# **Home & School Association**



# Why join Home & School?

Your membership will give you the opportunity to be actively involved in the education of your children, and to enhance their experience of their formative early school years.

By becoming a member, you will have an active voice and role in creating a school environment that you would like for your child. Your support for the Home & School Association will make an impact on your child's academic and social experience.

Joining is also a great way to connect with other parents/guardians at FHJR and strengthen your ties to the school community. You can show your children first-hand how good it feels to help others and care for your community in ways that are real and tangible to them.

By enrolling, you also become a member of the Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations (QHFSA).

## What is Home & School?

We are a non-profit volunteer organization that believes in and encourages a strong relationship between parents or guardians and school. We help to plan and organize school activities such as photo day, book fairs, theme days, pizza and subway lunches, ice-cream days, special events, and much more.

Our purpose is to raise funds to enrich our children's learning experiences by providing classrooms with

extra learning materials (i.e., books, technology and iPads, or special materials for areas such as math, music, or robotics), funds for our library, outdoor equipment or structures, and additional activities for the children to participate in.

INTEGRITY
Our decisions are all ma

Our decisions are all made by majority vote, and all decisions affecting the school are overseen by the governing board.



# COLLABORATION

Parents/guardians work alongside school staff on our committee to create the best possible experiences for our children



#### **COMMUNITY**

We work together to build school spirit and instill a sense of belonging for students, staff, and parents alike.



# The Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations Inc.

A federation of local Home and School Associations driven by one objective: to provide a caring and enriched educational experience for students. http://www.qfhsa.org

# Enjoy the workshops

Through the QFHSA you have access to **free** quality **workshops** exclusive to members.

With this, we benefit from Liability Insurance
Coverage for every family member (excluding sports) during all H&S events, and gives us voting autonomy to raise and spend money on the projects that we, the parents, decide on.
Without our affiliation to the QFHSA, we would not have these 2 very important privileges!

"Our Home & School Association also allows us to be a part of the many great events that nurture the Forest Hill community."

## **Fundraisers & Special Events**

H&S organizes a variety of different special events and fundraisers, including:

#### **Fundraisers**

- ➤ Pizza & Subway lunches and icecream days
- ➤ Theme days (pyjama day, backwards day, and many more!)
- > School pictures
- ➤ School clothing and masks
- ➤ Mabels Labels
- ➤ FlipGive
- > Facebook holiday toy auction
- > Scholastic online book fairs

#### Special Events

- ➤ Santa Bus
- ➤ Jungle Sport
- > Teacher appreciation week
- ➤ Year-end BBQ (Covid rules permitting)



The pandemic of course has presented some challenges and many of our usual fundraisers could not be held. We have all worked together as a creative team to find innovative ways to reinvent ourselves and continue to support the school.

For the last 2 years our wonderful parent volunteers have put in the work needed to get all of our fundraisers 100% online! All our forms are completed using Google Forms, and payments are made by e-transfer.

#### 2021-2022 Goal

In addition to special events for the school we have our eye on an ambitious target this year – adding equipment to our outdoor play yard!

If you want to start supporting Forest Hill Junior today our Mabel's Labels and FlipGive fundraisers are open to everyone available and online!

# MEET THE 2021-2022 PRESIDENT OF FHJR HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION: KIM BEARDSELL

As someone who was raised in a household where volunteering was a way of life, joining the Home & School committee as soon as my oldest child started kindergarten was an easy decision.

As an inclusive, passionate and dedicated committee, we have worked together to bring events to the school that leave our children with the knowledge that they are part of a community. And I made many incredible friends along the way, too!

Hoping to see many new parents on the committee next year, as we work together to make Forest Hill Junior even more amazing than it already is!

# mabel's labels

https://mabelslabels.ca/en\_CA/fundraising/support/ (Choose: Forest Hill Jr H&S Association (Saint-Lazare)

Mabel's Labels is the best-known brand of durable labels for families, and our growing line of products features baby bottle labels, allergy and medical alert products, sports labels, household labels and seasonal items. They're extremely durable, they're laundry, dishwasher and microwave safe – and they're 100% guaranteed.

## Some of our projects this year:

- ➤ In 2021, we provided the funds needed to add a floor to the kindergarten outdoor structure, making it easier to continue outdoor learning all year long!
- ➤ We supported the purchase of a new Spark Bike, which students can enjoy during their energy breaks
- ➤ We funded the Santa Bus special event a bit hit for the last week before the break!
- To learn more about everything we've done so far this year have a peek at our latest newsletter:

https://bit.ly/3fwOmd3



"We encourage all parents, guardians and grandparents to participate in whatever way best suits their talents, interest and available time.





#### **MEETINGS**

Meetings are held once per month at school (by Zoom for 2021-2022). Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come and share their ideas, however only members may vote. Come see what it's all about! As a member, your vote counts!

### **JOIN US NEXT YEAR!**

During kindergarten orientation and/or at the beginning of next year, just <u>fill out the application</u> form and join the committee. Note that if you would like to have voting privileges there is a nominal cost of 20\$ per year (voting rights are optional - non-voting members can still attend the meetings and volunteer!).

Remember, you do not have to volunteer to be a member, nor are you obliged to attend all meetings.