

Heritage Hills Parent Weekly

September 4 - September 11, 2023

This Week at Heritage Hills:

Monday, September 4

- Labour Day Holiday School Closed
- Last Chance: 2022-2023 Yearbook sales reopen

Tuesday, September 5

- Ms. K in the school
- Terry Fox running practice at lunch-recess Gr. 4-6.

Wednesday, September 6

- Ms. K in the school, in the afternoon.
- Early Dismissal
- Meet the Staff Evening BBQ 6:00 P.M.

Thursday, September 7

Friday, September 8

• Last Chance: 2022-2023 Yearbook sales close.

Monday, September 11

Principal:

Hello everyone and welcome back to another school year at Heritage Hills Elementary. We hope you enjoyed a great summer break. For those of you who will be returning to HHE we are looking forward to seeing you again. If you are new to Heritage Hills this year, we welcome you to our school.

Meet The Staff Evening & BBQ

On Wednesday, September 6 we will be hosting our Meet The Staff evening along with our School Council and Fundraising Association FAHHE. We will begin the

evening with a formal presentation in the gym starting at 6:00 pm. By 6:30 you will have the opportunity to visit classrooms and enjoy a great hotdog bbq. Looking forward to seeing you at 6:00 pm on Wednesday.

Volunteer Needed:

We do collect returnable bottles and containers. These funds go to support our students in a variety of ways. We are looking for a volunteer or volunteers to take in these containers approximately every five weeks or so. If you would like to do this please call our main office at 780 467-7447. We thank you for your continued support.

School Clothing Store:

The school store will open in the next week or so for families who would like to purchase HHE clothing. We will keep you posted.

French Language Monitor:

HHE is fortunate to have a French Language Monitor again this year. M. Jean will be returning to HHE and he will be working with K-6 French Immersion classes on an ongoing basis throughout the year.

Required Documentation for each student:

Parents are required to complete the following forms for each of their children in Heritage Hills Elementary. If you haven't already submitted your child's forms:

Code of Conduct: **only required for Grade 1-6 students

Student Responsible Technology Use Agreement

If you are planning on volunteering in our school this year, please complete the following form. Only one form is needed per person, you do not need to complete a form for each child on the **Volunteer Form**

School Council and FAHHE News:

Welcome back parents and students to the 2023-2024 school year. School Council is looking forward to working along with the Fundraising Association (FAHHE) for the upcoming school year. We are also looking forward to meeting all of the parents this year.

Please join us for our meetings which take place in the Learning Commons starting at 6:30 pm on the dates listed below:

- Wednesday September 13, 2023
- Wednesday November 15, 2023
- Wednesday January 17, 2024
- Wednesday March 13, 2024

- Wednesday April 10, 2024
- Wednesday May 8, 2024

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead and hoping to help support as many events as we can in the 2023 - 2024 School year.

Our representatives this year are:

Chair: Kelly Annesty - hheschoolcouncilchair@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Jodi Lakevolt - jodi paskuski@hotmail.com

Secretary: Dani Till - hheschoolcouncilsecretary@gmail.com

Come out and say "Hello" at our Meet the Staff BBQ on September 6, 2023.

Yearbooks:

If you missed the opportunity to purchase a 2022-2023 Heritage Hills yearbook last spring, don't miss out on this chance now. Sales have been reopened in PowerSchool. The final date of purchase will be Friday, September 8th at 3pm. The Delivery date is expected to be mid October.

Bus Apps:

Download these bus apps for a successful ride! Have a child taking the bus this school year? Download the following apps to stay up to date with all the busing information you'll need throughout the year.



Bus Status

A new version of the Bus Status app is available: Bus Status 4. The app provides the same features and functionality as before, but faster and more reliable for users. Families who previously used the Bus Status 3 app will need to download the new version from the App Store or Google Play. You won't be able to update directly from one version to the next. New users can download Bus Status 4 directly now.

Through the Bus Status app, families can access information about buses that are running late or cancelled throughout the year. Simply save your child's bus routes as favourites and turn on push notifications to stay up to date.

Refer to the <u>Bus Status: Frequently Asked Questions</u> for more information about the update, and plan to download the new version now.

Ride 360

The Traversa Ride 360 website and app enable parents and students to access their own secure data for bus stop location, route and pickup time. With Division buses equipped with GPS hardware, Ride 360 uses GPS geolocation to let users know when to expect their bus each day. Parents and students log in with their own information to access their specific routing information and details.

Ride 360 will be updated in the coming year. Families are encouraged to download the current Ride 360 app from the **App Store** or Google Play for the start of the school year and set up their account. When the update takes place, login information will seamlessly roll over to the updated app.

Refer to <u>additional instructions and the tutorial video</u> on the Division website for more details about setting up your Ride 360 profile.

For more information about transportation services, refer to the **Student Transportation section** of the EIPS website.

Video Surveillance on buses:

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance?

Video surveillance and equipment help:

- · ensure the safety of all students, drivers and property; and
- · discourage destructive acts.

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

EIPS buses are also equipped with <u>Tyler Drive tablets</u>. The goal: To enhance safety, improve communication, increase efficiency and provide oversight. These tablets allow bus drivers to stay on time with turn-by-turn route directions and show student pictures and information when bus drivers get to stop locations. To ensure students get where they need to go, there are now two distinct audible tones when students scan their bus pass boarding or leaving the bus. One tone indicates they're getting on the correct bus or at the correct stop, and the other tone indicates they're on the incorrect bus or leaving at the incorrect stop. By using live information, Tyler Drive tablets provide more accuracy than paper schedules.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Co-ordinator at 780-464-3477.

Music:

Ukulele clubs will be starting again this year. The senior group (grades 4-6) will be starting on Monday, September 18 and will run every Monday during noon hour recess. The junior group this year will be for grade 3 students. This group will meet

every Friday during noon recess. The first rehearsal will be on Friday, September 15th. If your child is new to the school and would like to join one of the ukulele groups, please contact Dr. Boyer by email for more information or drop by the music room during meet the staff night on Wednesday, September 6 starting at 6:00 pm.

Sync the School Calendar to your calendar:

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? Simply, visit
HHE Calendar">HHE Calendar and click on the applicable subscription option:

- · Download to iCal
- · Add to Google Calendar
- · Subscribe to Calendar

NOTE: Options are located above the calendar.

Once you click on the desired subscription option, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all Heritage Hills Elementary's important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.

Pay School Fees Online:

School fee information for the 2023-24 school year will be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal in late September. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay online using a credit card.

Don't forget to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of certain school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more. Additionally, junior high and senior high fees can change as courses are added and deleted.

If you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain <u>fees waived</u> by submitting an <u>Application for a Waiver of Fees</u>. The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2023.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit eips.ca. Alternatively, contact Amanda Trach, at Heritage Hills Elementary at 780-467-7447.

Download the SchoolMessenger App:

Heritage Hills Elementary and the Division use the SchoolMessenger platform for communicating with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add **communications@eips.ca** and **general.hhe@eips.ca** to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funneled into your junk mail folder.

You can directly manage your phone and email subscription preferences through SchoolMessenger. Simply log in to your account—or create one if you don't already

have one—and select the message types you'd like to receive to each phone number and email address on file.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the SchoolMessenger app. Get the latest updates direct to your mobile device and enable push notifications to never miss a message. Families can also check back on past messages—for up to 30 days—directly in the app rather than searching to find an old message buried in your inbox. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the App Store or Google Play today.

Counsellor:

Going back to school is exciting for some kids, but others have trouble with anxiety heading into the new school year. This is especially true of kids who are starting at a new school or are already anxious about being away from parents. This anxiety fades for most kids as the school year goes on, but parents can help them get off to a good start. The Child Mind's Institute offers preventive and response based resources for parents.

Alberta Health Services offers free online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth. Sessions are offered through Zoom. Upcoming topics include understanding anxiety and parenting teens in the 21st century. The list of September 2023 sessions is now available.

Student pick up and drop off:

Please refrain from using the staff parking lot to drop off and pick up students. Many EIPS and before and after school care employees park here throughout the day.

HHE Athletics:

This month students in grade 4-6 will have the opportunity to practice for our Terry Fox School Run day, September 22, 2023. Practices for Div 2 students will be at lunch recess on Sept. 5, 12 and 19.

Mr. Mazur will be looking for parent coaches starting in Mid-September.

Enjoy a Great Week Everyone

This is a new year. A new beginning. And things will change.

Taylor Swift