to go out for outdoor recesses. If your child is not coming to school during an extensive cold spell, please advise the school for safety reasons.

We will appreciate it if you can donate any used mitts or snow pants that you are not using at home. The teachers would like to keep these items in their classrooms to use in emergency situations.

Christmas Concert/Silent Auction

The silent auction items will be in the library the evening of Thursday, December 14th.

The auction bidding will close at 8:00 pm. These items will also be available for bidding on Friday, December 15th at the family dance. Winners will be notified on Monday, December 18th.

Whole School Skate:

On Tuesday, December 19th, the whole school will be skating at the Canada Games Centre from 1:00 - 1:45 pm.

(Buses for students will be leaving the school at 12:30 p.m.)

Please join in on the fun afternoon with us! (We can always use extra hands to help tie up skates.)

Helmets are required for all students. Bicycle helmets are just fine.

There is a \$3.70 fee for skate rentals at the Canada Games Centre.



Volleyball Championships

The girls' and boys' teams had fun participating at this years
Volleyball Tournament!

Congratulations to everyone who participated!



Support for your child's post-secondary education

Saving for college or university for your child can be tough. When you start early, your money will grow more over time with interest.

Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP)

The Government of Canada can help you to build savings in a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP), where savings grow tax-free until they are withdrawn to pay for the post-secondary education of a child.

Anyone can open an RESP to save for a child's post-secondary education, including parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles or friends. To open an RESP, you and the child must have a Social Insurance Number (SIN).

Canada Learning Bond

The Canada Learning Bond is available to eligible children from low-income families who were born on or after January 1, 2014. Open an RESP and request the Canada Learning Bond for an eligible child. The Government of Canada will deposit:

- an initial \$500; and
- an extra \$100 each year the child is eligible until they turn 15, for a maximum of up to \$2,000 per child.

You do not need to contribute any money in order to receive the Canada Learning Bond.

Canada Education Savings Grant

The Canada Education Savings Grant is available to all children up to December 31 of the year they turn 17, regardless of family income. When you contribute money into an RESP, the Government of Canada will also contribute:

- 20% on the first \$2,500 you contribute each year, up to \$500 per year; and
- an extra 20% on the first \$500 of annual contributions for low-income families, for an extra \$100 each year; or
- 10% of first \$500 of annual contributions for middle-income families, for an extra \$50 each year.

A child can receive up to \$7,200 in Canada Education Savings Grant over their lifetime.

Sign up!

Follow these steps to receive money for your child's education after high school:

Step 1: Get a Social Insurance Number (SIN) for you and your child. Go to Canada.ca/social-insurance-number or call 1-800-622-6232 to find out how.

Step2: Make an appointment with a participating bank or other financial institution of your choice. Bring the SIN numbers for you and your child and say: **"I want to open a no-fee Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) and get the Canada Learning Bond for my child"**.

For more information:

Go to Canada.ca/education-savings
Call 1-800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232)
TTY 1-800-926-9105

Learning Commons....Makerspace

An exciting transformation is underway in our wonderful Hidden Valley School Library! Buoyed by substantial funding acquired by our School Council, our "Learning Commons/Makerspace" Committee meets regularly to discuss, plan, and implement ideas to revitalize our Library as a hub for designing and creating. By bringing together a focus on literacy and numeracy development, experiential and 'hands-on' learning, First Nations ways of knowing and doing, and the redesigned curriculum's *Applied Design, Skills and Technologies*, we have an incredibly rich opportunity to establish a student-centered, inclusive and dynamic learning space.

Visit the Learning Commons and see the changes taking shape, and speak to a member of the Committee (below) to learn more:

School staff members: Brenda Allen, Heather Boardman, Bryan Clubbe, John Duclos, Steve Fergusson, Kevin Greenshields, Denise McDiarmid, Lynn Poile (Teacher-Librarian)

From our School Council: Krista Klassen

From First Nations Programs and Partnerships (Yukon Education): George Bahm, Tammy Stoneman

New Reporting

December Reports:

You would have just received the new December Reports for your child's progress. We want to hear what you have to say. Please go onto our school website between December 12th and 19th to fill out a survey in regards to the format of the report. This survey will be similar to the one from the Kwata Kets'adan Ku night.

Kwata' Kets'adan Ku Night:

Thank you for filling out the Kwata Kets'adan Ku survey on the school website. The information that we received was shared with the school staff and the school council. We spoke with the school council about creating an opportunity for child care for families who have to bring younger siblings. We are also considering how to cut down on the amount of people who are in the primary classes at the same time to create more of an intimate environment.

FreshGrade:

The students will be up on FreshGrade on December 15th. However the parents will not get their invitation until January. This is due to two reasons: (a) received late access to the FreshGrade and (b) we would like to "go live" with the parents by presenting an opportunity to have parents come in and go on with the students and teachers so they have a better understanding of the process and information.

Kwata Kets'adan Ku Draw Winners:

We would like to congratulate to following two students and their families who won the draw on the Kwata Kets'adan Ku Night: **Liam Whellan (primary) and Gabe Strudwick (intermediate)**. They will have an opportunity to pick a gift certificate for either the Canada Games Centre or Mac's Fireweed Books.

Library Notice

The Hidden Valley School Library is not just for the students! Parents/guardians too are welcome to borrow from our amazing library collection! Please stop in and take a look.....and contact Mme Lynn, Teacher-Librarian, for assistance.



Student Secret Santa

The school council and some other parents are running the Secret Santa activity again this year. They are requesting that all students participating **spend no more than \$10.00** (this is very important). The students will be bringing home a letter on December 11th, from the parents organizing the event, outlining all of the details including if their buddy is a boy or a girl and their age, however, there are no names given.

If you have any questions or if you are unable to participate please contact Krista at catandpenguin@hotmail.ca as soon as possible.

When you bring in the gift, please ensure that it has a tag that states if it is for a boy or a girl and the age group that was in the letter. **They requested that the gifts come in by Friday, December 15th and the Gifts will be exchanged on the 20th.** These few days will allow our volunteers to ensure that we have enough gifts for each age group

December

Dominic S.—Gr. 6	James B.—Gr. 1
Hope K-N.—Gr. 2	Phaedra K.—Gr. 7
Taylor C.—Gr. 7	Gabe S.—Gr. 6
Isabelle P. K	Taylor C.—Gr. 7
Morgan C.—K	Alexandra—K
Gabe S.—Gr. 6	Cameron—K
Sullivan C.—K	
Ms. McColeman—Music Teacher	

Thank you for keeping Hidden Valley School **Nut** Free.





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.

**LEARNING TO
LEARN.....FOR
LIFE**

Hidden Valley School
#5 MacPherson Rd
Whitehorse, YT
Y1A 5S3

Phone:
(867) 667-8164

Fax:
(867) 393-6316

Upcoming Events

School Council Meeting @ 6 pm	Dec. 6
Christmas Concert & Silent Auction (6:30-8pm)	Dec. 14
MAD performance (K, K/Gr.1,Gr. 1/2)	Dec. 15
Carolling Week (8:45 am)	Dec. 14-20
Whole School Skate (1:00-1:45 pm)	Dec. 19
Early dismissal at 11:50 am	Dec. 20
Christmas Holidays	Dec. 20-Jan. 2
1st day back to school	Jan. 3

