



Hidden Valley Elementary School Newsletter

Newsletter #6
Feb/March

March 2nd, 2020

HVS School Council News

The HVS School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd at 5:30 p.m. in the School Library. All parents are welcome.

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HVS School Council:

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



From Christmas to March Break is a precious time of the year for learning and the classes cover a lot of material. This winter we have been lucky enough to spend some of our time learning outdoors. It is essential to send your children to school with the appropriate clothing to be indoors and outdoors throughout the day. We are utilizing the outdoors as a learning tool whenever it is safe to do so.

This year we have been putting a significant focus on literacy skills. We have focused our professional learning on integrating literacy in all areas of the curriculum and the outdoors. We have had great successes in these areas, including the new visioning of the Bison Camp for our grade 6-7 students, forest school programming, and place-based learning opportunities. The teachers have also been supplying the more traditional outdoor education time as well with kicksledding, xc-skiing, snowshoeing, and sliding.

As a reminder we are having one of the most exciting weeks of the year this week, we have our student-led conferences. Student-led conferences is the opportunity for our students to share the learning that they have been taking part in over the past few months. Please enjoy this opportunity to hear about your child's strengths and next steps through their own words. If you have not had a chance to book an appointment yet, please use <https://hves.schoolappointments.com> or contact the teacher and we can book it for you.

We are also going to have a couple of staffing changes at HVES this week. Ms. Fanny Saint-Onge will be leaving us this week. She is looking forward to spending more time with her family. Whereas she was only expecting to be here for a short period and we coaxed her into staying much longer. As Fanny is leaving, I would like to welcome Ms. Trish Pettitt as our new Administrative Assistant; she will be the new friendly face and voice of the HVS office. We are happy to be keeping Ms. Maleah Seguin. She will be moving into an educational assistant position at HVES. Lastly, we would like to welcome Ms. Shannon Boyce. She will be joining us this week upon her return from her maternity leave.

Lastly, I would like to wish our bison camp participants a wonderful week out on the land. I would also like to thank the many volunteers for making this camp possible. We appreciate your sacrifices for this fantastic experience for our students.

Please contact me at any time,
John Duclos

Student Led Conferences

This year we are continuing to use the School Appointments website (hves.schoolappointments.com) to help us schedule our Student Led Conferences.

This program will allow all teachers and parents to customize their schedule to meet their needs. Teachers have set their schedules so you can now view their available time slots by following this process at the bottom of the page.

Please note the following before picking you conference times:

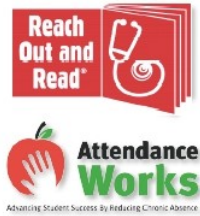
1. Each appointment consists of two parts; (a) 15 minutes to review your child's work and (b) 15 minutes to meet with the teacher.
 2. The appointment time that you pick is the time that you will be reviewing your child's work. You will be entering the room 15 minutes into the appointment time (ex. If you book an appointment at 3:15, you will review your child's learning from 3:15-3:30 and then meet with the teacher and child from 3:30-3:45).
 3. This process means that you need to leave at least 30 minutes between booking interview times if you have more than one child in the school.
- The teachers have varied schedules over March 2nd to 6th. If you require time outside of the teacher's table, please contact the teacher directly to make other arrangements.

School Appointments - Parent Instructions

Go to <https://hves.schoolappointments.com> and you can either sign in with your user account that you created in previous years , if you did not use the system before, create an account.

Parent Input Form:

We have sent out a form be filled out and returned before the Student Led Conferences. This form will allow you to discuss your child's learning with them before the conference. Please return the form to the teacher before the date mentioned on the form. You are able to fill the form in electronically and email it or fill it in by hand and send it back to school with your child.



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Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit attendanceworks.org and reachoutandread.org

Basketball Tournament

We would like to thank both teams for their participation in the recent basketball tournament, and a big congratulations to the girls' team for winning the Bronze medal!



Fundraising Opportunities

Hidden Valley School is participating in these two fundraising opportunities by collecting receipts from Boston Pizza and Independent Grocer.

All you have to do is give your receipts to the office!



1. Operation Education

Save all your **Boston Pizza** receipts, give them to the school and the school will get 5% of the total back in cash! This will run from January to June 2020 and again in September until January 2021.



2. Independent Grocer

For every \$5000.00 we get in receipts, **Independent** will give our school a \$20.00 gift card. (excluding tobacco and lotto)



Education (E-1)

PO Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

March 2, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

RE: Preventing the spread of illness within schools

It is currently influenza season, and there are concerns about the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). The health and safety of all students is our first priority, and we are providing information to help you keep you and your child safe.

Currently, the risk of COVID-19 within Canada and Yukon is low. Although there are no cases of COVID-19 in Yukon, there are cases of influenza and other respiratory viruses.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

The following everyday practices for you and your child can help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including COVID-19:

- wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available;
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands;
- avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- clean and disinfect objects and surfaces that are touched a lot;
- when you cough or sneeze:
 - cover your mouth and nose with a tissue, then throw the tissue immediately into the trash; or
 - cover your mouth and nose with your inner elbow; and
- stay home when you are sick.

In Yukon, health care providers are keeping up to date on COVID-19. They know how to recognize the virus in a person who may be infected and how to best care for them. The Yukon Chief Medical Officer of Health and Yukon Communicable Disease Control are closely following this virus. They are working with their counterparts across the country and leading all preparations to protect Yukoners.

This information is accurate as of March 2, 2020. As the situation can change quickly, for the most up-to-date information on COVID-19, visit the Government of Yukon's *Information about Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)* at

<https://yukon.ca/en/information-about-novel-coronavirus-yukoners> .

Sincerely,

David Wipf

A/ADM, Schools and Student Services

Department of Education

Parents and Guardians

You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

You can participate in this free service* just by sending a text message of “Y” or “Yes” to our school’s short code number:

For **CANADA-BASED** numbers: **978338**

For **US-BASED** numbers: **61569** (see next page for QR code)

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with “Stop”.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge™, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.

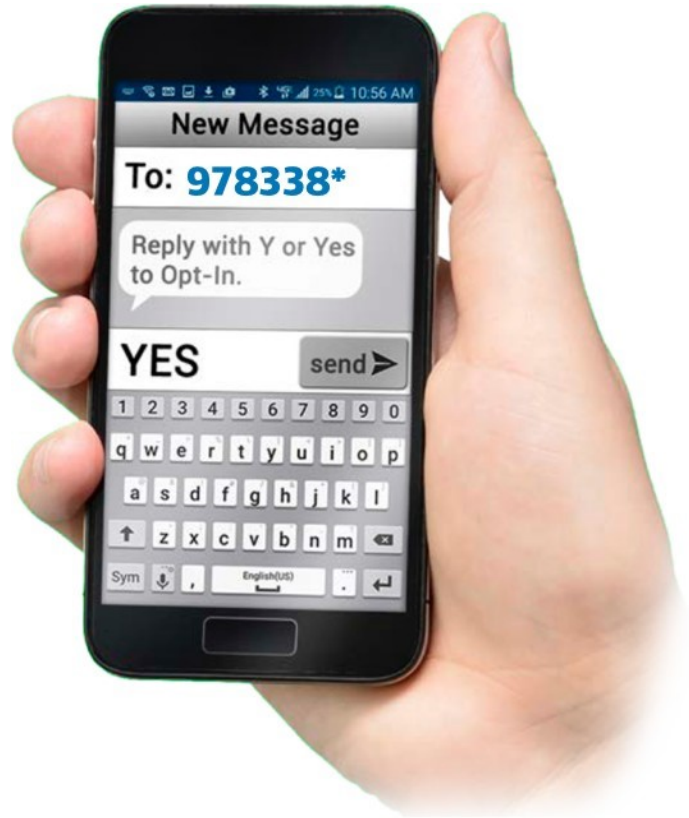
For **CANADA-BASED** numbers:

**Opt-In from
your mobile
now!**



**Just send “Y”
or “Yes” to
978338.**

(For Canada-based numbers).



*if your number is Canada-based.



February & March Birthdays

Sophie G.	Amiera C.
Josephine D.	Elan J.
Austin W.	Wren R-O
Connor M.	Kiara J.
Julian D.	Akeelah H.
Mr. Duclos	Miss Marie
Ruben S.	Halezyn B.J.
Belle E.	Alice R.M.
Linnea R.	Olivia B.
Ella S.	Madeleine C.
Ever R.	Madison O.
Jade M.	Ronin T.
Lukas W.	Xavier C.
Jack H.	Jennifer J.

Upcoming Events

Gr. 4-7 Rec Swim (1:00-1:45)	Feb 27
Pink Shirt Day	Feb 27
PD DAY— NO SCHOOL	Feb 28
School Council Meeting @ 5:30 in the Library	March 3
Gr. 2 Learn to Swim Lessons (9:45-10:30)	March 3-5, 10-13 (7 lessons)
Student Led Conferences (By appointment) NO SCHOOL	March 6
Gr. 6/7—Bison Hunt	March 9-13
Gr. 4/5 Floor Hockey Tournament	March 11
Hot Lunch—Pizza	March 13
Spring Break—No School	March 16-27
School Council Meeting @ 5:30 in the Library	April 7
Good Friday—NO SCHOOL	April 10
Easter Monday—NO SCHOOL	April 13
Kindergarten vision screening	April 15

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

