

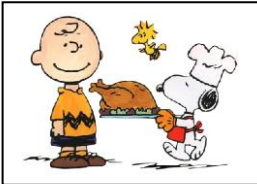


# Hillcrest Middle School HAPPENINGS

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Nadine Tambellini, Principal Tony Romano, Vice Principal  
www.sd43.bc.ca/hillcrest

**Mission Statement:**  
*The Hillcrest School Community is committed to providing educational opportunities in a safe and respectful environment that encourages students to become responsible lifelong learners, both individually and cooperatively.*

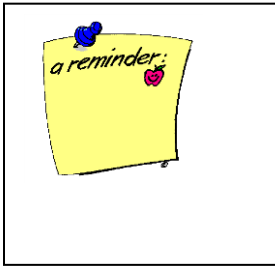
## October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018



**Remember Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> is the Thanksgiving Holiday.  
School is not in session for staff or students.  
Happy Thanksgiving from the Hillcrest Staff.**

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October			NEW FSAs this month (October 2 <sup>nd</sup> to November 10 <sup>th</sup> )
	9		Thanksgiving
	12	Blk D	Fire Drill
	13		Interim reports go home
	16	9:00 am	Photo Retakes
	20		District Pro D Day
	25		School Wide Read
	26		Explorations Term 1 ends
	30		Explorations Term 2 begins
	30 to Nov. 23		Canned Food Drive begins
	31		Halloween Activities



#### **School Photos – Retakes**

Students who were absent on photo day and those who have requested a retake, will have their photos taken in the morning of **Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 9am.** Those who are having retakes, please bring your proofs to the photographer when you have your retake.

### **Interim Report Cards – October 13<sup>th</sup>:**

Interim Report cards will be sent home with your child on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. This report gives a snapshot of your child's progress to this date. Please sign this report and return it to school as soon as possible.

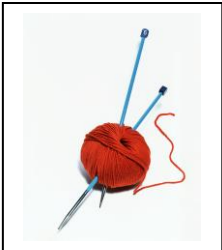


### **Provincial Professional Day-October 20<sup>th</sup>:**

All schools in the Province will be closed on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> for a common Professional Day. On this day, teachers around the province will be involved in in-service workshops and activities. School will be back in session for children on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>



## **HILLCREST OPPORTUNITIES**



### **Calling All Knitters!**

Are you a passionate knitter and would like to share your love of knitting with students at Hillcrest? We are preparing for our special Literacy Day to celebrate Word Nerd (Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>), and we would love to have some knitting be part of our special day. Please contact Ms. Trieu ([ttrieu@sd43.b.ca](mailto:ttrieu@sd43.b.ca)) if this is something that is of interest to you.

**The Crew** is our leadership team of students at Hillcrest. We have a large group with representatives from all classes in the school. Crew members have polled students for their input on special events and activities they want this year and we have begun putting the results in action. Our first event will be the Haunted House.



Monday October 30<sup>th</sup>- 3-5:30pm building the House& Rehearsal (parents welcome, bring your props and building materials)

Tuesday October 31<sup>st</sup>- Blocks A & B start of the day "Haunted Stage Act", "Travel Through the House", and "Hot Chocolate"!

### **Gifted Testing:**

We will be completing gifted testing in October. The NEW gifted testing takes three 1-hour sittings. We will do the testing all the Fridays (October 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>) we are in session in October. Students must be committed to attending all the testing sessions.

Usually we seek out teachers to nominate students in their classrooms. If students already have a gifted designation, we will not be retesting them. Most students were tested when they were in elementary school (grade 2 or 3).

With a gifted designation, students can apply to specific programs or opportunities such as MACC or Talons. If parents would like to nominate their child for testing, please contact Jon Wiskar, our challenge teacher, at [JWiskar@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:JWiskar@sd43.bc.ca) **by September 29<sup>th</sup>**. We will not be hosting gifted testing at any other point in the 2017-18 school year.

## **Education and Information**

### **Explorations 2017:**



What a fantastic start for our Explorations team this year! We would like to extend a big Thank-you to our Hillcrest PAC as much of what we are able to do with students is due all the equipment and supplies they have provided us for our classrooms & stage & labs. **Thank-you PAC!**

**Mr. R Wiskar, Tech Ed-** Students have been busy finishing up their fridge magnets in the Tech Ed room. They have mastered the use of the scroll saws, drill press and sanding machines. We have now shifted gears and the 6/7's have started building air-compressed cars, and the grade 8's have started construction of treasure boxes. I have been impressed with our student's attention to detail and responsible, safe use of the shop machinery.

**Mrs. McMillan, Art-** Surrealistic magazine collages, name designs, graffiti lettering, clay t-shirt forms, abstract and landscape paintings have been designed and constructed in the Art Room throughout the month of September. The proper care of materials and cleanup routines have been discussed and practiced. Creative ideas energize the classroom and provide a daily dose of inspiration.

**Ms. Yeates, Drama & Music-** In Drama & Music explorations this term we have been exploring theatre sports and improv. Students have learned to play African drums called Djembes, explored middle eastern drumming techniques, and have written compositions in an ABA format. Most recently we have delved into the wonderful world of Ukulele, and students are learning to play a variety of chords and strumming patterns, as well as learning to tune and have proper playing technique.

**Mrs. TW, Home Ec-** Our focus in September was sanitation and safety in the food lab. Students practiced the cake, muffin and biscuit methods of baking. Savoury meal planning labs were also part of this term. Nutrition was studied so students could alter and design products with healthy living considerations. Ingredients from BC's Fruit and Vegetable program were added to recipes. We have now just begun our pattern layout and cutting for our sewing projects.

**Mrs. Boileau, Digital Literacy-** DigitLit, as the new explorations is called, has taken off! Students are learning about the intricacies and versatility of Office 365, namely OneDrive, OneNote, Word and Outlook. Not only are they sharpening their software skills, students have been working with dedication on their

keyboard skills and learning to solve small technical issues as they arise each day. In a world where digital interactions can have lasting impact on one's own reputation, students are also learning how good character is the foundation to maintaining a positive digital footprint. Excitement is ramping up as we approach our coding unit!

### **Why Middle Schools?**

Middle Schools were born out of extensive research into the needs and the characteristics of young adolescents aged 10 to 14 years old. During the middle years humans develop more than at any other time in the life cycle, except for the early years from birth to 2 years old. The emotional, physical, social, psychological, intellectual, moral and ethical needs of middle learner require an educational setting and program that is very different from elementary and secondary models.

Hillcrest Middle School follows the exemplary middle school model that was developed to meet these unique needs of middle learners. Those key components are:

- The small school community that is within a larger school that we refer to as 'teams'. Students are in teams, with classrooms in the same location and have two main teachers for their core classes. There are approximately 60 students at their grade level in each team.
- Student Services teachers are attached to each team to help students with individual learning needs.
- Exploration teachers provide a variety of hands on experiences for all students. These programs include Dramus (Drama/ Music), Home Arts, Art and Tech-Ed.
- We sponsor a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities for staff to connect with students whether clubs, sports or leadership activities.
- Students are recognized for participation, effort, improvement, excellence and curricular or co-curricular activities.

We teach the whole child balancing curriculum and individual pursuits in learning opportunities. In this time of outside pressures- from the Ministry standardized testing, budget cutbacks, special interest groups, swinging pendulums moving educational direction- we continue to resist pressures and maintain our successful middle model and continue to do what is best for our kids!



## **PAC NEWS**

Our next PAC meeting will be held Tuesday October 17 at 7:00 pm in the Library. All parents and guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.

## The PAC is on Facebook – find us at Hillcrest Middle School Parents (Coquitlam)

Should you have any questions about fundraising at Hillcrest, please contact Catherine Hubbs at [hillcrestfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:hillcrestfundraising@gmail.com).

**Fundraising by Donation:** If you would like to support Hillcrest PAC by providing a donation please see the attached PAC donation letter/form. Alternatively, you can make your donation through the School Cash Online (KEV) system by clicking [here](#). No other fundraiser has a 100 percent profit margin and for donations of \$25 or more you will receive a tax receipt from SD43.

**Pizza Lunch Fundraisers:** The PAC will be offering pizza lunch fundraisers throughout the year. All orders and payments will be through the MunchaLunch system. Please see the attached instructions for registering and ordering.

We serve two teams on each date on a rotating basis - **remember to order only on your child's team dates**. Each team gets two lunches this term.

### **PAC pizza lunch dates:**

Blue and Yellow Teams - October 17 – orders due **next Tuesday Oct. 10**

Orange and Green Teams – Nov. 7 – orders due Oct. 31

Red and Blue Teams - Nov. 14 – orders due Nov. 7

Yellow and Orange Teams - Nov. 28 – orders due Nov. 21.

**Psst....**Do you have multiple children on different teams? Order extra and the kids can share it - for example if you have Child A on Red Team and Child B on Orange Team order for both under Child A's name on Red Team Pizza Days and order for both under Child B's name on Orange Team dates. The catch - you must order the entire lunch for all kids under the child's name who is on the team being served lunch. The kids must pick the entire order up at the same time.

**We need volunteers to run the lunches! If you have about 40 minutes available from about noon to 12:40 pm we would appreciate your help.**

The pizza lunch coordinators for this year are Catherine Hubbs and Deb Dobson who can be reached at [hillcrestlunches@gmail.com](mailto:hillcrestlunches@gmail.com).

**QSP Magazines:** Watch for information on our magazine fundraiser coming out October 15!

### **SPC Cards:**

SPC is Canada's favourite loyalty card that provides students with discounts and deals at thousands of the best stores and restaurants across Canada.

More details at [www.spccard.ca](http://www.spccard.ca).

At a cost of \$10.00, most SPC Card members will cover the cost of the card on their first trip to the mall and the cards are valid until July 31, 2018! Cards may be ordered online at [www.spccard.ca/purchase](http://www.spccard.ca/purchase). Remember to **Promo Code 37268** for Hillcrest to receive the \$3.50 profit.

**Big Brothers and Discover Books Donation Bins – Hosted by Hillcrest:** Hillcrest hosts both a Big Brothers clothing donation bin and a Discover Books bin both located at the Como Lake Ave. entrance to the school. These bins are conveniently open 24/7 and benefit both Hillcrest (we get 10 cents per pound of donated clothing, footwear, linens, material and accessories/eight cents per pound of books) AND Big Brothers. We usually make about \$1000 per year from the clothing bin and \$500 per year from the book bin.