



Humber Park School

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THE HUMBER NEWS JANUARY 2020

Principal's Message:

Dear Families:

Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed your holidays as a family and your children are ready to get back to the business of learning together! We have several plans that we are gearing up to kick off in January with more details below. We are planning a book fair with the support of our SAC and then moving to sustained school wide reading time in support of our SSP goals of improved reading in our school. (more details below) We are also looking to get our new logo and motto (thank you Hayden) digitized and creating a new letterhead, new school clothing and eventually a new school sign above our entry. We will continue our breakfast program with the support of our many amazing volunteers organized by Mrs. Pelley and the funds we have been able to access to support this program. Thank you to all our families who supported this program and our school in 2019 ...we couldn't do it without you!

Yours in education,
Ms. White

Christmas Concert: A huge thank you to all our families for your understanding and support of the tickets to the concert. It was a special event and the spirit of the season was evident. It was the best concert I have ever attended and I thank you for this gift, it was greatly appreciated! Due to your efforts, we were able to donate to the Cole Harbour Food Bank, four boxes of food and \$ 326.20 which was greatly appreciated.

Drop Everything and Read begins (D.E.A.R.): As part of our new SPP goals in reading – see details below- our whole school (adults included) will undertake a quiet reading time for 10-15 minutes beginning in early January. Teachers will begin with reviewing expectations and supports to students and we will practice in the classroom to begin. Then once students are ready, we will have a whole school reading time every Monday and Friday morning where students will drop everything and read individually or in pairs with friends or with adults and even sometimes as a large group. During this time each week, classes will rotate through a reading time in the lobby area where volunteers and special visitors will read with them in pairs or as a group. The goal is to increase interest, confidence and stamina within our school reading community in support of our SPP reading goal. If

you would like to join us as a volunteer during this time or have a suggestion as to a visitor we should contact, please let me know.

Classroom Book Fair with Tattletales: Also as part of the support of our SSP goal in Reading, we are pleased to share that the students will have the opportunity to enhance their classroom library with the support of our SAC and Tattletales bookstore. On Wednesday, January 22nd, each class will travel to the gym and have the opportunity to choose books for their classroom library that they would like to read independently and share with their teachers topics of interest for the future to ensure that they have materials of interest at their level readily available to them. Each classroom teacher has been given an allocation from the SAC funds of \$4000 to purchase as many of these books as possible for their classroom library. These books will be stamped and become the property of Humber Park School. Families who wish to visit to browse books with their child for their own home libraries or discuss with Anne Whebby of Tattletales what is available for their child in these topics are welcome to visit as well. As always, please sign in at the office and grab a tag if you wish to do so for the safety of all.

SSP – School Success Plan: Each school in Nova Scotia is expected to gather data on what academic areas their students are experiencing the greatest difficulty and plan strategies to support students to have the most impact on improving their achievement and helping them experience success. For Humber Park for the next few years, we will be working on the following two goals:

Literacy goal is to improve student achievement in reading with an emphasis on accuracy, fluency and deeper comprehension.

Our math goal is to improve student achievement in the area of number sense with a focus on students communicating their understanding.

Home & School: Our next Home & School meeting is on Tuesday, January 21st at 6:30. This meeting will focus on preparations for our Fun Day and future fundraisers. The total raised from the Pie Campaign was \$624, the total raised from the Front Row Seat was \$341 and the total from the Gift Day was \$666.70. We want to thank families for all their support of these fundraisers and remind you that there will be no fundraisers for the months of January and February as we prepare for the Read-a-Thon in March. All money raised will continue to go towards supporting classroom teachers and when enough money has been raised, the purchase of a new sound system.

Water: Beginning in January, the NS Government will be providing a cooler to all schools that have not yet had water testing for lead completed. Humber Park is one of these school and therefore we will receive drinking water for student/staff use until this testing is completed. It would be appreciated if students could bring a reusable water bottle to school for use at the water cooler as they are no longer able to access the fountain.

Delayed Opening: If weather conditions warrant, the HRCE could implement a delayed opening. Delayed openings would be considered when a severe weather event has concluded but snow clearing or other operations require additional time. Delayed opening may also be considered when the physical plant is experiencing an issue such as a power outage or loss of water and additional time is required to prepare the school to open. If this was to occur, school and Pre-Primary would be delayed by two hours. In our

school, this means school would start at 10:10. If Stock Transportation is operating, the expectation will be that students are picked up two hours later than their regularly assigned time pending any weather-related delays. Our lunch and dismissal times will remain at their regularly scheduled times.

Please be sure to keep the emergency dismissal information you provided us with this past month for your child up to date in the event of a school closure during the day.

SAC: The SAC is our School Advisory Council, an organization that advises the principal and vice principal. The following parents and community members are part of our SAC: Roger Johnson – chair, Lyndsay Watts, Teaira Cain, Jeanine Goulet, Jessica Duncan and Marilyn Smith. Should you have any concerns you would like brought forward to the SAC, you can e-mail Roger, the chair at hrce-sac-hpk@gnspe.ca. SAC meeting minutes are also posted on the school website if you would like to see what is discussed. Our next meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 14th at 6:30 for all members.

Important Upcoming Dates – (Please refer to December calendar for important dates for that month)

February 7 th	Humber High Five Assembly 10:40
February 17 th	Heritage Day - Africville will be honoured this year!
Feb. 26 th	National Pink T-shirt Day!
March 6 th	Humber High Five Assembly 10:40
March 16 th - 20 th	March Break
March 25 th	Assessment & Evaluation Day