

# Hillside Traditional Academy Newsletter



February 10, 2023

Principal: Kevin Watrin | Tel: 604-826-4187 | [www.hillside.mpsd.ca](http://www.hillside.mpsd.ca)

**Dear Hillside Traditional Families,**

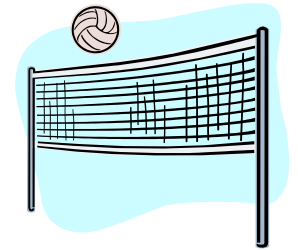
The new year has started, and we are already into February, WOW! Everyone is working hard, and Spring Break and report cards are coming up soon. Even though the various groundhogs (and other rodents) around North America saw their shadows' and went back into hide, I'm optimistic the spring weather will be here before too long. The daylight is getting longer, and the dreary winter will soon be a distant memory and summer will be here before we know it. There is much to be done here in the coming months. Together we can make this spring 2023 a great one for our school community!

Sincerely,

Kevin Watrin  
Principal

## **Volleyball**

Practices are in full swing. This year the teams are being coached Mrs. Pankratz, Ms. Schroeder and Mrs. Lehmann. It is wonderful to see so many students come out to participate. All games will start at approximately 3:00 pm.



## **Uniforms**

One obvious difference between Hillside Traditional and other schools in the district is that our students wear a uniform. While the majority of the student body meet the requirements daily, we ask that the parents to check on sweaters and pants for signs of wear and replace as needed. Please ensure your child has **BLACK** inside and outside shoes with black or white laces. Thank you.



## **Uniform Accessories**

Please remember that the uniform guidelines state that any hair accessories such as hairbands, hair elastics, barrettes, headbands, etc. must be of school colours --- blue, black or white.

## **Label your Child's Uniform**

Please label all articles of clothing and shoes clearly with your child's name. Make sure that you check to see that the ink hasn't run into a big blotch and that we can still clearly read what you have written. It is also helpful if you check regularly to make sure your child is not wearing an item that belongs to someone else as they may have brought home the wrong sweater or picked up the wrong article of clothing after PE. Thanks for your help with this.

### District-wide Professional Development Day

School staff will attend a variety of activities on February 17<sup>th</sup> at the District Professional Development Day. On this day, educators will gather at Mission Secondary to participate in a variety of workshops that will enhance their skillset so that they may continue to provide the best education possible for your child(ren).

### Healthy School - Birthday Treats & Special Occasions

At Hillside Traditional Academy we continue to incorporate best practices for our students. To this end we are encouraging the whole school community to focus on healthy food choices. Keeping in mind that we will have students with diabetes, life-threatening peanut & nut allergies, and lactose and gluten intolerances, we are enforcing the message that students are only to eat food provided to them by their own parents. As such:

- On special occasion days, please send only the food item that is requested by the teacher as they are aware of the allergies within their respective classrooms.
- Please choose healthy snacks and treats for your children when packing lunches and remind them not to share their food.
- Please refrain from sending products with peanuts to school.
- Please do not send any treats to class when it's your child's birthday as we have multiple allergies and sensitivities in several classrooms.



### February 14<sup>th</sup>

Students may wear PINK, RED OR WHITE shirts with uniform bottoms on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Students not wanting to wear a pink shirt must wear their regular school uniform.

### Valentines' Day Cards/Trinkets/Treats

If you would like to send **Valentines' Day cards** with your child, please provide one for every child in the class. If you would like to send **trinkets** (Valentine pencils etc.) please provide one for every child in the class. Providing treats for the class is another issue. Please check with your child's teacher if anything is permissible. Some kids have food allergies and other items may leave too much of a mess etc.

### Homework

It is important for children to recognize that their family places value on learning and is interested in their schoolwork. By developing a regular routine for home study or homework, the value is realized by the child. A key to homework success is a defined schedule agreed upon by the parents and child. Homework should be completed during a time of quiet without the distraction of televisions or music and minimizing potential distractions.

### Pink Shirt Day - Wednesday, February 22

Students may wear a pink shirt and their uniform bottom on this day. Students not wanting to wear a pink shirt must wear their regular school uniform.



### Parent/Teacher Conferences

Second term report cards will be coming home Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will be holding conferences on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Please watch for a letter from your child's teacher outlining their specific availability and sign-up times. This opportunity for communication is an invaluable component of your child's progress at school.

### Dressing for the Weather

Please make sure that students are dressed well for the rain, wind and snow. Going outside to is much preferred at recess and lunch by students and staff. Students are more focused on learning when they have a chance to get active. Remember sweaters and hoodies are neither wind nor waterproof. Students need a coat!



### PAC News

Our next round of Hot Lunches is now open for ordering!

Friday, March 3rd - Panago Pizza

Friday, March 31st - Sushi Te

Friday, April 14th - Eleni's

The deadline for ordering/payment for hot lunches is always the week before each hot lunch date. All unpaid orders will be deleted.

Plus introducing **Treat Days!** Treat Days will be the last Tuesday of the month and will feature a different treat each time! They will be handed out to students in classrooms at the end of the day. This month is Popcorn Day on February 28th! The deadline to order popcorn is **February 19th.**

Order at [www.munchalunch.com/schools/hillside](http://www.munchalunch.com/schools/hillside)

Any questions or need help ordering? Email [hillsidepac@gmail.com](mailto:hillsidepac@gmail.com)

Thank you

Shannon Reynolds  
Hillside PAC, Chair