



Portland Estates Elementary School

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Mrs. L. Henman-Poirier, Principal/Directrice

November 2019

Mrs. D. Haase MacLeod, Vice Principal /Directrice Adjointe

Mrs. D. Ryan, Secretary/Secrtaire

Winter is on the way – November is here with shorter days and chilly mornings. Before we know it the flakes and flurries will be flying. Thank you for completing your Registration forms – if you have any changes since the beginning of the school year- please notify the office. We must be prepared any time when the school will be closed for weather or operational issues. We thank all our Grade Nine students who came in for Take Your Kids to Work Day and for Mr. Casey, Literacy Coach, who has spent the last few weeks working with our staff.

We have a very busy November: Remembrance Day Peace Assembly, Crazy Hair Day, Book Fair, Parent-teacher, class trips and much more.

We look forward to seeing you at several of our events this month.

Mrs. Henman-Poirier

PROGRESS REPORTS

Please note that we have three terms this year. Our first term report card will go home on December 5. We hope that these reports along with parent/teacher interviews in November and April as well as regular correspondence will keep the families informed on their child's progress. We will be using the online booking program again this year and it will open on November 14 to book appointments for November 28.

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

Parents/Guardians are invited to take part in our Remembrance Day ceremony on **Thursday, November 7 at 11:00am**. We invite students and parents/guardians to wear their Scouts/Guide uniforms or our cadet and military members to wear their uniforms and participate.



BOOK FAIR-VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Scholastic Book Fair is coming up this month, running the week of Nov.26th to Nov. 29th. Look for more details in the flyer coming later this month. This is a great way to support the school library and get Christmas shopping done at the same time!

Volunteers are needed. It does not have to be a full week commitment.

We have shifts for:

Set up on Tuesday morning (many hands make light work)

Packing up the fair on Friday morning.

When the fair is open

Tuesday afternoon,

Wednesday morning and afternoon and

both Thursday afternoon (1-3pm) and evening (6-8pm) (our busiest times during Parent Teacher interviews)

Contact: Carol Pedersen cpedersen@hrce.ca for more information

NOVEMBER TO DO LIST

- Attend the Remembrance Peace Assembly on November 7
- Attend the PTO meeting November 7 – 7 pm
- Photo Retakes – November 12
- Flu Clinic – November 14
- Crazy Hair Day - November 21
- Attend the Book Fair – November 26-29
- Attend Parent/Teacher interviews – November 28 1:30-3:30, 6-8 pm

HRCE INCLEMENT WEATHER & Early Closure Policy

Student Safety is the first priority of the HRCE when making school cancellation decisions. HRCE schools will be kept open except under extreme circumstances to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision to attend school during inclement weather conditions is the responsibility of each family. The decision to cancel school will usually be made as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible and it will be communicated on the radio, the Regional Centre's website, the main switchboard and through **the school cancellation number – 464-INFO (4636)**.

Parents must ensure that students are properly dressed for the weather conditions, regardless of whether they travel by bus or walk.

Before dropping off the students at school on inclement weather days, parents should ensure that staff have arrived and are immediately available to provide supervision. No students should be dropped off prior to 8:40am.

If busses are cancelled and schools are open, parents must use their own discretion with regard to sending their children to school.

When schools are open, meaningful learning activities will be going on in classrooms.

Students who are unable to attend due to inclement weather and/or bus cancellation will not be penalized because of assignments given or due on that day.

Portland Estates belongs to the **Prince Andrew High Family** of Schools. Please listen for either the Family name or the individual name of the school in all announcements.

If conditions deteriorate throughout the day, the Regional Executive Director may close schools early when weather and road conditions are considered to be a threat to the safety of students and staff.

In the event of early school closure due to deteriorating weather conditions, the Director of School administration will send an email to all principals as close to **11:00 am** as possible regarding information about an early school closure. If forecasted inclement weather is imminent later in the day, at **6 am** an announcement could be made to inform parents of an early school closure and/or to inform parents that a decision will be deferred until no later than **11:00 am** following further examination of developing conditions.

As per policy, classroom teachers will ensure that all parents/guardians are contacted directly before a student is released from school to confirm parent/guardian direction.

Communication of an early school closure due to deteriorating conditions will be:

- Posted on the HRCE's website (www.hrce.ca)
- Posted on the HRCE's Twitter account (HRCE_Official)
- Recorded on the HRCE's School Cancellation Information Line (902-464-INFO)
- Shared with subscribers to the Regional Centre's email and text notification system
- Communicated to local media outlets

In the event of an early school closure, school busses will be dispatched to schools **two hours** earlier than their normal regularly scheduled pick-up for the afternoon dismissal.

If the announcement is made at either 6 am or 11 am walking students will be dismissed at the start of their regular lunch hour.

Delayed Opening

On school days when conditions exist that it is not safe to open schools at the regularly scheduled time but it predicted that conditions will improve a 2 hour delayed opening may be considered. 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 (power, water) and additional time is required to prepare the facility for opening.

In the event of a delayed opening the following will apply:

- School opening will be delayed 2 hours
- School bus pick up times will be delayed 2 hours
- Dismissal time will not change.

SCHOOLS PLUS

Reminder that our Outreach worker, Karen Spurr, is in our school on Thursday afternoons should any parent require her support. She acts as a liaison between the school and the community to advocate, co-ordinate and expand services for students and families. She can help families navigate the system and get the services they need.

SHOW ME YOUR MATH

Take a few minutes when your child is taking part in a sporting, dance or musical activity and see if they can find the Math! Can they find the parallel lines or right angles on the Hockey rink? Where are the trapezoids on an NHL Hockey rink? What angles do they make with their feet when they are at dance?

REMINDER TO SEND FORKS/SPOONS for snacks and lunches – We have a number of students who are arriving at school without the proper utensils to eat their snacks.

PARKING LOT



We are asking all parents/guardians to please follow the signs in the parking lot and not park or stop in the **No Stopping** or **No Parking** areas. We need to keep the Fire lane and the front area of the school free for the Special Needs bus before and after school. As well, we have a number of students who are on crutches, etc and these parents need to park in the Wheelchair Accessible parking area. Please park on Portland Hills Drive and walk child walk down the sidewalk.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 15 Days of Peace- December 2-20
- Progress Reports home - December 5
- Cookies with Santa - December 7
- Holiday concerts - December 16 & 17