

Hawthorne Elementary School

Phone: 604-946-7601 Fax: 604-946-3016

Office Hours: 8:30 am -3:30 pm

Principal: Mr. J. Hope Vice-Principal Ms. B. Bryan

Administrative Assistants: Ms. W Hunt and Mrs. D Richardson

Twitter @ElemHawthorne

November 17, 2021



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Hawthorne Parents and Guardians,

In November, Canadians take some time to reflect on our rights and freedoms that we enjoy each day. Our students participated in a short recognition presentation over zoom for Remembrance Day last week. They got to see some presentations of art, songs, and poetry contributed by some classes before having a moment of silence for reflection.

We have had a pretty rainy and windy stretch of weather as we get to the mid-point of November. Hawthorne's low elevation makes the grounds and play areas prone to flooding for most of the fall and winter. Please help the kids out by ensuring they have a complete change of dry clothes left at the school, no matter what age they are, so they can be comfortable if they get wet and muddy. Please continue to send the kids to school with boots and rain coats as they do spend a portion of everyday outside and we want to minimize the need to use those extra clothes.

We are looking forward to taking another step towards normal next week with our first Hot Lunch sponsored by our PAC. It will be a great treat for the kids, and a nice break for those who usually make the lunches!

J. Hope
Principal

COVID Update

I have no new information to pass on at this point. One thing we are finding is many children are forgetting their masks at home. Please help remind them to put an extra one in their backpack or coat pocket. We do have some disposable ones available for kids if needed, but a re-usable mask from home is better for the environment. Delta continues to have high rates of vaccination in the community which has helped reduce the number of cases I see in the school. We will continue to follow the current guidelines such as mandatory masks, hand cleaning, continued restricted access to visitors, surface cleaning and [Daily Health Checks](#), but please keep in mind that Medical Health Officers are able to place additional health and safety measures, at their discretion, onto specific communities, groups of schools, individual schools, or school districts if needed.

SOCK DRIVE

Ms. Cherry's and Mrs. Froh's classes are working with a community organization to collect adult-sized socks to be donated to residents of the Downtown East Side. With winter approaching, it is a small gesture for our community to help take care of others. Donations are being collected in the classrooms.

CALENDAR CONTEST WINNER



Congratulations to Belle H. in Grade 7 who had her artwork, pictured here, selected to be included in a "This is Where You Belong" calendar. The contest was sponsored by the school district, Delta Police, and the Harmony Initiative Society. This contest was open to all Delta residents. Belle's work was selected for capturing the diversity that makes our community so welcoming and inclusive.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE/LEAVING EARLY

In the morning, the first bell goes at 8:52 for students to be let in the building for school to start at 8:57. If any student arrives after 8:57 they are late and are to **report to the front office** to get a "Welcome to School Slip" and to be signed in. There is a digital clock above the front door of the school to assist with this. Knocking on the front door upon arrival will let Ms. Hunt know someone is there. Students will be let into the building to sign in and we continue to ask parents to wait outside the building. If parents do need to assist students to sign in, they must complete the visitor log and wear a mask. If a student requires assistance getting to class, staff will help out as we still don't have visitors in the building without prior appointments.

On occasion it is necessary for students to leave the school before dismissal for appointments or other family commitments. Please inform the teacher and school office if your child(ren) needs to be dismissed early on a given day. They will be dismissed from the front office after they have signed out and the office staff verify they are in the care of a parent.

SPIRIT DAYS

Hawthorne will have some optional school-wide Spirit Days again this year. Our first one is Friday, Nov 26 which is “Wear Many Colours Day”. Please note that these days are not meant to be difficult for kids to participate in and staff will assist kids who ‘forget’ and wish to participate when they see their peers participating.

A complete list of Spirit Day dates was sent out in a previous school email but here they are again:

- Dec 10- Holiday Spirit Day- wear anything festive or related to Christmas
- Dec 17- Holiday PJ Day
- Jan 27- Sports Jersey Day- wear your own jersey or one from your favourite team
- Feb 23- Pink Shirt Day- Anti-bullying day
- Mar 2- Silly Sock Day
- Apr 4- Light it Up Blue- wear blue for Autism Awareness Day
- Apr 22- Superhero Day
- May 27- Hilarious Hat or Hair day- gives those of us with no hair a choice ;)
- Jun 17- Hawthorne Day- Wear your Hawthorne spirit wear or blue and yellow

GRADE 6 AND 7 IMMUNIZATIONS

We had received information from our public health nurse regarding the regular yearly vaccination program for Grade 6 students. Because Covid forced the cancellation of regular vaccine programs in schools last year, the health authorities are catching up this year and will be administering vaccinations to current grade 6 and grade 7 students. The dates were set for our school but had to be cancelled due to health staff shortages for administering the vaccines. When the new date is set, it will be communicated to the community.

SAFETY DRILLS

To enhance our students’ safety and well-being, we conduct drills to prepare for an emergency. It is important for the community to become familiar with the school’s emergency procedures and what to do in the event of an emergency. Please take some time to discuss with your child(ren) how to respond during an emergency or disaster situation.

Just as we prepare our students to properly respond to a fire or earthquake, they also need to be aware of the proper response during a “lockdown” and “hold and secure”. We realize that the mention of a “lockdown” may raise some questions and concerns so please find some helpful information below. While the likelihood of threatening behaviours in our schools is very, very low, we hope that you find this knowledge of our procedures reassuring.

All schools in the District are required to hold at least two Lockdown and Hold & Secure drills. The purpose of the drills is to provide training for students and staff, so everyone knows what to do in the event of a safety threat.

ACTIONS AND EXPECTATIONS AT THE SCHOOL

A **Lockdown** will be activated if there is a potential threat **INSIDE** the school building.

If the school is placed into a Lockdown, the following procedures will apply:

- All school activities immediately cease.
- Students and staff will secure in the nearest classroom or office.
- All doors to classrooms and offices will be locked and/or barricaded by the supervising adult.
- Students will be kept away from windows and doors and will be instructed to remain silent.
- No one will be permitted to leave their room until the Lockdown is over as directed by Delta Police.

A **Hold & Secure** will be activated if there is a potential threat **OUTSIDE** the school building.

If the school is placed into a Hold & Secure, the following procedures will apply:

- School activities will be conducted in a quiet and calm manner.
- Movement within the school will be limited, students and staff are to remain in their classroom or offices.
- All exterior doors will be locked.
- NO ENTRY signs will be placed on entrance doors.
- No one will be permitted to leave the school until the school administration announces the Hold & Secure is over as directed by Delta Police.

ACTIONS AND EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS:

If you hear about a serious emergency at your child's school through the news, social media or other means, **DO NOT PROCEED TO THE SCHOOL**. The area needs to be kept clear for emergency vehicle access and arriving at the school would add more people into harm's way. Instead, the District will update the school website as information is released through Delta Police including off site evacuation and parent information locations.

Recognizing that telephone reception could quickly become overwhelmed by a sudden increase in high call volume, communication both in and out of a school under lockdown will be restricted to law enforcement personnel. It's expected that many parents will feel an urgent need to contact their child in a lockdown situation. Please **DO NOT CALL** your child's cell phone during an emergency as it is critical for them to remain silent and not draw attention to themselves or others in their group. We ask all parents for their cooperation in respecting law enforcement directives prohibiting the use of cellphones by staff and students during a lockdown. Please be assured that staff will spend time discussing the importance of these drills and procedures in an age-appropriate manner prior to the running of the drill to alleviate any worry that goes along with the drill. If you have any questions about the procedures described above, please feel free to contact Mr. Hope.

PAC INFORMATION

Our PAC executive has been working diligently to put together a welcome package for families. An electronic copy was emailed out by the school and paper copies were sent home with the youngest/only child for each family. It includes some general information as well as key information for setting up hot lunch and how to order so kids don't miss out. It also contained an **ACTION REQUIRED** item to register a family email to receive communications from the PAC in the future. This can be done via the QR code provided by scanning it with your phone camera or by completing the paper form and returning it to the school for the PAC to collect. The PAC is setting up their own mailing list to be able to send information out that pertains to their initiatives.

PAC Meeting dates have been set for the year and published. As a reminder they are set for Dec 7, Feb 15, Apr 26, and May 24.

VOLLEYBALL

We have wrapped up our intramural volleyball season for our grade 6 and 7 students. A big thanks goes to the coaches Mrs. Mack, Mrs. Holiday, Ms. Selles, and Mrs. Atkinson. As a wrap up event, all the players were provided with a pizza lunch to celebrate their growth in skill development, team play, and sportsmanship.

UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE

Friday, Nov 19	Hold and Secure Drill
Friday, Nov 26	Hot Lunch- DQ
Friday, Nov 26	Walk to School Day
Friday, Nov 26	Spirit Day-Multi-colour clothing day
Monday, Nov 29	Pro D Day- NO SCHOOL for kids
Tuesday, Dec 7	PAC Meeting
Wednesday, Dec 8	Term 1 report cards available on Parent Connect