

November 28, 2014



## HPAC News

Happy Friday!

Before diving into this week's edition of news, we're going to remind you to say "Highlands Elementary School" before you pay for goodies at COBS Breads in Edgemont Village (remember, our school receives **5%** of all purchases!)...

*(Our apologies to those of you who received outdated information at the end of yesterday's Hats for Hunger message. No, it was not a test to see if you read all the way to the end of our messages! :)*

*Rather, it's a bit of a mystery why that happened but we're working to make sure it won't happen again. )*

### This issue:

- HPAC Meeting
- Poinsettias
- Gingerbread Decorating
- Christmas Hampers
- Scholastic Book Fair: Volunteers & Parent Evening
- Santa's Workshop
- Holiday Elves
- Talent Show
- SRA - Survey
- In the Community

## HPAC Meeting

**Tuesday, December 2 7:00 - 8:00 pm**

Please plan to attend next week's HPAC meeting. As always, complimentary childcare and refreshments will be available and, as a bonus, the Parent Scholastic evening will be held **before** and **after** the HPAC meeting. Help ease your shopping woes! More Scholastic details to follow.

For your advance information, please see the draft meeting agenda below or on the [HPAC web site](#).

### HPAC Meeting Draft Agenda

1. Welcome and Executive Introductions
2. Approval of [November 4, 2014 HPAC meeting minutes](#)
3. Administration Greeting and Updates
4. DPAC Update
5. World Kindness Day Re-Cap

6. Natural Playground
  7. Upcoming Events
    - Gingerbread and Poinsettia event
    - Santa's Workshop Market
    - Parent Social
    - Family Bingo Night
  8. Risky Play Talk
  9. W.O.W. (Walk on Wednesdays) Program Presentation,  
Presenter: Carol Sartor
  10. Open Discussion
  11. Next PAC Meeting February 3, 2015
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## **Poinsettias**

**EXTENDED Order Deadline: Friday, November 28 3:00 pm (TODAY)**

**Pick up: Friday, December 5**

Buy your poinsettias in time for the holidays! Choose from red or white 6.5" premium poinsettias for \$12 each. Perfect for holiday decorating or gift giving, these are truly beautiful plants and the quality is outstanding.

NEW this year: Option to pay online with PayPal!

Click link to order: <http://highlands.plants4nonprofit.com>

## **Gingerbread House Decorating: New Order Deadline**

**Friday, December 5 3:00pm**

**Highlands School Gym**

This year we will be decorating gingerbread houses. Each kit costs \$10 and includes all the supplies needed to build a fantastic house. There is a limited number of kits (and space in the gym) available.

Place your order online via the [HPAC web site](#) and then put payment (cash or cheque payable to **HPAC**) into the HPAC box outside the office.

Please note that the NEW PRE-ORDER/PAYMENT DEADLINE is **Tuesday, December 2.**

## **Classroom Christmas Hampers**

**Deadline for Donations: Monday, December 1 morning**

Please help fill the hampers in your child's classroom with the suggested theme items or anything else you'd like to donate to the Family Services of the North Shore.

For more information and classroom themes, please see the information sheet [here](#).

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## **Scholastic Book Fair: Volunteers Still Needed!**

**Monday, December 1 - Thursday, December 4**

Next week is the Highlands Fall Book Fair, our twice a year fundraiser to support our library. We are still in need of volunteers to make this happen. Time slots without a sufficient number of volunteers will not be able to run.

Please take a look at the schedule below, and if you can help out in one of the required time slots please email [christina@carrick-lee.net](mailto:christina@carrick-lee.net) ASAP. Your library thanks you!

**Monday, Dec 1:** 8:20-9:10 (setup) - 2 people still needed

**Tuesday, Dec 2:** 8:20-9:10 - 1 person still needed  
3:00-3:45 - 2 people still needed

**Wednesday, Dec 3:** 8:20-9:10 - 2 people still needed  
3:00-3:45 - 2 people still needed

**Thursday, Dec 4:** 12:15-12:55 - 1 person still needed

## **Scholastic Parents' Evening**

**Tuesday, December 2**

**6:00pm - 7:00pm**

**(break for the HPAC meeting)**

**8:00pm - 9:00pm**

This is a special evening for parents to shop for Christmas gifts and teacher wish list items at our book fair in a more relaxed, holiday atmosphere. Come and enjoy snacks and hot beverages. Two door prize draws will be made for \$30 each in Scholastic merchandise!

All sales benefit the Highlands School library.

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## **Santa's Workshop Market**

**Items Collected: Monday, December 8 - Thursday, December 11**

**Market Date: Friday, December 12**

The HPAC will be helping with the Santa's Workshop Market this year where Highlands students will have the opportunity to purchase gifts for their family members. In order

to have enough gifts and to ensure variety, **we ask that families look around their homes for suitable items to put aside.** Please do not purchase anything. Rather, look through your cupboards and drawers for like-new items to be reused, recycled and re-gifted. Suggestions include books, toys, jewellery, bath products, scarves, games, vases, ornaments, and DVD's. Gifts for brothers, dads, and grandpas are always in high demand.

Collection of items will take place in the school foyer between Monday, December 8, to Thursday, December 11. The sale for primaries (Kindergarten to Grade 3, assisted by their buddies) will take place between 9:00 and noon on Friday, December 12. **New this year:** Intermediate students will have an opportunity to shop as well! Grades 4 – 7 are welcome in the gym between 12:20 and 1:55.

All items will be priced at \$3.00 or less. A reminder notice and request for shopping list will be sent home the week of December 1.

If you are a parent or caregiver who is interested in volunteering at the event, please contact Brandy at [brandyhughes@gmail.com](mailto:brandyhughes@gmail.com)

## **Kidsbooks - Holiday Elves for the Library**

How can your child become a Holiday Elf?

As a gift to the school, Highlands students/families are encouraged to become a Holiday Elf by forgoing a gift for themselves and instead purchasing a book off the Library Wish List located at Kidsbooks [in Edgemont](#). This Wish List, created by Highlands Librarian Ms. McGee, includes fiction and non-fiction for all grade levels and books at various price points.

Once purchased, the students can then give the book directly to Ms. McGee who will have labels for the students to put in the book and on which to write their name. The children will be able to "visit" their book when they and their peers visit the library. This is a great way to encourage giving to others!

Highlands library will receive a credit at Kidsbooks for 15% of all books purchased off the list, (in addition to the 15% discount already provided to the Highlands library and staff).

## **Talent Show - The Show Will Go On!**

The Annual Talent Show is back on! Thanks to all those who voted in favour at the budget meeting earlier this month. This will be the first year the Talent Show will be run by a group of parents and sponsored by the HPAC so it will be different than in previous years but just as great. We expect it will be held in the spring of 2015 with the specific date and location still to be determined.

If you are interested in helping out please contact Molly Schneeberg at [molly\\_s@shaw.ca](mailto:molly_s@shaw.ca) or Amanda Clark at [clarkamanda@shaw.ca](mailto:clarkamanda@shaw.ca). We look forward to continuing this great arts tradition at the school!

# **SRA (Safe Routes Advocates) Update**

## **Ministry of Transportation Survey**

**Survey Open until: Friday, December 12**

Many Highlands' parents have expressed concerns about the safety of our students as they travel to and from school; we have a chance to speak for young families through Ministry of Transportation Survey. The BC government is in the midst of writing their 10 year Transportation Plan and are looking for your feedback.

<http://engage.gov.bc.ca/transportationplan/>

Consider using the comment section of the survey to ask that money be allocated to improving the safety around our schools, by providing crosswalks, sidewalks, sidewalk letdowns at intersections, traffic calming, more signage, better lighting on roads and in all traffic planning to consider road access for all ages and all abilities. Here is a short list:

- 1.** BC needs a provincial active transportation plan (as NS, ON, QC have): a provincial walking, cycling, and rolling strategy.
- 2.** BC needs to fund and dedicate human resources to implement the provincial strategy.
- 3.** Pedestrians-first approach (active transportation and safe routes) should be the top priority.

**Your voice can only be heard if you use it, and here is our "once every decade" chance. The survey closes Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.**

## **In the Community...**

### **Grosvenor Edgemont Information Centre**

Learn more about the Grosvenor's proposed development at the northwest gateway to Edgemont Village ([www.grosvenoredgemont.com](http://www.grosvenoredgemont.com)). The Grosvenor Edgemont Information Centre at 3044 Edgemont Boulevard will be open to the community from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on the following dates:

- Saturday, November 29th
- Saturday, December 6th
- Saturday, December 13th
- Saturday, December 20th

If you cannot attend on any of these dates, you can also call 604-699-0036 to set up an appointment to speak with a member of the team.