

The Indian Hollow Primary News



Indian Hollow Primary School

www.commack.k12.ny.us

631-858-3590

September 2023

Dear Indian Hollow Families,

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the start of the 2023-2024 school year. The staff is busy preparing for a smooth transition to this new school year so that we may continue the legacy of excellence at Indian Hollow Primary School. It has been a very rewarding experience at Indian Hollow since my start many years ago. The staff and I are looking forward to continuing to provide a primary program that meets the needs of all students and educates the “whole child” and continues Indian Hollow’s success!

Please join the staff of Indian Hollow Primary School for our student visit on Thursday, August 31 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The staff of Indian Hollow Primary School and I are awaiting the opportunity to welcome the many new and familiar faces on Tuesday, September 5, the first day of school. School will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the buses will depart at 3:45 p.m.

In addition to our student visit, we would also like to invite you to our annual Open House on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, beginning at 6:30 p.m. with our Kindergarten/New Entrant Orientation. This will be followed by classroom visitations for Kindergarten at 7:00 p.m., Grade 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Grade 2 at 8:00 p.m. Please remember that you are also always invited to attend our PTA meetings. The first one is Thursday, September 28, 2023 and the second is Thursday, November 9, 2023 (times to be determined).

On behalf of the Indian Hollow staff, we are looking forward to seeing many familiar faces, and we are very excited to meet all of our new friends during the opening week of school. We wish your family an enjoyable summer and are well prepared for another successful year at Indian Hollow Primary School.

Sincerely,
Brian Simpson
Brian Simpson
Principal

School Hours

School hours for students are 9:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. All students should arrive by 9:30 a.m. The doors are open and supervision is provided beginning at 9:25 a.m. Please do not send your child prior to that time. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Arrival

The safety of our children is of utmost importance. As in previous years, the circle in front of the school is closed to cars. This enables children walking to school and our buses to have safe access to the building. Kindly park your car in a designated spot and use the crosswalk only.

A “Drop Off Zone” has been created in the parking lot. Cars dropping off children are to enter this zone single file. Children are to exit vehicles on the passenger side, stepping onto the sidewalk. Once children have disembarked, the driver should then move the vehicle in order to keep traffic flowing. A staff member will assist children at the crosswalk. Should you wish to watch your child enter the building, please be courteous to the cars behind you by proceeding to a vacant parking space.

Beginning at 9:45 a.m., the “Drop Off Zone” will revert to perpendicular parking for the duration of the school day.

Dismissal

Should there be a change in your child’s daily dismissal routine, it is necessary for us to be notified in writing. If you are planning to pick your child up from school at dismissal time, it would be most helpful if you would notify your child’s teacher via a note in the morning. It is difficult to call children out of their classrooms between 3:00-3:35 p.m., as students are completing projects and getting ready for dismissal. Calls into the classroom between 3:00-3:35 p.m. are extremely disruptive; therefore, unless it is an absolute emergency, students will be dismissed by their classroom teacher beginning at 3:35 p.m. Additionally, according to the District’s Attendance Policy, Early Departures from Indian Hollow (prior to 3:30 p.m.) will be recorded in the same manner as late arrivals.

Bus Procedures

For security and safety reasons, requests for a student to go home on a different bus or get off at a different stop in the afternoon will be approved by the Principal for an **emergency situation only**.

In the event that no one is home to receive a child, the driver will finish the route and then return to the student’s stop again. If there is still no one available, then the bus driver will return the student to the school for the parent/guardian to pick up.

Babysitter Bus Passes

The Transportation Office has forms available if you need an alternate stop, alternate bus, or if someone other than the parent/guardian will be putting on/taking off your child from the bus, even at the same stop, on a permanent basis.

Temporary Day Passes

In the event your child must use an alternate bus stop (other than his/her assigned legal stop), or if someone other than the parent/guardian will be putting on/taking off your child from the bus, even at the same stop, for an emergency or temporary basis (1 day - 2 weeks), you can apply for a Temporary Day Pass from the school.

Visitors

For the protection of the students and security in the school, it is required that any person entering the building during the school day use the front door only, show picture identification, sign in and receive a visitor's pass before going to any other part of the school. Passes are to be returned to the Lobby Receptionist at the conclusion of the visit. No student will be permitted to leave the building with a visitor unless the student has been properly signed out.

Absences/Lateness

Please call in your child's absence to the main office (631) 858-3590 or the nurse's line, (631) 858-3595. A note explaining the cause of absence is required on the day a child returns to school, even if the school has been notified by telephone. All children who are late (arrive after 9:30 a.m.) arriving to school must be signed in by an adult and are required to bring in a note with an explanation of the lateness.

Administration of Medicine in School

The New York State Bureau of Health Services does not permit the school nurse to administer medication without both:

1. A written request by the parent and
2. A written request by the physician, indicating the child's name, prescribed medication, dosage and frequency.

Medication is to be brought to the nurse's office and not kept at a child's desk. In addition, for the safety of ALL students, medication should never be sent in with a child. All medication should be brought to the nurse's office.

Emergency Procedures

Should inclement weather or emergency necessitate the closing of school, an automated calling system will be utilized. You may also check the District website www.commack.k12.ny.us for updates.

Please do not phone the school office on these occasions. To do so may congest vital phone lines on which outgoing calls are being placed. In the event of an emergency, it is of utmost importance that you return the yellow "Early Dismissal" information card as soon as possible.

Backpacks

Please do not send children to school with backpacks on wheels. They are cumbersome and dangerous while walking, and on the bus. Our students do not carry heavy loads that require this type of backpack.

Cafeteria

Students may bring lunch from home or purchase lunch in our cafeteria. You may purchase prepaid lunch tickets by sending in a check or cash or by paying through the District's Infinite Campus Online Food Service program. If you have questions regarding lunch, you may contact Ms. Jennifer Meija at (631) 858-3587.

Recreation

Following lunch, all children participate in recess activities. We do try to have the students go outside, weather permitting. Please remember to send your child with appropriate outdoor clothing and safe footwear. If the playground's blacktop is suitable for play and the weather is in accordance with Commack's policy, we will plan for outdoor recess. The decision to go outside is made at approximately 11:30 a.m. The students will go outside if the Real feel temperature is 25 degrees and above.

If children are in attendance at school and a decision is made to proceed with outdoor recess, all children will go outside. We are unable to "house" children with colds or other ailments in a separate location.

Indian Hollow School Song

Dear Indian Hollow, we love you

Our hearts will ever be true.

We join our hands in friendship

Beneath the white and blue.

Within these halls of learning




Our glad young voices ring.

Eternal love and loyalty

To Indian Hollow we sing.

Upcoming Events

August 31	Parent/Student Visit 10 am- 12 noon	October 2-13	Clothing Drive
September 5	First Day of School for Students	October 9	SCHOOL CLOSED
September 7	Bd. of Ed. Meeting @ Hubbs 8 pm	October 10	Picture Day
September 12	Bus Drill 9:20 am	October 11	All School Photo
September 13	Class Parent Orientation 6 - 6:30 pm	October 12	Bd. of Ed. Meeting @ CHS 7:30 pm
September 13	IH Open House (Schedule above)	October 13	ZINGO @ CMS 7 pm
September 15	Constitution Day	October 16-18	Book Fair
September 25	SCHOOL CLOSED	October 23-27	Red Ribbon Week
September 28	SBMT Meeting 8:30 am	October 27	Spirit Day
September 28	PTA Meeting (time tbd)	October 31	IH Halloween Parade 2:30 pm
September 28	PTA Chairperson Meeting		
September 29	Spirit Day		

“A person never stands as tall as when they kneel to help a child.”- Anonymous