

From: Highlands PAC HPAC@wildapricot.org
Subject: HPAC News: Friday Food Days, Lost and Found, Kindness Committee and more!
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To: HPAC Communications Coordinator verna@noru.ca

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Friday Food Days, Lost and Found, School Visitor Tags, Year of Kindness Recap, SRA Update, Highlands Kids Club Summer Programs, In the Community

June 19, 2015



HPAC News

Next week will be the last HPAC News for this school year - if you'd like to have anything included in this last edition, please email Verna (verna@noru.ca) by 12 noon on Wednesday, June 24th.

And now to the news...

This issue:

- Friday Food Days
- Lost and Found
- School Visitor Tags
- Year of Kindness Recap
- SRA Update
- Kids Club Summer Programs
- In the Community

Friday Food Days

Last week was our final Friday Food Day of the school year. We would like to extend a BIG thank you to Meredith Kennedy for coordinating the Friday Food Day program, one of the biggest HPAC Fundraisers.

A BIG thank you is also due to Cathy Groot, Jennifer Williams, Alix Findlay, Kathy Dirom, Jenn Stodt, Sue Bath, Jennifer Bains, Amanda Clarke and Sandy Pearson who assist weekly to ensure the smooth running of food days.

Our appreciation also goes out to Lonnie Prouse and Brandy Hughes for helping to coordinate the recycling associated with Friday Food Days.

Lost and Found

A quick reminder for all students and parents to take a look at the Lost and Found table located outside the library. All unclaimed items on this table as of **June 25th** (last day of school) will be donated to charity.

School Visitor Tags - One week left to go!

Next week will be the final week of the school year. A friendly reminder to return any school visitor tags (the tags you clip on when you sign in at the office to volunteer or visit the school) back to the school office as soon as possible.

Year of Kindness Recap

As our school year comes to an end, we wanted to provide a quick recap of some of the extra things students, staff, teachers and parents have been involved in this year to help foster a kind and caring school community.

At the start of our year students met to watch and discuss the YouTube video on **Club G**, our school's friendship group that has grown into a nationally-recognized model of inclusive education. Many students expressed interest in getting involved in this kind of initiative. Here's the YouTube address if you missed it: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9FwuMHnR9BU&feature=youtu.be>

On World Kindness Day in November, students, parents and staff acted on kindness fortunes drawn at our first **Draw your Kindness Fortune event**. Since the new year, students have been regularly acting on kindness slips they are drawing from the **Kindness Buckets in each Classroom**. The slips say things like "Do 5 different kind things today" and "Invite someone you don't usually play with to join you at recess."

In February, members of our school community shared their kindness stories on our **Graffiti the School with Kindness Banner**, and another **Draw your Kindness Fortune event** was held on Pink Shirt Day to help spread kindness in our school and community. **Tips for Growing Kindness** in kids also went home to school parents on Pink Shirt Day.

In March a school **Kindness Club** was formed with the aim of working on fun initiatives that foster kindness and inclusion, and in April International Pay-it-Forward Day was recognized with a **Pay-it-Forward Fortunes event**, to again spread kindness in our school and beyond through the ripple effect.

In the final weeks and months of the year, Kindness Club members and parent volunteers have been working on creating a new **Kindness Corner of the Library**, a special new cozy corner - to be up-and-running by September - where students can sit and read books with kindness and related themes.

The grade 7's farewell gift to the school, the **Buddy Bench**, is arriving this week, and volunteers are helping students 'practice the system' on our current (and newly decorated) playground bench. The buddy bench will be a place where any student who is lonely or needs someone to play with can sit, and someone will come sit with them and invite them to play.

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In late May Club G received a National Inclusion Award from Inclusion BC and the Canadian Association for Community Living, for being a positive example of inclusion in schools. This was not done to "congratulate" the members of Club G, but recognizing the impact of the Club on the school through this award shines a light on what is good (and kind!) in our children.

Since most of our Club G members are leaving us for high school this month, some initiatives are in-the-works to create a **Club G Legacy** at the school, including growing and expanding the activities of our new Kindness Club, and expanding our playground initiatives to help ensure our school is a caring and welcoming environment for all.

A big thank to all our parents, staff, teachers and students for whom being kind and fostering compassion is simply "who they are." Even the tiniest act of kindness goes a very long way.

- *The Kindness Committee*

Safety Routes Advocates – Capilano Road Construction

Please be aware as of this August, Capilano Road will be under construction and traffic will be re-routed to Delbrook and Highlands Boulevard.

Highlands Kids Club - Summer Registration

Kids Club summer registration has begun. Visit their web site for more details: <http://www.highlandskidsclub.ca/#!summer-program/cmnr>

In the Community...

10th Annual Teddy Bear Picnic – June 20, 2015 (10:30am – 2:00pm)

St. Andrews Park & Gym - 1044 St. George's Avenue

Bouncy castles, teddy bear parade at 12 noon, BBQ and so much more. Bring your teddy bear and join in on the fun. Rain or shine!

Handsworth Field Hockey – September 9th & 11th (3:15 – 5:00pm) Rutledge Field

Attention field hockey girls! The Handsworth Royals Junior (girls grades 8-10) team tryouts will take place on September 9th & 11th, 3:15-5pm at Rutledge Field. All girls must attend both sessions.

Please also consider attending the WVFHC back to school camp as a great way to get ready for the fall. Camp information available at wvfhc.com. If you have any

questions, please contact Janet Gosney - Manager, Handsworth Royals Senior Team
at rjgosney@gmail.com

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