

# Hidden Valley Elementary School Newsletter

September 10, 2018

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to welcome everyone back to Hidden Valley School for the 2018-2019 school year. I hope that you were all able to spend some quiet and exciting times with your family over the summer months.

We would also like to welcome the new 36 students and their families to our school community. We look forward to the experience of working with your children. Our focus at Hidden Valley School is to offer our students a balanced academic program that meets the needs of the individual student. We continue to follow the curriculum redesign in our school, which will still focus on the core content areas of reading, language arts and mathematics. However, we also put a focus on the core competencies of learning: (a) communication, (b) thinking, and (c) personal and social.

We would like to thank our School Council and all the families who contribute their time and energy during the school year for curricular and extra-curricular programming. This year the School Council will host a community barbeque on the evening of Sept. 20th. I hope to see everyone there this year.

As it gets colder, please ensure that your children are appropriately dressed for the weather. Conditions change quickly and we all know how hard it is to dress children in the cooler autumn but not quite winter season.

This year the school calendar has been put on the school website (<http://hve.yukonschools.ca/>). This calendar will be updated throughout the year and you are able to download the calendar and print it directly from there.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school. I look forward to working with you and your child/children throughout the school year and to provide a productive and safe learning environment that supports student success. In addition, ideas on how to make our school a great learning environment are always welcome. I would like you to know that my door is always open, and I welcome your suggestions.  
*Together we make a difference in the lives of our children.*

I consider it a great honour and privilege to be able to serve as your principal, thanks for your trust and support. I look forward to a wonderful year.

Sincerely,  
John Duclos  
Principal

## Help your child succeed in school

Our goal is to ensure that every student attends school regularly.

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and in life.

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But, we also know that when students miss too much school— regardless of the reason – it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is chronically absent—which means missing 18 or more days over the course of an entire school year. Research shows:

- Children chronically absent in kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- By 6<sup>th</sup> grade, chronic absence is a proven early warning sign for students at risk for dropping out of school.

Absences can add up quickly. *A child is chronically absent if he or she misses just two days every month!!*

### **Clearly going to school regularly and on time matters!**

We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and **arrives on time**. Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Ensure your children go to school every day unless they are truly sick.
- Avoid scheduling vacations or doctor's appointments when school is in session.
- Talk to your child's teacher if your child/children feel anxious about going to school.

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so that they can show up for school on time every day. *We want your child to be successful in school!* If you have any questions, please contact us.



### **Tips that will help your child stay involved at school:**

- Help your child be alert by getting enough sleep, eating well, and coping with difficulties.
- Set expectations for learning at school.
- Attend school conferences, performances and other events.
- Talk with your child every day about what is happening in school.
  - What are you learning and why is it important?
  - How are you doing?
  - What is your next step?
- Make your home an engaging learning place.

## Halloween Carnival

On Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., students will be participating in the HVS Halloween Carnival. The Grade 6/7 students set up booths of games and activities just like at a fair.

Students can also dress up for this afternoon of fun! The gym becomes alive with many wonderful characters and creatures.

## HVS Book Fair

Hidden Valley School will be having a book fair from October 15 – 18<sup>th</sup> in the Library. Books will be available for sale from Tuesday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> to Thursday Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> at lunch time from 12:20 p.m. to 12:50 p.m., as well as after school Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. and all day Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering some of your time for this event, please call Miss Dawn at the school at 667-8164.

## HVS School Council News

The Hidden Valley School council AGM will be held on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 6.00 p.m. in the School Library. The next school council meeting will be on Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm. All parents are welcome.

## Hidden Valley Huskies Fun Club

The Huskies Fun Club is a drop-in based after school recreational program which runs between the hours of 3:07 pm to 5:30pm, Monday through Friday. We offer a healthy snacks, provide homework help, present fun and active themed programming, including games and crafts. Parents can register their children at school.



## Allergy Alert!

We have students in the school who have severe reactions to some food products. The items that we are asking all parents to refrain from sending to school are ***any nuts, peanut butter or any items containing nut products.*** Contact with these items can result in severe situations for some of our students. We have had excellent support from our community on this and we thank you for your continued cooperation.

Thank you for keeping Hidden Valley School

### Nut Free.



## Reminder about school supplies

This is a reminder that if a student requires assistance with school supplies, please contact the school so we can make arrangements to make sure everyone has the supplies they need to get the school year started.

The list is found on the school website.



## HVS School Volunteers

If you are able to help at school, or at school events, please call the office at 667-8164.

## HVS School Day

First Bell	8:35 a.m.
A.M. Recess	10:15-10:30 a.m.
Lunch	Noon to 12:20 p.m.
Lunch Recess	12:20-12:50 p.m.
Dismissal	3:07 p.m.

# ***Hidden Valley School***

## ***Staff 2018 - 2019***

We would like to welcome all our new staff members. We hope you are going to be very happy at Hidden Valley.

John Duclos	Principal, Counsellor
Denise McDiarmid	Kindergarten
Tracy Klein	Kindergarten
Shari Heal	Grade 1
Melaynie Campbell	Grade 1
James Mitchell	Grade 2
Jon Allen	Grade 3
Meghan Adamsky	Grade 4/5
Andrea Webber	Grade 6/7
Katie Vanderstelt	Reading Recovery, L/A
Rachel Pollet	Music
Lynn Poile	Learning Assistant/Library
Heather Boardman	Remedial Tutor
Dawn Bennett	Education Assistant
William Bellemare	Education Assistant
Deanna Paquin	Education Assistant
Kevin Greenshields	Education Assistant
Jennifer Jang	Education Assistant
Crystal Desharnais	Education Assistant
Marie Kormos	Education Assistant
Tamara Hudson	Education Assistant
Donna McCann	Education Assistant
Shelley McInnis	Admin Assistant
Chris Stebbing	Library Clerk
Lindsay Chambers	First Nations Language

## **Fund Raising Idea - Raven Recycling**

When a person takes in their refundable items to Raven, instead of taking the money for yourself, you can ask that the "money from the refundables" be donated to Hidden Valley School. There is an account set up at Raven Recycling for Hidden Valley School for cash refundable donations and once a month Raven adds up the donations and sends a cheque to the school.

This can also be done for students who belong to the Raven Recycling Club. They can have their points transferred to money from the refundables and donated to Hidden Valley School.

## ***HIDDEN VALLEY SCHOOL LIBRARY!***

Welcome back to a new school year! Our school library is always a great place to be. Students' family members are welcome to borrow books too - just come and see Mme Lynn at the school to sign out books. Remember too - you can access the school's library catalogue via the internet! Go to the school's website, then click on Library: <http://hve.yukonschools.ca/>

Happy reading! *Bonne lecture!*  
Mme Lynn

## Health & Other Information

When children come together in close contact, they share many things. Some things you want them to share; some you are not so keen about. Here are some comments and information on two of the more unpopular items—head lice and pink eye.

**Head lice** are a very common occurrence when heads are touching and hats are shared. However, having lice is not actually a health condition—they are just a nuisance. Checking your child's head regularly is the best prevention to any major situations at home or at school.

**Pink Eye** is another common condition in the school and daycare settings. The following information is taken from a "Well Beings" book put out by the Canadian Pediatric Society.

Pinkeye (Conjunctivitis) is an infection of the covering of the eyeball. It is usually caused by a virus, but it can also be due to bacteria. Pinkeye can also be caused by allergy or by rubbing the eyes excessively.

Children with pinkeye complain of a scratchy feeling or pain in their eyes and may have a lot of tears and pus discharge. The infection turns the whites of the eyes pink or red. When the child wakes up after a sleep, pus or discharge often makes the eyelids stick together. Pinkeye is easily spread when:

- A child with the infection touches the discharge and then touches another child;
- An uninfected child touches an infected child's eye discharge and then touches his or her own eyes;
- An adult wipes an infected child's eye and then touches his or her or another person's eyes.

Pinkeye that is caused by bacteria can be treated and cured with an antibiotic. Antibiotics can also stop the infection from spreading to others. There is no treatment for pinkeye that is caused by a virus.

### Things Parents Can Do:

- Watch your child for signs of pinkeye if another child has it.
- Contact your physician if your child has pinkeye. It is not easy to tell whether the infection is caused by bacteria or a virus. It may be necessary for the physician to prescribe antibiotics for the child.
- Ensure you and your child wash your hands very carefully after touching the child's eyes.
- Do not let your child share towels or wash cloths with anyone else, because this could spread the infection.
- If your child's eye have pus (yellow, thick) or a discharge, he or she should not return to school until after taking the antibiotics for two full days.

## Toys/Stuffies

Please help us to keep these items at home. Teachers cannot be held responsible for these items, and they often cause a lot of unhappiness in the classrooms.



## After School Bus and Ride Changes

At any time, if you are requesting your child to go on a different bus, or if you are giving permission for your child to take a bus to someone else's house, the bus driver requires a note from the parents. You can also call the bus company at 456-3210 to pass on this information, fax the notes to the school at 393-6316 or e-mail the Admin Assistant at [shelley.mcinnis@gov.yk.ca](mailto:shelley.mcinnis@gov.yk.ca).

If you need to let your child know about a change in after school ride plans, please call the school at 667-8164 **before 2:30 p.m.** If you call and get the answering machine, please call again until someone answers. This will ensure that your child receives the message.

## **Husky Fun Club**

### **Job Opportunity: Co-Ordinator, Full time and Part time workers**

September 11, 2018

Good Afternoon Parents and Guardians,

We are in need of parents, guardians and community members who would be interested in working at our after school program, Husky Fun Club (HFC).

The HFC runs after school, Monday to Friday until 5:30 pm, to support our families with after school care. The program utilizes the gymnasium for active play, activities and crafts, as well as the playground for fresh air and fitness. A snack is also provided.

With the increasing number of students each year, we are looking for:

- Coordinator for 3 hours a day (\$33.00/hour)
- Employee for 2.5 hours a day (\$26.00/hour)
- Employee for 2 hours a day (\$26.00/hour)

Please let us know if you are interested and available to help keep this program running and spend time with our wonderful kids every day.

Thank you,

John R. Duclos  
Principal  
Hidden Valley Elementary School  
Phone: (867) 667-8164  
Fax: (867) 393-6316



Come prepared  
to get wet and  
show off  
your skills!

New member Pool evaluations  
for ages 6-11:

Teddy Bear (partial or full season),  
Cub & Brown Bear squads  
for our 2018-2019 swim season

Saturday, Sept. 15 - 8:30 am  
on pool deck

email: [whseglacierbears@gmail.com](mailto:whseglacierbears@gmail.com)

We also  
offer a  
Teen Squad  
(13-18 yrs)

Check [whitehorseglacierbears.ca](http://whitehorseglacierbears.ca)  
for more info





# Upcoming Events

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

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

**Phone:**  
(867) 667-8164

**Fax:**  
(867) 393-6316

**Administration E-mail:**

**John Duclos**  
**Principal**  
[john.duclos@gov.yk.ca](mailto:john.duclos@gov.yk.ca)

**Shelley McInnis**  
**Administrative Assistant**  
[Shelley.mcinnis@gov.yk.ca](mailto:Shelley.mcinnis@gov.yk.ca)

**Web:**  
<http://hve.yukonschools.ca/>

**HVS School Council:**  
[hvscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:hvscouncil@gmail.com)

School Council AGM	Sept. 5
Dental Exams	Sept. 5 & 6
Gr. 4/5 Soccer @ Vanier	Sept. 6
Parent Open House 5:30 - 7:30	Sept. 6
School Photos - AM	Sept. 7
Co-Operative Games PM	Sept. 7
Whole School Berry Picking	Sept. 13
Kindergarten Hearing Screening-PM	Sept. 17
Earlybird Volleyball Tournament Gr. 6/7	Sept. 19
School Council Welcome Back BBQ (5:30 - 8:00 pm)	Sept. 20
Terry Fox Run (11:00-12:00)	Sept. 21
Orange Shirt Day	Sept. 26
YTA Conference (No School)	Sept 27 & 28
Volleyball game #1	Oct. 1
Gr. 4/5 Swim Lessons (9:45-10:30)	Oct. 2-5
School Council Mtg @ 6 pm	Oct. 3
Gr. 6 HPV Immunizations (1:00-3:00)	Oct. 4
Thanksgiving Day (No School)	Oct. 8
Volleyball game #2	Oct 15
Book Fair	Oct 15 - 18
Kwata Ketsadan Ku (Learning House in the Woods) (starting at 5:30)	Oct. 18
PD Day (No School)	Oct. 19
Volleyball game #3	Oct. 22
Gr. 6/7 Swim Patrol (9:45 - 10:30 am)	Oct. 23-26
Volleyball game #4	Oct. 29
Halloween Carnival (1:00 - 2:30 pm)	Oct 31