

Happenings – Hillcrest Middle Newsletter

MAY 2026

Please see our school website: [Hillcrest website](#)

Upcoming Events (including information for our incoming Grade 5 families):

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| May 4 | Deadline to order PAC Lunch Subway | June 2-5 | Bike to School Week |
| May 5 | PAC Treat Day – Doughnut Love | June 2 | Jays Swimming at Mundy Park |
| May 6 | CMTA Middle School Choir/Strings Day | June 3 | Grade 6 Immunizations (for anyone missed) |
| May 12 | Register for Babysitting Course June 1 | June 4 | Div 1 First Aid Course |
| May 13 | PAC Lunch – Subway | June 4 | Jays to Outdoor Experience Waterpark |
| May 14 | Emergency Release Day | June 4 | Grade 6 for a morning |
| May 14 | Grade 5 Parent Information Night | June 4 | Div 7 to Rocky Point |
| May 18 | Victoria Day Stat (school closed) | June 5 | Eagles and Ravens Swim at Mundy Park |
| May 18 | Deadline to order PAC Lunch White Spot | June 10 | PAC Lunch – Dominos |
| May 20 | Junior Band Day | June 10 | Owls Swim at Mundy Park |
| May 25 | Jays to Zone Bowling | June 12 | Activity Day: |
| May 27 | PAC Lunch – White Spot | | Owls: Bowling and Movie |
| May 29 | Div 2 Red Cross Training | | Jays Grade 6/7: Activate |
| June 1 | Pro D Day (School based) | | Ravens Grade 7: Activate and Swim |
| June 1 | Babysitting Course (see details below) | | Grade 8: Playland |
| June 1 | Deadline to order PAC Lunch Dominos | | |

Repeating Events:

Band/Choir:

Junior Band: Mon/Thu 7:45am Senior Band: Tue/Fri 7:45am Choir: Wednesday 7:45

Athletics:

Track & Field practices will be Tuesdays/Thursdays at lunch. District Meet: May 13

Badminton:

Grade 6 Practices – Wednesday lunch

Grade 7 Practices - Wednesday 2:45pm - Tournament: May 26th 3:30-6:00 Pinetree Comm. Ctr

Grade 8 Practices -Thursday 2:45pm – Tournament June 2nd 3:30-6:00 Pinetree Comm. Ctr

Open Gym: Daily 8:00am

Breakfast Club: Available daily for ALL students 8:00-8:30am



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Principal's Message

Expectations Assemblies - Spring Fever

Back in September, Mr. Hart and I reviewed relevant parts of the Student Code of Conduct in assemblies to all 5 Teams at Hillcrest. In light of what is commonly referred to as "Spring Fever," we will be bringing this presentation back in the next 2 weeks. Spring Fever is the time of year when impulsivity tends to take up more bandwidth than ever. Many times, the excuse for breaching the Code of Conduct tends to be that the student was just trying to be funny (a prank). A good example of this is what the kids call "pantsing." This is the act of pulling down someone's clothing (and often underwear) in public to humiliate them. This is treated very seriously because it is an assault and harassment and will result in school-based discipline (often an out-of-school suspension). The reason for this is because there is nothing that the offender can do to restore the harm that has been done. In other words, an apology and a promise for the future cannot "make it right" for the victim. We try in every capacity to follow a Restorative Process at Hillcrest when things go wrong, but we also acknowledge that this process doesn't apply in all scenarios. Due to a developing pre-frontal cortex, we know that some Middle schoolers will error in judgment from time to time, and they will make poor choices. Please remind your child that this is the time of year when most of the "silly" behaviour can get out of the control.

District-Wide Emergency Release Day - May 14 at 2:00 PM

On May 14, 2026, at 2:00 pm each school in SD43 will be participating in a District Wide Emergency Release Day. In the event of a major emergency, it may become necessary to release students from school before the regularly scheduled time. It is an important process for each school to practice ensuring that we are prepared for the future.

FAQ

When is the Emergency Release Day? Thursday May 14th. Students will be evacuating the building at 2:00 pm and parents will be able to sign students out beginning at 2:10 pm.

Who is allowed to pick up students? Only people who are listed on the Student Emergency Release Form.

Where do I pick up my child? All students will be on the gravel field and organized by their classroom division number. Parents will need to come to the gravel field to sign out students. To ensure a quick process, please know your child's division number.

Can my child just leave school at 2:00 pm on their own? No. Parents/Guardians will need to sign students out from the gravel field with the classroom teacher.

Can my child leave with another parent? No. Students will only be released to people listed on the Student Emergency Release Form. Students will need to be picked up in order to be released at 2:10.

Can I give permission over the phone to release my child? No. Students will need to be picked up at 2:10 and will only be released to people listed on the Student Emergency Release Form.

What happens if I cannot come to Hillcrest at 2:10 pm? All students who are not picked up between 2:10 and 2:45 will be dismissed at the normal time 2:45.

Can my child leave at 2:45 without a parent signing them out? Yes. All students who are not picked up between 2:10 and 2:45 can leave as regularly scheduled at 2:45.

Where can I park my car when I arrive? We have very limited parking spaces for parents at Hillcrest. We encourage you to walk or park on the street.

Grade 5 Parent Night - May 14 @ 6:00 - 7:00 PM (Gym)

- We look forward to meeting caregivers of our incoming grade 5 students.
- We request that this be an adult only event. There will be plenty of opportunities for your child to visit the school and to ask questions about Hillcrest.
- There will be a PowerPoint presentation, a tour of the school and then a Q & A session back in the gym.



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TransLink - Bus Update

- Reminder: early dismissals are not accepted for students to catch a TransLink bus before 2:45 PM. This has been communicated previously in the Fall.
- Steps taken by school so far:
 - Discussions with TransLink about adding service to reduce crowding and adjusting the schedule to better meet the needs of our school. Not much success in this department.
 - Meetings with TransLink security officers to discuss safety concerns on the busses as brought up by bus operators.
 - Added school supervision at the bus stop on the south side of Como Lake Ave. As a result, students have moved down the road to get on the bus outside the Como Lake Village.
- Options moving forward:
 - Wait for the next bus. Students are welcome to stay inside the school for this purpose.
 - Alternate transportation: walk, bike, scooter & e-mobility device

Tennis Instruction

- I hope that your child is enjoying learning how to play tennis. Our instructor, Chill, has been very impressed by our students so far 😊
- Thank you to all the families who paid the \$35.00 student activity fee. This is how we can bring in programs like this and not have to add an additional charge in School Cash.

Babysitting Course

Hillcrest will be offering a babysitting course for interested students where they can build their knowledge about babysitting. This full day babysitting course will take place on **Monday, June 1st**. This is a Pro-D day at Hillcrest, so participating students will not miss any schoolwork. This hands-on course will run from 8:40am – 2:45pm with regular breaks for Nutrition Break and Lunch. At the end you will receive a certificate of completion.

Here are some of the things that students will learn in this course: - Look after babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children - Care for yourself and siblings when home alone - Create a safe environment and deal with phone calls and unexpected visitors - React confidently in case of an emergency, such as choking, bleeding, poisoning or burns - Cope with common problems such as tantrums and crying - Play games and organize activities to keep kids of all ages entertained - Manage a babysitting business. This includes creating a resume and a business card and asking the right questions before accepting a babysitting job - Learn how to correctly fit a helmet to a child (participants are asked to bring a helmet to the course if they have one) - Students need to bring a pencil/pen to the course

We need a minimum of 20 students to sign up and the maximum is 25 students. The first 25 students to sign up will receive a spot in this course.

Registration starts Tuesday, May 12th at 9:00am on School Cash Online.

Cost for this course is \$39.00



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Hillcrest PAC

Urgent Call for Volunteers

Hillcrest PAC is in urgent need of parents/guardians to step forward and fill key executive positions for the upcoming school year, including **Treasurer, Secretary, DPAC Representative, and Members at Large**. Our current Treasurer will be leaving as their child graduates this year. **Without a Treasurer, the PAC cannot continue to operate and will be unable to apply for next year's gaming grant.** This funding directly supports classroom supplies, enrichment programs, and other valuable experiences for all Hillcrest students.

If these positions are not filled, the PAC may be forced to pause or dissolve, which would have a significant impact on what we are able to offer our school community.

All executive roles and the proposed budget will be voted on at our upcoming AGM on Monday May 25, at 7pm. We truly need your support to keep the PAC running. No experience is necessary, and guidance will be provided to help you get started. Even a small contribution of your time can make a big difference.

If you are able to help or would like more information, please contact us at hillcrestmiddlepac@gmail.com. Thank you for supporting Hillcrest students and community.

IMPORTANT NOTE: PAC AGM May 25th at 7pm

Grade 5 / New families to Hillcrest

Grade 5 / New Parent Night (May 14) 6:00pm

- We look forward to meeting our new to Hillcrest families on May 14. This event is for incoming grade 5 families and for families with children entering grade 7 or 8 at Hillcrest for the first time.
- Student leaders at Hillcrest will do a tour of the school and we will discuss the pillars of middle school, early adolescence and Hillcrest. After the tour, we will have a Question and Answer session in the gym.
- This is an **adult only** event. Students will have a chance to tour the school in June at our Grade 6 for a morning event. More information on that to come.

Upcoming PAC

Treat Days!

Proceeds from these fundraisers help fund classroom materials, enrichment programs, and school activities at Hillcrest.



Coming up in May:
Doughnut Love hosted
on May 5th
Donuts delivered at lunchtime

Coming up In June:
TCBY frozen yogurt
arrives June 16th

Pre-orders will be open on
Munchalunch, stay tuned!

