



EAST HILL SCHOOL 2011-2012

OCTOBER LETTER OF THE MONTH

Dear Parents,

1. **Letter of the Month:** The letter will always be sent home on the last school day of the month and will always be printed in colour. If you have not received the letter of the month by the first school day of the month, please contact the office and we'll ensure that your child receives another one. The letters will also be posted on our school website (www.emsb.qc.ca/easthill) under *Newsletters – East Hill School.* **Please take careful note of all dates since you will not receive any written notices other than those indicated below – this is especially important with regards to Pedagogical Days(no school) as well as deadlines.**
2. **Family Photocopying:** As was mentioned last month, with this present Letter of the Month, we are adopting the “1 copy per family” approach for all written material sent home to parents. Your eldest child is the only one who will receive documents that are common to all students. If your eldest is absent, the document will be given to your second child. If your second child is absent as well, the document will be held for your eldest child upon his/her return. If what is described above is not happening with your family, please let us know and we will review our information. Thank you!
3. **Workshops for Parents:** As I mentioned at the Orientation Evenings, we are very proud to offer our parents valuable workshops. The first two will be held during the month of October. **Feel free to come to any of them,** regardless if your child is in that Cycle or not. Our intent is to offer you workshops that have valuable advice and that will help you gain efficient strategies to support your child as a learner.



On **Monday, October 3 at 19h00** we present : **ORGANIZATIONAL STRATEGIES.** Although mostly intended for parents of level 3 and 4 students you will find great resources to help your child become responsible for their own learning. Learn how to help your child balance HOMEWORK and FRIENDS. Come learn some strategies!

On **Thursday October 6 at 19h00** we present: **HOMEWORK SKILLS** Mostly intended for parents of level 1 and 2 students. Practical advice + Real life situations... Should homework be done at the kitchen table? What is a PARENT'S ROLE during Homework? Valuable Homework Strategies will be discussed!

**** Parents who wish to participate are invited to join the presenter in the school Library ****

4. **Governing Board:** Governing Board held its elections on September 22. Pasquale Zizzi will be serving as the chairperson for the 2011-2012 school year. Please visit our website for a complete list of members as well as the dates of this year's meetings. The meetings are public and any parent can attend. I will also announce the date and time of the monthly meeting in the Letter of the Month. You are welcome to contact any member of the Governing Board on matters of school policies by leaving a message for them at the school.
5. **Home & School:** The committee is in full swing with their main fundraiser for the year - the chocolate bar fundraiser (**Reminder deadline is October 6**). As well, plans are underway for Halloween treats for the classes, Breakfast with Santa and many more fun activities for the children. You can find information about the committee – its members, the dates of meetings – on our website. H&S is sending a friendly reminder that the deadline for parents to submit their **membership registration is October 31.**

6. **Our School Website:** Please visit our website on a regular basis. **This year we will add on Special Days, dress code specification (what the colors to wear) for the special occasions!** On a more serious note you can read find information on Governing Board and Home & School meetings. We also present information on various workshops offered to parents in the community as well as web links to useful resources for homework time.
7. **LEARN** : Is an educational website that offers interesting pedagogical activities and resources for your child. On site you can also find support for homework time. The website is only accessible to students and their parents. If you are interested in visiting the site simply ask your child's homeroom teacher (*via a note in the agenda*) and he/she will provide you with your child's USER NAME and PASSWORD. We invite you to browse the website with your child.
8. **Excursions:** In October, our excursions get underway. All levels will be going on excursions during the year – some sooner, some later. Please note some general rules for **all** excursions:



- ☞ **The deadlines set for the returning of fees and consent forms must be respected.** The school will not accept any late forms as confirmation of the number of students participating is required by the location visited. The school is held accountable. Buses are reserved accordingly and additional students become a problem.) Please understand that fees and consent forms received after the deadline will automatically be returned to parents.
- ☞ **Students are never permitted to bring money with them** on the excursions. In the past, visiting the souvenir shop or buying snacks became a priority for quite a number of students. The excursions are educational and nothing should detract from that objective.
- ☞ **The only parents allowed to accompany the students are those chosen by the teachers as volunteers.** The volunteers are supervisors and will be placed in charge of a group of students. We ask all other parents not to be present at the location of the excursion so that students are never confused about who is responsible for them. **Parent volunteers who accompany the students must not purchase any food or other items for the students.**
- ☞ **Electronics are not permitted on excursions.** (An exception is made for digital cameras, however, the school will not assume any responsibility for loss or damage.) If students disregard this rule, the item will be confiscated and will be returned to the parents at the office's discretion.
- ☞ Upon returning to school, parents who have volunteered for the excursion can take their child home before 2:30 if they wish. However, **brothers and sisters in other levels will not be permitted to leave before 2:30.** Please understand that it is very disruptive to the class and to the student to be pulled out before dismissal time.

We thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

9. **Students of the Month:** We held our 1st Student of the Month assembly this morning. The students are recognized in front of their peers throughout the school year with a certificate and a button. It is an honor for our children to be chosen and they are most excited about being recognized for their excellence. We will honor them all month by putting their names and photographs on display near the office area. For the sake of everyone's privacy, their names will not be included in the letter of the month since it is posted on our website. We thank you for your understanding.
10. **Progress Report:** Will be sent out to you on **Friday, October 14.** In it, you will find information about your child's progress in all main subjects as well as feedback on your child's behavior and effort in class. At this point in the school year, the progress report will not offer you a detailed evaluation as its intent is to provide you with an understanding of your child's progress after only a few weeks of school. Obviously, such a report can help you support your child's effort and study habits as we are moving closer to the first Report Card.
11. **Mr. Simone's Music Class** : Mr. Simone is the proud father of a new baby girl! He will be on parental leave until January. We are proud to welcome on our team Ms. Angel Wong who will be replacing him.

