

## *Happenings – Hillcrest Middle Newsletter*

Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### THIS WEEK AT HILLCREST: (see repeating events below)

Monday, Nov. 11 <sup>th</sup>	· Remembrance Day – school closed
Tuesday, Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup>	· PAC Pizza Lunch – Red and Blue · Odyssey of the Mind Parent Meeting 3:15pm Library
Wednesday, Nov. 13 <sup>th</sup>	· <a href="#">Grade 8 Boys “A” Volleyball at Maple Creek 3:00-5:30pm</a> · <a href="#">Grade 8 Girls “A” Volleyball at Eagle Mountain 3:00-5:30pm</a>
Thursday, Nov. 14 <sup>th</sup>	· Gr. 8 Vaping & Health Awareness Sessions · Ski & Snowboard Student Info Session 12:30pm Gym
Friday, Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup>	· Grade 7 to Richmond Oval · Div. 17/18 Grade 8 First Aid Course
Please see our school calendar on our website: <a href="#">Hillcrest website</a>	

### Upcoming Events:

November 20	Individual Picture Retakes	December 6	Div. 1/2/4 Young Actors Project
November 21	School Wide Assembly – “Fatty Legs”	December 6	Div. 19 First Aid Course
November 22	Div. 2/3/4 Young Actors Project	December 6	Yellow Team Jr. Achievement Sess.
November 22	Last Day for Early Bird Year Book	December 13	Div. 1/2/3 Young Actors Project
November 23	Online registration for Tut Tut opens	December 13	Div. 20 First Aid Course
November 26	PAC Pizza Lunch – Yellow & Orange	December 16	Exploration Term 3 begins
November 26	Parent Education–Vaping Awareness	December 17	Winter Concert
November 26	PAC Meeting	December 19	Div. 17 & 18 Skating
November 29	Div. 17/18 Grade 7 First Aid Course	December 20	Retro Ball
November 29	Div. 1/3/4 Young Actors Project	December 20	Last day before Winter Break

### Repeating Events:

#### **Athletics (see games in calendar above):**

- Intramurals - Lunch: Tuesday/Thursday

#### **Music:**

- Boys’ Choir: Tuesday - Dramus Room 7:45am
- Girls’ Choir: Thursday - Dramus Room 7:45am
- Advanced Band: Monday/Wednesday - MPR 7:45am
- Beginning Band: Monday/Wednesday– Gym 7:45am

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### McFaul's Chat and Chew: Literacy Day Celebration

The students and staff have completed their school wide read by Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup> when our community will celebrate our shared story of, *A Bridge Home*, a novel by Padma Venkatraman. The focus of the novel is on two young girls; *"who must use their instincts and grit to survive. The author shares with us an unflinching peek into the reality millions of homeless children live every day but also infuses her story with hope and bravery that inspire. Four determined homeless children make a life for themselves in Padma Venkatraman's stirring middle-grade debut. Life is harsh in Chennai's teeming streets, so when runaway sisters Viji and Rukku arrive, their prospects look grim. Very quickly, eleven-year-old Viji discovers how vulnerable they are in this uncaring, dangerous world. Fortunately, the girls find shelter-and friendship--on an abandoned bridge. With two homeless boys, Muthi and Arul, the group forms a family of sorts. And while making a living scavenging the city's trash heaps is the pits, the kids find plenty to laugh about and take pride in too. After all, they are now the bosses of themselves and no longer dependent on untrustworthy adults. But when illness strikes, Viji must decide whether to risk seeking help from strangers or to keep holding on to their fragile, hard-fought freedom. – Goodreads"*

Our school community will take elements from the story to highlight the great cultural activities and life guiding teachings from the novel by bringing to life the food, the dancing, the art design, along with taking a deeper look by discussing the challenges of poverty, educational opportunities and gender biases. These themes are present in the novel and are larger global issues that require our students to ponder the why's, how's and what's of changing these experiences in our local communities and around the world.

We are looking for parents to join us in our celebration day with our guest speaker, a parent in our community - Mrs. Balachandran, who will help our community to visualize the beautiful diversity of life in India and its peoples. We also need some parent volunteers to help in our Food presentation with distributing tasty samples to our audience. If interested in volunteering for part of the day, please contact by email – Mrs. Toolsie-Worsnup at: [toolsie@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:toolsie@sd43.bc.ca)

Our goal is around the focus of celebrating the positives and challenges about a distant culture with a lens on global perspectives with global citizens looking at global issues that impact the lives of all in the present and in the future lives of our students.

### School Happenings: Events and Activities.

**Remembrance Day Review** – Our assembly was very successful and well attended by community members who came to celebrate and honour the tradition of how our youth can learn from the past and grow in empathy for those who have sacrificed their lives in previous wars. The assembly starts off on the high note with a bagpiper, our own Evan J. leading our Honour Guard of Cadets, Scouts, Guides and Pathfinders into the gym with the symbolic flags of our country and province. The presence and sound of the bagpipe serenading the day brings a very powerful energy as one can visualize what that sound meant to our soldiers as they marched towards their great challenges. Then came the dynamic force of our Advanced Band and Choir with their

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vibrant buzz of enthusiasm and beautiful tones of music commemorating the difficult battles and dreams of peace. Mrs. Gallelo does a fantastic job of letting the music delve into our psyche and souls and then taking the music to an emotional crescendo to help us all feel the grief of war and the hopes of peace and understanding. Our student speakers told the story of a hard-fought Canadian battle and the contributions our forebearers did to ensure that the peoples of western Europe were reunited with freedom and democracy. Our audience members were respectful, patient and reflective as they tried to adjust their mindset to life in a different time period with harsh circumstances as they attempt to reach out and build connections to these past experiences either through story, film or inquiry at home with you their parents/guardians. The inquiry to each student was to ask at home how their grandparents, great grandparents, other family members were connected to the past wars and ask how their family ended up in Canada. These are the tales that are worthy of sharing every Remembrance Day so that our children can see and feel that connective line to past events. That when understood, will help shape our future experiences with a greater understanding of rights, equality and respect for cultural diversity.

**Exploration Term 1 Reports** – By now you should have received our Explorations Term One Report Card that was sent home last Thursday. A couple of classes were not able to distribute and will do so today. This is another reminder to ask your child for that document. This is a new design for this document, and you will notice some perceptible changes like – no signature from either the Administration or you are required, a one-page document referring directly to the one course, and key details provided showing the curricula connections. Activities that your child worked on in their Explorations class. The design features a symbol for a Letter Grade in the dialogue box that states the specific course name.

You do not need to sign and return but you do need to ensure that you receive the document and to help with that we will send out an email reminder later this week.

**Ski & Snowboard Club Registration Info** – This is our second information share out to all families that are interested in having their child participate in a Ski and Snowboard Club that has embedded level lessons and some free time for them to experience this great winter mountain activity. The Ski and Snowboard club will be limited to the first 100 students who are registered through our online registration system and who have paid through the School Cash Online registration process. The number of 100 participants is firm as we must consider multiple factors like teacher supervision adult volunteers, lesson accommodations and program cost for individual families.

1. **The first step** is a **STUDENT INFORMATION SESSION this Thursday Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> @ 12:30 in the gym**; whereby, we invite all interested students to attend a general information session. The dates, times and location for the four days of lessons and mountain experience are:
  - Travel to Seymour Mtn. - 11:30 bus Departs Hillcrest to approx. 6:30 bus Return to Hillcrest
  - Friday January 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Friday January 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Friday January 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Friday February 7<sup>th</sup>
  - The students will be travelling on two coach style buses that are able to secure personal equipment.
2. **Prices are:** Non rentals - \$205 / Rentals - \$230
3. **The “live opening”** of the payment registration process. **This is an important timeline: SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00am Midnight** -
  - On our Hillcrest Website will be the School Cash Online Payment Process
  - Once you make a payment this will register you for the Ski & Snowboard Club
  - Once the 100 registrations are completed/filled then the website will close/stop
4. **Wed. Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at lunch** - meeting with those students signed up. Forms go home
5. **Fri. Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>** - forms are due to Ski & Snowboard box in the office

**Parent Education - Vaping Awareness & Health Presentation**– This is a unique opportunity for parents/guardians to deepen their understanding of the vaping situation that is complex and growing in popularity amongst our youth. We are hosting a **Parent Educations Session on Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 – 7:20** in the Library, presented by SFU Health Sciences Students in conjunction with our Fraser District Public Health nurse. Our Gr. 8 students are participating in presentations and we have a wonderful opportunity to partner their learning with your learning. The presentation is meant to be informative on the harms and risks associated with vaping and then involve an opportunity for more informal discussions and questioning about the social implications that young adolescents face when presented with making the decisions around this substance that is illegal to sell to anyone under the age of 19. Vaping is not just limited to cigarettes as it can also be used for other substances like cannabis and being aware of the various devices can be very challenging to identify by sight smell or design use.

- To Register for the Parent Education Session we ask that you email Rob McFaul : [rmcfaul@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:rmcfaul@sd43.bc.ca) to book a seat for the evening presentation.
- Directly following our Info Vaping Session our Hillcrest PAC will be hosting their monthly meeting of which we hope that many of you will be able to attend.
- We encourage parents to make note of this date and plan to attend so that you can be knowledgeable in an ever-changing playing field that puts our children's health at great risk. For more information checkout: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/health/campaigns/vaping.html>

**ATTEND: Vaping Awareness Parent Education session – Tuesday Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 – 7:20**

**Red Cross Babysitting Course** – This is the first information sharing for a wonderful opportunity for students interested in adding to their learning portfolio for registration in a training session and certificate in the Red Cross Babysitting Course. This opportunity usually fills up very quickly, so please discuss with your child their plans for this date as it is a Professional Development Day at Hillcrest, thus your child has the flexibility to attend and participate at their home school. Registration is limited!

### **Red Cross Babysitting Course**

**So, you want to be a babysitter? Or, your parents want you to take this course, so they feel confident leaving you at home alone? Babysitting with First Aid Hero emphasizes learning through real life scenarios. information covered includes: Exploring the business of babysitting, creating safe environments, safely caring for ages 0-12, and first aid skills.**

### **Red Cross Babysitting Course**

**Hillcrest, Jan.27, 2020, 8:30-3:30**

**Grade 6+**

**\$60 + GST online registration**

**<http://www.firstaidhero.com/babysitting-vancouver.html>**

# Tut Tut – the musical



**presented by KidsCAN Theatre Company**

Walk like an Egyptian in TUT TUT, a musical theatre experience by Beat by Beat Press, brought to you by the Drama Mamas at KidsCAN Theatre Company Inc.

TUT, TUT! is inspired by the life of “King Tut” (the 10-year old who became King of Egypt) with a touch of Mark Twain’s “The Prince and the Pauper”. Set in exotic Egypt the story begins with a young Prince Tut who is bored of the royal life, so he wanders into the streets of the city looking for adventure. Suddenly he meets a peasant who looks just like him and the adventure really begins!

***Students with all levels of experience, who are willing to commit to this production are welcome to participate in this story of social perspective, leadership and adventure.***

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Tut Tut is a 12-week program with final performances May 7 and 8, 2020
  - Auditions run January 28 – 31, 2020
- Rehearsals will be Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:15 - 4:30 p.m. beginning February 2020

## REGISTRATION

Begins LIVE on-line November 23, 2020 at 11 a.m. through November 30 at [www.kidscantheatre.com/registration](http://www.kidscantheatre.com/registration)

### COST

\$156 for CAST (plus \$2 Credit Card Processing Fee added at check-out)

\$30 for CREW (plus \$2 Credit Card Processing Fee added at check-out)

– CREW team is limited to 8 students –

Includes all materials: script, music, costumes, props, 2 teachers, Cast and Crew pizza party, and t-shirt!

*In partnership with Hillcrest Middle School and its PAC.*

**Gr. 7 Field Trip Richmond Oval** – The final installment of our Richmond Oval Experience Day is set for this Friday Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. The Gr. 7 students will be able to attend this facility and participate in a variety of individual and interactive recreational pursuits. The day is designed to promote lifelong learning and enhance our connection to personal fitness. Students will be experiencing the many uses of gym space in creative ways like team building cooperative games along with indoor rock climbing and our nations commitment to Olympic legacies. Please ensure the following has been completed for you child to be able to attend:

- Go to our school website and pay through the school Cash Online process, the cost is \$32.00 for bus transportation and a full day of activities. Families experiencing a concern about the prices factor are asked to contact Mr. McFaul via phone or email to discuss their private concerns
- The return of the salmon coloured signed permission form. **THIS MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED.**
- Late payments must go through office contact once the online payment window has passed
- Your child is dressed to move, sweat and be actively involved in various recreational pursuits
- Your child has a refillable water bottle, snacks and a healthy lunch packed for the day
- DO NOT SEND MONEY – there is no area to spend as the cafeteria is under renovations

**District Approved School Calendars** - The Approved School District 43 School Calendars for 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023 are now updated on the SD43 website.

To view these documents, please click the link below:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/AMYCalendar/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

**Yearbook 2019-2020** – This is a limited time offer as we are pleased to offer a Hillcrest Yearbook for sale again this year. This is a beautiful, hard cover, full colour book that is well over 50 pages in length. This year, students will be participating in creating this lovely memory that will be treasured for a lifetime. Purchase the 2019-2020 School Yearbook at the Early Bird Sale price of only \$55.00. Only available at this price for 8 weeks. **Sale ends November 22nd at 9pm.** Don't miss your chance to get the yearbook at this special price. Any remaining copies of the Yearbook will be offered for sale in the New Year for an increased price. Limited quantities available.

Please go to our website and click on the link for purchasing a yearbook, as this is our first round of sales and you do not need to pay more and risk missing the purchasing timeline for when June delivery of this always valuable and hot commodity rolls around and it then becomes critical that your child has a Yearbook.

## Winter Weather Ahead!

Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other inclement weather conditions. All schools in School District 43 (Coquitlam) will remain OPEN, if at all possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

However, on occasion, a district-wide or partial-district closure is required due to extreme weather. Partial-district closures affecting individual schools may occur due to the very different geography within our school district. If there is a partial-district closure affected schools will be identified.

The decision on schools remaining open or needing to be closed, because of extreme weather, occurs **before 6:30 a.m.** so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

**Any district-wide or partial-district closure will be decided and communicated by 6:30 a.m. via the School District 43 website [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio.**

Extreme weather can also impact transit. Transit schedules may face significant changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Parents seeking information on transit schedules need to consult the Translink website: <http://www.translink.ca/>

We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes: [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)

Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at:

While the District tries to make the best decision with the information available, the weather does change quickly. Therefore, when schools remain open, decisions to stay at home during challenging weather conditions should be made by each family.

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>

## Important Notice for School Payments:

Please sign up for School Cash Online (if you haven't already). The school Permissions and Policies are ONLY available online, and all fieldtrips etc. will be posted online for payment. The account will serve families through high school years. Please see the registration information below.

Make online payments with  
SchoolCashOnline



Become a SchoolCashOnline member today and see why so many parents have joined!

- ✓ Pay for your child's school fees online. Anytime, anywhere.
- ✓ Stop sending money with your child to school.
- ✓ Get automatic email notifications about BACK TO SCHOOL fees.
- ✓ Help us reduce the amount of cash coming through school doors.

Register today at:

<https://sd43.schoolcashonline.com>

School Cash Online is our school's PREFERRED method of payment.



Fast



Safe



Convenient



Both the School Policies and Permissions form and your Student Activity Fee can be completed through [School Cash Online](#). This account will serve your student through high school.

We look forward to your full cooperation and ensuring that you have done all your homework for your child's best and safest start at Hillcrest.

## PAC News and Events:

***The PAC is on Facebook – join us at Hillcrest Middle School Parents (Coquitlam)***

**OUR NEXT PAC MEETING is scheduled for TUESDAY NOVEMBER 26th @ 7:30 pm in the library.** Please note this date has been pushed back by one week to coincide with a parent presentation on vaping. You will hear details about this from the school administration. Our hope is that some of you will stay and attend the PAC meeting which will directly follow the presentation!

**PAC MEMBERS NEEDED** - We are always looking for more PAC members and currently need help with our multiple fundraising projects. Also, please consider serving on the PAC Executive for the next school year (2020-2021) as we have at least 2 executives leaving the school and therefore the PAC. We are seeking people interested in the roles of Chair and Vice-Chair. If you are interested please contact our PAC Leaders: ANNIKA MOUNTAIN [annika@wilmount.ca](mailto:annika@wilmount.ca) and/or JENNIFER BELL-IRVING [jennilynns49@gmail.com](mailto:jennilynns49@gmail.com).

**FUNDRAISING** – Please consider supporting our various fundraisers. We need strong support in order to be successful and remember that funds raised directly benefit the students of Hillcrest – our children and grandchildren!



Our always popular **Holiday Fundraiser** was launched last week and includes the sale of **Poinsettias, Purdy's Chocolate and Gift Cards**. A package was sent home with Hillcrest students last week. If you haven't seen it yet please ask your kids to check their backpacks, visit <https://munchalunch.com/> or email [coq.hms.fundraising@gmail.com](mailto:coq.hms.fundraising@gmail.com)



- Purdy's Chocolates – you can order and pay online or use the paper order form in the catalogue
- Poinsettias – (starting at just \$5) you can order and pay online through MunchaLunch or paper form
- Fundscrip Gift Cards – a paper order form was included in the package sent home (no online option)

All orders are due November 26<sup>th</sup> and will be ready for pick up on December 5th (help with sorting needed).

Don't forget to tell your friends and family about these fundraisers!

**Pizza Lunch Fundraisers:** The Hillcrest PAC organizes pizza lunches for purchase throughout the year. Coordinators for this year are Michelle Morrison and Amber Tarling who can be reached at [hmsshotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:hmsshotlunch@gmail.com).

All orders and payments will be through the MunchaLunch system. Two teams are included at each hot lunch and teams rotate throughout the school year.



**REMINDER: Pizza Lunch for RED AND BLUE TEAMS IS ON NOVEMBER 12.**

Next up will be **YELLOW** and **ORANGE** teams on November 26<sup>th</sup>!

**PIZZA LUNCH VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED** – If you are able to help out some Tuesday lunch hours for approximately 30-40 minutes (from 12:05 to 12:45) with the organizing of our student Pizza Lunches it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Michelle Morrison at [hmsshotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:hmsshotlunch@gmail.com) or sign up as a volunteer via our MunchaLunch system online. It takes a minimum of 16 volunteers to serve each lunch!

**SPC (STUDENT PRICE CARDS) ARE STILL AVAILABLE!** For just \$10 these cards are valid for discounts at over 450 retailers (see partial list below). To order email [coq.hms.fundraising@gmail.com](mailto:coq.hms.fundraising@gmail.com)

See [spccard.ca](http://spccard.ca) for more detail regarding stores &

SPC Cards 2019-2020 participating retailers			
aerie	Extreme Pita	New Balance	Teriyaki Experience
ALDO	First Choice Haircutters	Old Navy	Thai Express
American Eagle Outfitters	Forever 21	Orange Julius	The Brick
Ardene	Freshslice Pizza	Panera Bread	The Chopped Leaf
Banana Republic	Globo Shoes	Pantorama	The Source/La Source
Bath & Body Works	GNC	Pita Pit	TOPSHOP/TOPMAN
Bench	Jack Astor's	Pizza 73	Urban Outfitters
Bentley	Journeys	Pizza Hut	Urban Plaet
Bikini Village	Jugo Juice	Pizza Nova	Victoria's Secret PINK
Bluenotes	Kernels Popcorn	Pizza Pizza	West49
BonLook	KFC/PFK	PUMA Outlet	WIRELWSSWAVE
Booster Juice	la Vie en Rose	Rexal/Pharma Plus	WLKN
Burger King	Little Burgundy	Roots	Yellow Shoes
Call It Spring	Manchu WOK'	Running Room	Yogen Fruz
Calvin Klein	Marble Slab	Sirens	Yogurty's Froyo
Chatters	MR.SUB	Sleep Country	
Coffee Culture	Mucho Burrito	South St. Burger	
Country Style	Nando's Chicken	Tbooth wireless	
DAVID's TEA	NYX Professional Makeup		
ecko			and MANY MORE!



rules

**Fundraising by Donation:** You can still support Hillcrest by providing a donation to the school! You can do this through our School Cash Online (KEV) <https://www.schoolcashionline.com/> or by completing the PAC donation letter/form. No other fundraiser

has a 100 percent profit margin and for donations of \$25 or more you will receive a tax receipt from SD43. Your support is greatly appreciated!

## Community News:



### **ATTENTION NEIGHBOURS OF HILLCREST MIDDLE SCHOOL** **You can help stop vandalism on school grounds**

#### **What You Can Do**

Parks, schools and public spaces are most vulnerable at night. Keep your eyes and ears open for suspicious activities. Everything you see and hear helps. Note the physical characteristics and clothing of individuals. If you see automobiles, jot down license plate numbers.

#### **Report All Suspicious Activities to the Vandal Watch Tip Line**

**604-927-7600**

***Call immediately when something raises your suspicions.***

***Do not wait for the damage to be done.***

**Your Call is Anonymous and Confidential**

No one will ask for your name or phone number. Security personnel will be alerted and will investigate. They will take direct action or involve the police. **Do not get involved in a confrontation yourself.** The Tip Line is available 24 hours a day.

***KEEP THE TIP LINE PHONE NUMBER HANDY. MAKE SURE IT IS GIVEN ONLY TO RESPONSIBLE ADULTS.***

## **Coquitlam Open Learning Opportunities:**

### **Casual Noon Hour Supervisors**

School District #43 Coquitlam is looking for Casual Noon Hour Assistants to be available on an On-Call basis to supervise students indoors and outdoors during lunch break (one hour per day) at various schools throughout the District in Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody and Anmore.

Previous experience working with groups of children is an asset. Successful candidates will be available over the lunch hour Monday – Friday, 5 days per week while school is in session and be willing to accept callouts to all schools in our District. We offer \$21.43 per hour plus 16% in lieu of benefits.

To apply, please click on the following link and create a user account/profile. <https://ejp.sd43.bc.ca/postings/Account/Login> Once you have completed your profile you will have access to the job postings.