

Hawthorne Elementary School

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

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

Administrative Assistant: Ms. W. Methven

Office Support: Mrs. D. Richardson

Twitter @ElemHawthorne

November 16, 2022



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 Remembrance Day assembly last week to acknowledge the day. It was our first in-person Remembrance Day gathering at the school in a couple years. Our gathering was led by three grade 7's, Taylor, Austin, and Kaden, who did a wonderful job presenting information and introducing the various poems and songs presented. I would like to thank the group of parents and community members who joined us for the occasion.

The weather continues to be unpredictable. Please remember to have students dress appropriately for the cold and wet and it is advisable that ALL students have some extra clothes to change into in case of a slip in the mud or other mishap. Have all their clothing labeled with a name to help return it, should it get lost. Don't forget to look at the Lost and Found rack at the front of the school if you are missing anything already.

J. Hope
Principal

SOCK DRIVE

Many of our classes are participating in a Sock Drive spear-headed by Division 8. Classes are working with a community organization to collect new 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.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

A reminder to all drivers to follow the posted traffic signs and to please keep intersections and crosswalks clear of vehicles. We ask drivers not to perform U-Turns on the streets around the school as it poses an additional risk to pedestrians and other vehicles. As always, parking is limited, so please walk to school as much as possible.

ARTSTARTS PRESENTATION

On Wednesday, November 16 the students were treated to a performance by the Green Thumb Theatre Group. The play was called 'Derwent is Different' and centered around friendship dynamics and how our perceptions of people impact how we interact with them. The play fits in with our Hawthorne expectation of "Taking Care of Others". Presentations like this are made possible by support through the BC Gaming Grant that our PAC gets for the school each year.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE/LEAVING EARLY

In the morning, the first bell goes at 8:52am for students to be let in the building for school to start at 8:57am. If any student arrives after 8:57am 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. Please aim to **be on school grounds between 8:45am and 8:50am** so that students can be let in with the class.

When students arrive late it can be disruptive to the class and they miss getting information about the shape of the day. Students can feel like they are missing out or starting behind everyone else when they come in after class has started which is a source of worry for many kids.

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 25 which is "Hilarious Hair or Hat 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 are listed below:

- Nov 23 - World Cup Day – Wear Red and White
- Nov 25 - Hilarious Hair or Hat Day
- Dec 9 - Holiday Spirit Day- Wear anything Festive for the Holiday Season
- Dec 16 - Holiday PJ Day
- Jan 20 - Superhero Day
- Feb 16 - Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Day- Dress as a Storybook Character
- Feb 22 - Pink Shirt Day- Anti-bullying Day
- Mar 10 - Silly Sock Day
- Mar 31- Light it Up Blue- Wear Blue for Autism Awareness Day
- May 26 - Jersey Day- Wear your Jersey or that of your Favourite Team
- Jun 16 - Hawthorne Day- Wear your Hawthorne Spirit Wear or Blue and Yellow

GRADE 6 IMMUNIZATIONS

We had received information from our public health nurse regarding the regular yearly vaccination program for Grade 6 students. The first immunizations will be on Friday, December 2 around 9:00am. Consent forms went out and should be returned to the school if they have not been already.

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/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 issue.

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.

SPIRIT WEAR

Orders of school Spirit Wear are expected to arrive the first week of December. We will reach out when the order arrives.

PAC INFORMATION

PAC Meeting dates have been set for the year and published. As a reminder they are set for Nov 17, Jan 12, Feb 16, Apr 20, and May 17. Please sign up for PAC communications if you haven't already done so by going to <https://hawthornepac.ca/subscribe>.

VOLLEYBALL

We have wrapped up our inter-school volleyball season for our grade 6 and 7 students. We are always amazed at the growth in skill over the season. All our students represented themselves and the school with great sportsmanship in our games against other Ladner schools. A big thanks goes to the coaches Mrs. Mack, Mrs. McGill, Ms. Selles, Mr. Hope and Mr. Granum.

UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE

Tuesday, Nov 22	Grade 7 Volleyball Tournament at DSS
Wednesday, Nov 23	Spirit Day – World Cup Day – Wear Red and White
Wednesday, Nov 23	Walk to School Day
Friday, Nov 25	Hot Lunch Day
Friday, Nov 25	Spirit Day-Hilarious Hat or Hair Day
Monday, Nov 28	Pro D Day- NO SCHOOL for kids
Friday, Dec 9	Holiday Spirit Day – Wear anything Festive
Monday, Dec 12	Term 1 Report Cards available on Parent Connect