



April 2024 Newsletter



NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

We hope everyone enjoyed the long weekend, spending time with family. April brings some changes starting with The retirement of Jillian Dominey, our Administrative Assistant. Jillian has been an integral member of the school team and we will miss her greatly. We wish Jillian joy as she enters a new phase of her life! Her replacement will begin in September. Welcome aboard Sarah Morris. Sarah currently works at Tantallon Sr Elementary and like Jillian, is very experienced. We will have a temporary sub for the remainder of the year....with Sarah coming some days to start the transition process.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

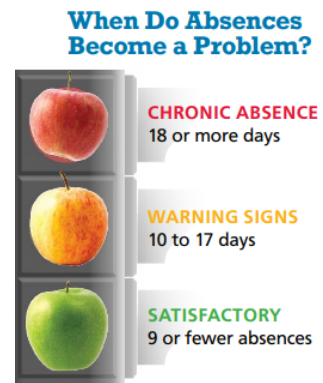
Hopefully you have a student led conference booked for Thursday. Student-led conferences are a way for students to take responsibility for their own learning and share with their parents the work that they achieved over the term. It is also a great way for parents to see how students interact with each other and learning experiences within the curriculum. If you have specific questions for the teacher, feel free to email the teacher directly or book a video/phone conversation.

ATTENDANCE: DID YOU KNOW?

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school-and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and secondary courses.

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.

- Missing 10%, or about **2 days each month** over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

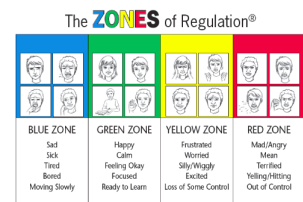


STUDENT SUCCESS PLANNING

We are moving into the third term and it's time for further reflection on our short cycle goals in the student success plan. Teachers have been working diligently on developing strength in computational fluency in math, following visual schedules and improving small group instruction in literacy. Small group instruction allows teachers to work with 2-4 students strategically to reinforce and practice skills that students have not yet mastered. Our wellbeing goal continues to look at how positive wellbeing impacts on learning. Teachers have been looking at culturally responsive practices to support students with their self identity and nurture confidence so they can celebrate and be themselves wherever they go!

CARING SCHOOLS

In the month of April, our school wide theme is **Kindness**. It is the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate and is closely connected to Emotional Responsibility. Emotional Responsibility is regulating one's own emotions and not letting them negatively affect others. It involves taking proactive steps to manage one's emotional well-being and to avoid causing harm or distress to others. This is an important quality to have in a school community as it can impact on the learning of others. The Zones of Regulation is a good stepping stone into increasing emotional awareness and responsibility:



<https://holybrookacademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Holybrook-guide-to-the-Zones-of-Regulation.pdf>

PTA / SAC

Pie orders are out and parents can place orders on the school webpage using the [school cash widget](#). A tracking sheet was sent home to keep your orders organized and ready to distribute on pick up day.

The Spring Fair is at risk of being canceled due to a lack of volunteers. Having enough time to finalize plans is important. If you are available to volunteer on Saturday, May 25th, please let us know. This continues to be an important fundraiser for our school.

The SAC continues to consult with us on our school SSP, fund allocation and the ongoing concerns with the roof and river. We have been informed that the school will be getting a new roof likely over the summer months! This is great news for sure!

UPCOMING DATES

April 4th Student Led Conferences (by appointment)

May 20th NO SCHOOL Victoria Day

May 25th Spring Fling (Volunteer dependant)

Celebrate two important themes this month!



Earth Day is Monday, April 22nd!