

NEWSLETTER

Northumberland Hills Public School December 2023



At Northumberland Hills Public School, we value RESPECT, KINDNESS, and BELONGING for all and will demonstrate this to our students, staff, families, and community through our ongoing actions.

To our Northumberland Hills Community,

The joys of the holiday season are filling the air at Northumberland Hills! With the leadership of Karen West, and members of the School Council, we held our first annual JOYFUL GIVING: Holiday Shop. The holiday shop provided the opportunity to "pay it forward" through donations of items that became someone else's gift giving treasure. This can be a stressful time and reducing the cost barriers can be helpful. Going forward, we are looking at making some small changes to make this annual event even better.

We have a few exciting events to finish off 2023, including the JUNGLE SPORT ADVENTURE that is set up in the gym this week (see pictures), The Holiday Door Decorating Challenge, and COOKIES & CAROLS on Thursday, December 21st at 2:30pm. There is plenty to celebrate this year. Thanks for their ongoing support and kindness. You made 2023 a fabulous school year.

Be well and Happy Holidays!

Stephen Koshurba, Principal - stephen_koshurba@kprdsb.ca; Wanda Lansley, Secretary - wanda_lansley@kprdsb.ca; Cyndi Dickson, Trustee - cyndi_dickson@kprdsb.ca



COOKIES & CAROLS 2023 - Thursday, Dec. 21st (2:30)

A true Northumberland Hills tradition! Cookies and Carols is a cherished time for families to share their baking powers with the larger school community.

NHPS School Council hosts this holiday celebration. Students gather to sing carols in the gym, and return to their classrooms to have cookies and chocolate milk. Grade 8 elves will deliver these items to be consumed in class or taken home to enjoy.

Note: Accommodation will be provided for students with allergies and other dietary restrictions.

The School Council sent an orange form home requesting donations of simple, icing free, and nut free cookies. If you don't have the form, but would still like to donate, please call the school indicating how many icing and nut free cookies you can provide.

Please reach out to the office if you plan on participating in the Carol sing along. Seating for the public will be very limited.

NHPS PIZZA DAYS - JANUARY

It's time to order pizza for January!

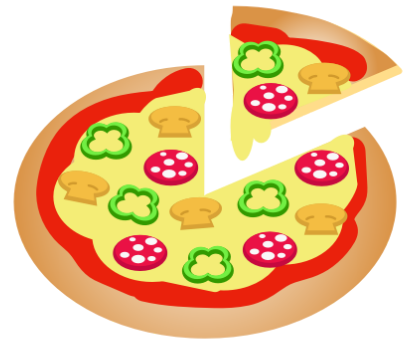
PLEASE NOTE: *There is no Pizza Day on Friday, December 22nd.*

Pizza orders are available online at [School Cash Online](#)

Order January pizza by Monday, January 8th

Pizza Dates for January:

- Friday, January 12th
- Friday, January 19th
- Friday, January 26th



NOTE: If buses are canceled on a Friday due to weather, pizza will be given the following Wednesday



JUNGLE SPORT ADVENTURE December 11th-15th

For the first time ever, we brought Jungle Sport Adventure to Northumberland Hills PS. Jungle Sports is an outside agency that supports the well-being and physical health of children through balance, climbing, ropes challenges, and repelling. By the end of the week most classes from K-8 will have had at least 2 full gym sessions to work with trained facilitators who encourage risk taking and fun.

We look forward to inviting Jungle Sport Adventures back again in the 2024-25 school year! Thanks Jungle Sports!



STORM WEAR FOR THE HOLIDAYS

All fall orders of NHPS Storm Wear have been delivered and were given out last week to families who made a purchase online. If you didn't get a chance to order in this round, we do another order in the Spring (around Easter season).

Is there a type of Storm Wear you want to see available? We are always looking for new ideas, so reach out to a School Council member (see below) or to the office with any suggestions.

Thank you for supporting NHPS School Spirit!!!

LOST & FOUND - Will be donated Dec. 20th

Is your child coming home with less clothes?

Are you curious where a jacket, hat, sweater, or gloves have gone?



Our Lost & Found is overflowing with items students leave outside, in the hallways, or in other areas around the school. We do regular reminders to check the lost and found every morning during announcements, but we still have a number of items that are waiting to be taken home.

We invite you to come down and visit the Lost and Found before the end of day on Wednesday, December 20th. After this time, any items left will be donated to the Cramahe Thrift Store. The Cramahe Thrift Store is a huge financial supporter of our School Nutrition Program. They recently made a \$2,000 donation to our school food program.

NHPS SCHOOL COUNCIL - next meeting: Jan. 16th

The NHPS School Council meets once a month from 6:30-7:30pm in the LIBRARY. New members are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

In our last meeting, there was a larger discussion about how schools approach topics around Indigenous Education and Equity. We will continue these talks throughout the year to build greater understanding and transparency around the learning students are engaging in in class.



Throughout this year, council wants to hear from you. We want you to connect with one of us when you have something you feel needs to be brought to the attention of council.

Council works for all of you to make NHPS the greatest school for your children to learn and grow. Your School Councillors are eager to bring your voice forward and are willing to represent your voice at council meetings.

Here is a list of School Council Members who are here for you:

Amanda Visneski	Sineid McDonald	Ryan Gillam	Lauren Gould	Chelsea Thompson-Stewart	Cristol Smyth
<i>Kindergarten and Grade 1 parent</i>	<i>Kindergarten parent</i>	<i>JK, Grade 4, and 5 parent</i>	<i>Grade 1 parent</i>	<i>Grade 2, 3, and 7 parent</i>	<i>Chair of School Council</i> <i>Grade 2 parent</i>
Phone: 289-928-6952 (call or text)	Phone: 613-485-0073	Phone: 647-861-8659 (call or text)	Phone: (unavailable)	Phone: 705-772-5927 (call or text)	Phone: (unavailable)
Email: amandamaydesigns@live.com	Email: Sineidb@hotmail.com	Email: ryanrgillam@hotmail.com	Email: laurencatherinegould@gmail.com	Email: chels.anneee@gmail.com	Email: Cristol.NHPSSchoolCouncil@gmail.com



JOYFUL GIVING: The Holiday Shop

Thank-you to our school community!

The first annual Joyful Giving event was a huge success and raised just under \$1,000 for enhanced student programming at Northumberland Hills PS.

Karen West led a large team of School Council members, parent volunteers and students to a fun filled evening. We learned a lot from this first event and will implement some changes for 2024-25 that will make the shop more accessible to students throughout the day.



THE WEEK BEFORE...

- This FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15th is FESTIVE COLOURS DAY. Wear your colours of the season.
- Cookie donations for the Cookies and Carols event Due to Office - Wednesday December 20th
- LOST & FOUND - Donation to Thrift shop - Wednesday, December 20th
- COOKIES & CAROLS - Thursday, December 21st at 2:30pm
- LAST DAY OF CLASSES - Friday, December 22nd
- FIRST DAY BACK - Monday, January 8th



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR A Success!

Thank-you to all the students, families, and community members who came out to support the love of reading. A portion of the proceeds have been donated back to the school library and will be used to add to our current collection.

A huge thank-you to our Teacher Librarian, Mrs. Hawkes and other members of the NHPS staff for supporting during recess store hours, and during our family night.

We will hold another book fair in the late fall. We hope to have this line-up with our Fun Fair again this year.

STUDENT DISMISSAL & EARLY PICKUP

We continue to have a structured dismissal process that supports student safety at a very busy time of the day. We begin the dismissal process at 3:46pm by escorting primary students to the buses. All other students are dismissed at 3:50pm.

A few things about early dismissal:

- We cannot call a student down for early pick-up after 3:30pm.
- If you require early pick-up, please inform the office before 3:15. Pick-up is at the front door only.
- Regular pick-up will occur at 3:50pm. For safety, PLEASE HAVE ID READY
- Walkers will be dismissed at the 3:50 bell

PERSONAL DEVICES - cell phones/smartphones

Personal technology is a reality. With the increase in cell phone usage, we see an increase in cyberbullying and inappropriate use of technology. In elementary school, students are learning how to manage safety and etiquette while online. Teachers work with students around internet safety, and are committed to keeping your child safe. The following policy is in place and aligns with KPRDSB's appropriate use of technology policy.

Personal devices are not required at school. We have enough student technology (Chromebooks, iPads, and desktop computers) to offer your children a technology rich learning experience.

If your child brings a cell phone or smartphone to school, the following expectations are in place:

1. The device is stored away for the entire day when on school property unless a staff member has provided a specific educational task to complete under their direct supervision.
2. If a child misuses technology we implement the following progressive discipline approach:
 - **First Offense:** Verbal warning
 - **Second Offense:** A second verbal warning is given with clear explanation of consequence if expectations are not followed.
 - **Third Offense:** The student will be asked to bring their device to the office where the principal will discuss the policy with them and provide a warning of the potential loss of privileges.
 - **Fourth Offense:** Device will no longer be allowed at school and a phone call home will be made.

Students may use their devices on the bus, but cannot be turned on until they are seated. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please call the office directly. We will call your child to the office.

REGISTERING FOR EDSBY

Edsby is a major form of communication between the school and home. Both the classroom and the office have access to messaging through EDSBY and most of your child's school information (i.e., OEN number and report cards) can be accessed through this site.



Here's How to Register:

- You will receive an invitation from the school. If you don't receive an invitation, and have never registered before, please call the office for support. 905-344-7361
- On your web browser type in - kpr.edsby.com
- **USERNAME** is your email account you have on file with the school
- **PASSWORD** is created when you first log-in


Forgot your password??

- If you have an existing account click [Can't Log In](#). You will be prompted to reset your password
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REGISTERING FOR SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Paying for school items just got easier!
Sign up to get started today.

What is School Cash Online?
School Cash Online is an easy to use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees.
[Learn more](#)



Register **Sign In**

To access online payments, parents can enrol at [School Cash Online](#); it takes less than five minutes. Registered parents can see their payment history, print receipts, and receive email notifications whenever new student fees are posted for their child.

Use the following link for detailed, how to instructions::

https://www.kprschools.ca/en/our_schools/getinvolved/parentresources/schoolcashionline.html

Northumberland Hills 2023-2024 STAFF

CLASSROOMS

JK/SK	Courtney Martin & Karen Victor	Rm 123
JK/SK	Carly McKelvie & Tanya Hayward-Lamb	Rm 125
JK/SK	Nicole McMurray & Rebecca Herring	Rm 131
Grade 1	Michele Sheehy	Rm 133
Grade 1/2	Holly Harnden	Rm 139
Grade 2	Terry Taylor	Rm 207
Grade 2	Andrea Broomfield-Doherty	Rm 206
Grade 2/3	Susan Solomon	Rm 205
Grade 3/4	Amanda MacKenzie	Rm 203
Grade 4	Jacob Gallant	Portable
Grade 4/5	Julie Noel	Rm 204
Grade 5/6	Larisa Lacroix	Rm 201
Grade 5/6	Eva Osterlee	Rm 202
Grade 7/8	Ola Zobel-Brown	Rm 200
Grade 7/8	Katie Williams	Rm 216
Grade 7/8	Paul Hamel	Rm 218

ACROSS THE SCHOOL

SERT	Michele Whitney	Office
SERT/PT	Lacey Hogeboom (K-3)	Rm 113
Overlay	Tracey Hewitt (0.56)	Rm 214
Planning	Tracey Hewitt (0.31)	Rm 214
French	Amber Jessup (1.0)	Rm 214
French	Nicholas Ormond (0.30)	Rm 214
Library/STEAM	Pavanne Hawkes	Rm 104
	<i>Library</i>	Rm 104
	<i>STEAM Lab</i>	Rm 106

COACHING STAFF

EIT	Nicole McMurray (0.4)	
DS Coach	Katie Williams (0.16)	

OFFICE STAFF

Principal	Stephen Koshurba	Office
Secretary	Wanda Lansley	Office

CUSTODIAL STAFF

SUPPORT STAFF

CYW	Carly Dobie (LTA)	
CYW	Matthew Marlin	
EA	Julie Elder	
EA	TBD	
EA	Whitney Honey	
EA	Natalie Garcia	
EA	Brianne Wilton	
EA	Careyann Paradis	

Custodian	Tricia Davey (AM)	
Custodian	Valerie Burgess (PM)	
	Updated: December 2023	