



# Caudle Park - December 2021 Newsletter

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Even though the weather lately makes it difficult to believe, it is December already! Where has the time gone? We feel so lucky to have been able to spend this first term learning of learning together in school. Teachers have been working hard to keep everyone safe and to engage students in all aspects of the curriculum. They use a wide variety of teaching strategies and assessments to make sure that all students are finding success. We have been focusing on our Wellness (both physical and emotional) along with our school's goals in Literacy and Math. I was so pleased to read all of the wonderful accomplishments of our students in their first term reports.

One way that families can always help out, is to promote reading at home... especially during holidays and on weekends. Just 15 minutes of daily reading works out to almost 1500 hours of learning a year!

In the coming weeks, as many people get ready to celebrate the holidays, the staff at Caudle Park want to thank you so much for all of your support and wish you joy, happiness and wonderful times filled with family and friends this holiday season.

## Dates to Remember

- December 6 – Hanukkah Ends
- December 7 & 9 – Grade 5 Entrepreneur Fair
- December 21 – Last day of School
- December 25 – Christmas Day
- December 26 – Kwanzaa Begins
- January 1 – Kwanzaa Ends
- January 4 – First day of classes

## Holiday Spirit Week

- December 15<sup>th</sup> – **Holiday Colours** – wear the colours of whatever Holiday you celebrate.
- December 16<sup>th</sup> – **School Colours Day** – Dress in your Caudle Park clothing, or wear Navy and White.
- December 17<sup>th</sup> – **Crazy Sweater/Sock Day**

- December 20<sup>th</sup> – **Holiday Hat/Hair Day**
- December 21<sup>st</sup> – **Last day of Classes for 2021**

### **Dressing for the Weather**

The cold weather is upon us. Please make sure that your children are dressed for the weather. It is important that children have snow pants to play in the snow or slide on the hills. As always, it is a good idea to have additional dry clothing in your child's backpack. This will keep us from having to contact you in the middle of the day.

### **Masks at School**

Although there are extra masks available at the office, we have been going through A LOT of these each day. We are asking parents to please pack an extra mask in students' backpacks each day, so students have an additional one available in case they lose or soil the one they wear to school.

### **Grade 5 Entrepreneur Fair**

This year at Caudle Park, the grade 5 students had an opportunity to participate in an entrepreneurship program run by the Centre for Entrepreneurship Education and Development (CEED). For the past few weeks, the students have been working hard moving through the stages of business development such as coming up with an idea/product, branding and marketing their business and producing their product to sell.

On **Tuesday December 7** and **Thursday December 9**, the grade 5 students will be setting up their businesses in the library in a market setting and selling their products for the staff and students at Caudle Park to purchase. On these days, classroom teachers will be signing up for a timeslot to bring their class to the market to view and purchase items. If you would like your child to support the grade 5's endeavours, you may send some money with your child on the two dates listed above.

The grade 5s have decided to donate 15% of their sales to Beacon House and 15% of their sales to Hope for Wildlife. The remainder of the money will go towards an end of year field trip for the grade 5 students. Most products cost between \$2.00-\$5.00 each.

Some of the products that will be available to purchase will be:

Volcano Cakepops	Surprise Bags
Oreo Cupcakes	Christmas Ornaments
Carrot Cake Cupcakes	Coasters
Spider Cookies	Magnets
Sugar Cookies	Crochet Dishcloths
Rice Krispies	Painted Rocks
Hot Chocolate	Clay Sculptures
Lemonade	Clay Bead Bracelets
Candy bags	Rainbow Loom Bracelets
Popcorn	

### **Plans for Inclement Weather**

It is important to take the time now to review our policy on inclement weather. In the event of an early/emergency dismissal (i.e. bad weather or emergencies such as a power outage) we will contact families directly to review how/with whom students will go home at dismissal. At the beginning of the school year, we sent home contact information sheets to be updated, please ensure that if there are any further changes to contact information/emergency contact people, you advise the school as soon as possible.

It is the decision of the Halifax Regional Center for Education as to whether or not school is closed. The school cannot make that decision. In cases when the weather is bad early in the morning, please listen to the local radio stations or the HRCE website (<https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/school-cancellations>)

Caudle Park is in the Sackville High Family of Schools. In some cases, STOCK and SOUTHLAND will cancel bus service, but schools will remain open. A decision to cancel some, or all, bus runs will be announced by 6:00am. The cancelled buses, and impacted schools, will be identified in the announcement. On those days, parents are responsible for transportation. If busses are cancelled in the morning, they are cancelled for the whole day.

### **New Procedures for School Cancellation Notification**

Would you like to be notified by HRCE about school cancellations due to inclement weather by text message and/or email?

There is a new process to follow – even if you had subscribed the past.

To ensure compliance with Canadian Anti-Spam laws, you must opt-in to receive information by text message.

If you're a parent/guardian in the HRCE:

- You will have received a message about opting into the new text message feature. *If you opted in to receive text messages, no further action is required.*
- If you haven't yet opted in, simply reply with a Y to 978338.
- If you didn't receive the opt-in text message, please call your child's school.
- *If you do not wish to receive school cancellation notifications by text, no further action is required.*
- If you are NOT a parent/guardian in the HRCE:
- If wish to receive school cancellation notifications due to inclement weather, you must opt-in through our website in an easy two-step process, outlined at [www.hrce.ca/notifications](http://www.hrce.ca/notifications).
- *If you do not wish to receive school cancellation notifications, no further action is required.*

Anyone (other than parent/guardians in the HRCE) who wishes to receive school cancellations due to inclement weather by text message must opt-in [here](#).

This includes staff members, community members, grandparents, partners, daycare operators, media, etc. If you know someone who would like to receive cancellation notifications, please let them know how to opt-in. It's open to everyone.

If you only wish to receive an email notification about school cancellations, you can do that too on the same [webpage](#). The choice is yours!

### **COVID Update**

Thanks to everyone for following the Health guideline for Back to School. Things have been going well so far but we cannot stop our COVID -19 safety practices. Please continue to use the Daily COVID Checklist every morning to make sure that your child is well enough to come to school. Please see the school [website](#) for more information.

As of December 1<sup>st</sup>, and in keeping with the Provincial COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination Protocol in High Risk Settings, all parents, visitors and volunteers are required to show proof of full vaccination before coming into the school.

Therefore, to avoid having to verify vaccinations and identification, effective Wednesday, December 1, 2021, parents/guardians will remain outside of the school when picking up, or dropping off items for, students. When arriving, please ring the bell outside of the main doors and wait for one of our Administrative Team to respond. If you are picking up a student, they will be called from class and meet their parent/guardian outside. If you are dropping something off, please make sure that it is labelled with the student's name and their classroom.

We appreciate your support with this.