

Forest Hill Falcon



Forest Hill Jr. & Sr. PS

Week of September 30, 2019

Hello Forest Hill Families:

I would like to start by expressing my appreciation for your partnership at Curriculum Night on Thursday. It was wonderful to meet so many families and engage in conversations about building meaningful home-school connections, enhancing student/family engagement as we focus on well-being and work together to improve student achievement.

Thank you very much for returning the opening forms that were sent by

email during the first week of school. These opening forms (i.e., walking excursion, medical information, media release, etc.) are important as we work together to ensure the safety of all students. If you have not done so, please return this package ASAP.

Finally, I would like to wish those celebrating Rosh Hashanah a Shana Tova! May this year bring health, happiness and peace for all.

Have a terrific week!

Supporting Learning at Home

I am often asked about my beliefs around homework. As an educator, I firmly believe that homework must be purposeful and meaningful. It must provide students with an opportunity to reinforce concepts, to practise strategies taught at school and to make connections to the real world. As a parent, I know that staying connected with your child and his/ her learning is crucial. As partners, Parents/ Guardians play a vital role in the teaching and learning process.

Please keep in mind that 'more work' does not necessarily yield positive results. In fact, 'extra work' may frustrate or confuse children. Drilling or constant repetition will not provide our children with the ability to critically think, problem solve, reason or communicate their thinking. At home it is very important to engage your child in conversations about what he/ she is learning at school. Please have them explain strategies and make connections rather than simply providing 'the answer'. The process of learning should be exciting and often children require the adults in their lives to help deepen their understanding with meaningful connections and modelled enthusiasm. This will help them find purpose and joy in the learning process, both at home and school.

At home, the most important homework is helping your child build strong, positive attitudes toward Reading, Writing and Math. Independent activities, such as homework, should meet your child's level of understanding, as it is not intended to frustrate your child or strain relationships at home.

If your child's Teacher has not provided your child with homework... Please treat this as an opportunity to experience the joy of learning with your child! Here are some ideas:

Involve your child in using numbers to solve problems and make everyday decisions. You might ask the following:

"Four guests are coming to eat dinner with us. How many plates will we need? How many utensils?" What is the relationship between the number of plates and number of utensils?

Read every day! To encourage critical thinking, ask questions beyond the "yes/ no":

"What does the author of this news article want us to know or think about?"

"Does the writer want us to believe something? What might that be?"

"What does this magazine's theme say about children, teenagers and parents?"

"How has the author used words and images to communicate the message?"

Important Items for This Week

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Monday, Sept. 30th - Day 5

Rosh Hashanah

Orange Shirt Day

Tuesday, Oct. 1st - Day 1

Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Oct. 2nd - Day 2

Cross Country Meet

Thursday, Oct. 3rd - Day 3

CCAT- Universal Screening for Grade 3

Friday, Oct. 4th - Day 4

Photo Day



<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/foresthills/Calendar>

Upcoming Dates

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October 11- PA Day

October 14- Thanksgiving

October 16- SAC Meeting at
6:30pm

October 17- Lice Check

October 22- Grade 7/8
Immunizations

October 24- Grade 8 Parent
Information Night

October 25- Grade 7/8
Immunizations

November 1- Photo Retakes