



For Your Information

January 8, 2019

Cold and Snowy Mornings



Please make sure that your child is dressed adequately for the bus stop. Sometimes, buses may be delayed due to weather, road conditions, or mechanical problems. It is important that students be dressed warmly enough to handle an unexpected wait at the bus stop. A warm winter jacket, a warm hat and gloves, and winter boots, are a necessity.

Winter/outside footwear is expected to be changed after students arrive at school; this is necessary for student safety and school cleanliness reasons. Please make sure that your child has suitable INDOOR footwear at the school.

Please note that NLESD policy states that ***“kindergarten students must have an approved adult waiting to pick them up in the afternoon and that individual must be at the bus door to receive the student. If no adult is present at the bus door to receive a Kindergarten child they will be brought back to school by the bus driver.”***

It is also a good idea to tune into the radio stations (VOCM, CBC), school web-site, and/or Twitter when adverse weather may affect school opening/closing times.

KinderStart Sessions

Our KinderStart program will be continuing this month. If you don't have a child starting Kindergarten next year, but you know someone who does, please pass this information along.

Remaining Session Dates: January 17th February 15th March 15th

Please note that there will be **no school ALL DAY for Kindergarten and Grade 1 students** on KinderStart days.

Please note the following:

1. Sessions will run from 9:30-11:30am.
2. At least one parent is expected to be in attendance at each session. Parents must stay at the school for the duration of the session.
3. Children will need to bring a clean pair of sneakers for use inside the school.
4. Children will need to bring a "recess" snack.



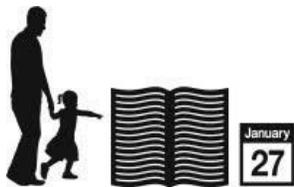
Marble Mountain Trip

The annual grade 7-9 ski trip to *Marble Mountain* is happening soon! The trip is planned for **Feb. 21-22nd**. Details of the trip will be sent home soon.



Used Clothing Drive

Don't forget that our **Used Clothing Bin** is accessible 24/7. We accept any gently used cloth items...clothes, blankets, curtains, table cloths, shoes and boots. Pack items into a sturdy household garbage bag and drop them into our bin. **Don't over-stuff bags...3/4 full is fine...over-stuffed bags tend to burst open more easily. *Please do not drop off these items: housewares, plastic toys/games, skates, metal or sharp items, or breakable items.***



Family Literacy Day

Children who develop an interest and a good attitude toward reading at an early age are more likely to learn to read and write without difficulty. Children need to learn that there is a *magic* in reading and a *power* in books that will last them forever.

Some points to keep in mind about reading:

- Reading and writing are closely linked; children learn to read by being read to and learn to write by writing. The more they read the better they write.
- A child who can read words but does not understand them isn't really reading.
- **The single most important thing that a parent can do to help children become successful readers is to READ ALOUD to them every day.**

What to do When You Read a Book:

- Point out the front and back of books.
- Show how to hold a book and how to turn pages.
- Point out pictures and talk about them.
- Point out familiar story characters.
- Take turns reading - join in.
- Talk about the story.
- Use your "voice".
- Point out the words and/or have your child point to the words.
- Check out these read aloud tips from children's book author Robert Munsch at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYgtouATi7I>

How to Encourage Reading and Writing at Home:

- Make reading and writing a daily routine.
- Choose a comfortable place.
- Let your child choose the books that they want read; let him/her read to you.
- Talk about the story.
- Follow-up by doing something together (e.g. recipe, art and crafts, etc.).
- Choose quality literature.
- Visit the library or your local bookstore.
- Give books as a gift.
- Be a reader and writer yourself ... notes, recipes, bills, letters, grocery flyers, magazines, newspapers.

School Closure/ Delayed Opening – Weather Day

School closures, due to poor weather conditions, are a reasonable expectation during the winter months. A lot of factors go into the decision to close school for all, or part, of a day. Present weather conditions, projected weather conditions, and road conditions play a major role in the decision to close or remain open. Decisions are always made in consultation with other personnel who provide information and advice. Ultimately, it is the safety of our students that determines the final decision.

Usually, a decision to close school happens at two occasions: (1) before a school day begins, or (2) after a school day has started. Each of these situations requires slightly different procedures.

Weather Day – Before a School Day Begins

Decisions can only be based on the information provided by weather forecasts, road reports, and other contacts. Sometimes this information may be slow in coming, or may be inaccurate. As soon as a decision is made, the following steps will happen:

1. A phone call will be sent home using the school's automated calling system.
2. Information will be posted online at www.hillviewacademy.com, on Twitter [@hillviewacademy](https://twitter.com/hillviewacademy), and at NLESD School Status info at www.nlesd.ca
3. Announcements are passed on to our local radio stations: **CBC-Grand Falls-Windsor** and **VOCM-Grand Falls-Windsor**.

Be aware that school may have a delayed opening, be closed for the morning, or be closed for the entire day. Pay careful attention to the announcements for details.

We understand that it may be difficult for parents/guardians to make alternate arrangements for the care of their child(ren). A decision to close school before the day begins will be made as quickly as possible.

Be reminded that it is your right, as a parent/guardian, to keep your child home, if, in your opinion, weather/road conditions will endanger the safety of your child.

Weather Day – After a School Day Begins

On occasion, worsening weather conditions will make it necessary to close school during the progress of the day. If you are not regularly home during a school day, **it is essential that you have alternate arrangements made for the care of your child should school be closed early. Alternate contacts and phone numbers need to be communicated to the school.**

If the school needs to close during the school day, an announcement will be communicated via our SchoolMessenger® phone system, to the local radio stations, and posted on-line. We will verify the status of ALL students before sending them home.

It is essential that you “verify” the automated phone message when prompted to do so; this allows us to ensure that someone will be home to receive your child.

Hillview Academy

January, 2019

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5
6 Old Christmas Day (Epiphany)	7 (4) School Re-Opens	8 (5)	9 (6)	10 (7)	11 (8)	12
13	14 (1)	15 (2)	16 (3)	17 (4) <i>KinderStart Session – no school for K-1 (all day)</i>	18 (5) Digital Citizenship Day	19
20	21 (6)	22 (7)	23 (8)	24 (1)	25 (2)	26
27 National Family Literacy Day	28 (3)	29 (4)	30 (5)	31 (6)	1 (7)	2
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