

*Hawthorn Elementary*

# NEWSLETTER

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**December 2024**



Dear Families,

As we move into December, we are now in Term 2 of the school year, with Progress Conferences taking place this week. If you haven't already, be sure to book a meeting with your child's teachers. Over the past month, we've enjoyed some wonderful events, including a special performance by musicians Morgan Toney and Keith Mullins and our meaningful Remembrance Day assembly. A heartfelt thank you goes to Ms. Copeman for organizing this week's Scholastic Book Fair and to Mr. Campbell for putting together a fantastic event in preparation for our Primary to Grade 6 Winter Concert next week.

We deeply appreciate the ongoing support and collaboration of the Hawthorn community over the past few months. As the holiday season approaches, we hope it brings you joy and quality time with family and friends.

The new year promises exciting learning opportunities and memorable moments. We look forward to continuing this journey together as a school community. Wishing you all good health and happiness in 2025!

Warm regards,

*Ms. Gourlay and Ms. Bambury*

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## Upcoming Dates:

- December 3-6: Scholastic Book Fair in School Library
- December 3: Report Cards go home electronically via EduPost
- December 4: SAC Innovation Grant meeting 6pm
- December 4: HSA meeting 7pm
- December 5: PD Day & Progress Conferences (No School for Students)
- December 11 & 12: December Concert @ 1:30 pm
- December 20: Last Day before the Holiday Break
- January 3 :Students' first day back to school for 2025



## SAC Innovation Grant meeting

***Hawthorn is applying for up to \$10,000 in funding and we want your ideas!!***

The Dept of Education is providing grants of up to \$10,000 to SACs (School Advisory Councils). The fund will encourage new and innovative ideas to support student achievement and well-being and address real problems experienced by students and schools. This funding is meant to provide SACs with the opportunity to test an idea, which if successful, can be expanded to other schools.

Please join our brainstorming session being held on **Dec 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00 – 7:00** at the school library. Session is open to all parents, teachers and administrators.

For some context, please see the [list](#) of successful applications from 2023-24. We look forward to seeing you there!

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## Hawthorn Home and School Association

The Hawthorn Home and School Association is a volunteer, nonprofit organization of family members and school staff. Membership is open to any interested parent, guardian, or staff member. The next meeting is **December 4th at 7pm** in the school library. If you can't make the meeting but would like to be added to the distribution list, please connect with Lisa: [lisas.power@gmail.com](mailto:lisas.power@gmail.com)



## December Concert

Our December Primary - Grade 6 December concert will be held Wednesday, December 11th and Thursday, December 12th at 1:30 pm. All classes perform on each day. Our band students will perform December 11th and our string students will perform December 12th. Please use this [link](#) to request your concert tickets.



## School Spirit & Spirit of Giving

As we approach the Winter Break we are looking to bring some fun school spirit to Hawthorn. Thursday, December 19th, students are invited to wear **Holiday Colours**. Students can wear any colour(s) that represents a holiday that they celebrate. Friday, December 20th, students are invited to a **Be Comfy & Cozy** day. Students can wear their favourite cozy clothes, PJs, etc.

In the **Spirit of Giving**, we will be collecting donations for Margaret's House. If you were considering a gift for your child's teacher this season, they would appreciate your generosity being shared with Margaret's House instead. Each class will be collecting a needed item from Margaret's House's wish list. You are also welcome to make a donation directly to Margaret's House in Hawthorn Elementary's name if you would rather. Donations will be accepted at the school up to **December 18th**. Classes will be collecting donations as followed (although all donations are appreciated):

Class	Item	Class	Item
PP Shortt/PP McCulloch	Hot Chocolate packages	2/3 Wiseman	Instant rice

Primary Stulac	Disposable cutlery	3/4 Hayes	Medium Zipper type sandwich bags
Primary/1 Campbell	Instant Oatmeal packages	4 Grattan	Canned Milk
1 Hall	Pudding cups	4/5 Barro Ralph	Instant Coffee
2 Bambury/Boe	Granola Bars	5/6 Datta	Cans of chunky soup or stew
2/3 Were	Fruit Cups	6 Ryan	Juice Boxes

## Save the dates: Hawthorn’s Scholastic Book Fair is back !

Hawthorn's Scholastic Book Fair is coming! Discover hundreds of new, affordable, best-selling titles coming right to our school.

Students and families can shop the Book Fair IN-PERSON **Tuesday Dec 3, Thursday Dec 5, and Friday Dec 6.**

- Students can browse *in-person* on *Tues Dec 3* and shop *Fri Dec 6*
- Families can browse and shop in-person **Thursday Dec 5, 1-4 pm** and **6-8 pm** and **Friday Dec 6 from 9 am to 4 pm**

Every purchase supports our school library and helps keep kids reading. Thank you in advance for your support and see you at the Fair!

Interested in giving an hour of your time as a volunteer, helping set up on Monday Dec 2, or assisting during our browsing and shopping days? Have questions? Contact Deborah Copeman, Librarian, at [dcopeman@hrce.ca](mailto:dcopeman@hrce.ca) or 902-464-2048

We accept cheques made payable to our school, cash, and Visa, American Express and MasterCard.

### **Need more shelf space? Donate your gently used kids books!**

Hawthorn Library welcomes donations of gently used books, including

- picture books (Robert Munsch, Ruth Ohi, Shauntay Grant)
- first chapter books (Eerie Elementary, Owl Diaries, Magic Treehouse)
- graphic novels (InvestiGATORS, Big Nate, Baby-sitter's Club)

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- non-fiction (information books about living things, vehicles, sports, crafts...)
  - novels (Gordon Korman, Kelly Yang, Kate DiCamillo)

We add donated books to our school library and classroom libraries. We also make books freely available to kids and families through our Little Free Library at the Hawthorn playground.

Thank you for your support!

## Reminders

- Please, do not send **nut or peanut products** to school (this includes Nutella products).
- Our school is a **scent-free zone**! We ask that all parents, guardians, and visitors refrain from using scented products such as perfumes, colognes, and heavily scented lotions when on at school. Many of our students and staff members have sensitivities or allergies to certain scents. Your cooperation and understanding in this matter are greatly appreciated.
- It is helpful to have a complete **change of clothes** in your child's backpack just in case of mud, puddles, or spills and it may save you a trip in the middle of your day.
- Please do not bring **dogs** onto school grounds. If you do bring your dog, please stay on the sidewalk and not on school property.
- Please ensure that your child has **indoor shoes** for school and wears outdoor shoes/boots to help keep our school clean.
- Students are not permitted to use **cell phones** during the school day. If students bring cellphones to school, they must be turned off and in their backpacks for the entire school day.