



Horace Allen School

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www.lrsd.ab.ca/school/horaceallen

"Achieving our personal best in a safe and caring environment"

HAS - Toys at School

Sept. 3, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

HAS is asking that students not bring toys, including trading cards and stuffies to school, unless it is scheduled with the teacher for 'tell and show time' or as a special event. These 'toys' will stay in the student's backpack until the teacher invites the student to share them. There are plenty of balls, ropes, frisbees... for students to use at recess.

We ask this for the following reason:

- Toys get lost or misplaced and students get upset and worry about what parents will say when they get home if it is lost. They spend their day worrying about the lost item.
- Students share toys, cards, stuffies... without thinking through how the receiver perceives the sharing. Are they sharing or giving it to the other student? Hours later, they argue over who owns the toy, card or stuffie. This is hard for teachers to help solve, as they don't know what toys, cards, stuffies... belong to whom.
- Toys are a distraction for many in the classroom. If students require a fidget tool, the school will provide one to them.
- If a student has a toy to help them stay seated and quiet on the bus, the toy needs to remain in their backpack once they get off the bus. This will keep the toy safe.

HAS staff appreciates your help with supporting students to understand that toys need to stay home. This will allow students to focus on their learning. If toys do come to school and students struggle to keep them safely in their backpack, the toys will be stored in the office and families will be called for pick -up. Thank you.

Please call the school if you have any questions. 403-563-3998

Horace Allen School Staff