

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

HORIZON ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES

NOV. 3 - DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS AT 2:00 A.M. MOVE CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR
NOV. 8 REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY 1:30 PM- ALL ARE WELCOME!
NOV. 11 - REMEMBRANCE DAY (NO CLASSES)
NOV. 22 - ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION DAY (NO CLASSES)

DEC. 2 - REPORT CARDS SENT VIA EDUPOST
DEC.2-5 SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
DEC. 5 - PD DAY AM & PROGRESS CONFERENCES 1:00-3:00 & 5:00-7:00 (NO CLASSES)
DEC. 11 - CHRISTMAS CONCERT- ALL CLASSES
DEC. 20 - LAST DAY BEFORE HOLIDAY BREAK

JANUARY 3, 2025 - CLASSES RESUME

FEBRUARY 1-28 - REGISTRATION MONTH & AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH
FEB. 17 - HERITAGE DAY (NO CLASSES)

MARCH 9 - DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS MOVE CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR
MARCH 10-14 - MARCH BREAK (NO CLASSES)
MARCH 7 - ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION DAY (NO CLASSES)
MARCH 10-14 SPRING BREAK (NO CLASSES)

APRIL 3 - PD & PROGRESS CONFERENCES (NO CLASSES)
APRIL 18 - GOOD FRIDAY (NO CLASSES)
APRIL 21 - EASTER MONDAY (NO CLASSES)
APRIL 30 - PD DAY (NO CLASSES)

MAY 15 - BLACK EXCELLENCE DAY (SCHOOLS OPEN)
MAY 19 - VICTORIA DAY (NO CLASSES)

JUNE 27 - ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION DAY (NO CLASSES)
JUNE 30 - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL



Lest We Forget

Our Horizon Elementary family extends a most sincere thank you to our military. We remember our Canadian soldiers and members of the Army, Air Force, Navy and Merchant Marines. We acknowledge their bravery, courage and ultimate sacrifice. We are holding an Assembly of Remembrance on Friday, November 8th 1:30-2:15 PM. Families are welcome to attend. If any parents, guardians or relatives of our students would like to speak at our Remembrance Assembly, please email our music teacher, Mrs. Casavechia at pmarshall-casavechia@hrce.ca Thank you! Any of the attendees in uniform who wish to walk in together can meet in the music room at 1:15 PM.

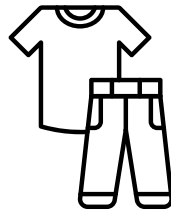
Indigenous Veterans Day



First Nations, Inuit and Métis people in Canada have a long and proud tradition of military service to our country.

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/en/remembrance/people-and-stories/indigenous-veterans>

Change of Clothes



Please ensure your child has an extra set of clothing in their backpack, or at school, in case they get wet and need a change of clothes. Thank you!

Peanut & Nut Aware

Please do not send food to school that contains peanuts and/or tree nuts, including Nutella, which is made with hazelnuts.

Students who bring sandwiches with WOW Butter or other type of non-nut spread please indicate, with a note in your child's lunch bag, what the spread is and that it does not contain nuts. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Horizon T-shirts, hoodies, etc. for sale



We have partnered with PMG SpiritWear to have Horizon Elementary School clothing and swag available to purchase. The link to view and order is: <https://pmgsw.com/Horizon-Elementary-School-c171083260>

There are two logo styles available. The link is also on the **Latest News** section of our web site.

PTO

We are always looking for parents & guardians to join our Parent Teacher Organization. Members plan fun events for the children throughout the year. Some meetings will be in person and some virtual. Please reach out to Kaitlyn Bragg: keb0508@hotmail.com for information about our next meeting and how you can get involved with the PTO.

School Hours

8:15 am-8:25 AM Students enter the school via their assigned door. Students traveling by bus enter through the Main Entrance.

8:25 AM Begin morning routines

8:30 AM Classes begin promptly

10:00-10:15 AM Recess

11:30-12:20 AM Lunch A

12:30-1:20 PM Lunch B

2:25 PM Dismissal

If you are dropping your child(ren) off at school in the morning it is important that they arrive on time i.e., by 8:25 AM. Students who are late for class disrupt the flow of the learning environment and miss instructional time and important routines to begin their day. If possible, please schedule appointments for your child after 2:30 PM.

School Website

You can find lots of information on the school website: <https://hes.hrce.ca/>. Staff contact information is on the **Staff Directory** page. More information is located on the **For Students & Families** page.

School Advisory Council - SAC

Our School Advisory Council invites you to attend our next SAC meeting on Wednesday, January 15th at 7:00 PM via Zoom. The School Advisory Council, made up of parents, teachers and community members, plays an important role in supporting student success at the school community level. A School Advisory Council is an advisory body to the school principal and Regional Centre for Education on a range of issues related to the school and the school system. We have almost our full membership however, we are looking to add two community members (not parents) and welcome anyone interested in serving on the SAC to attend this meeting. Email Ms. Liberatore for the Zoom link, if interested: nliberatore@hrce.ca.

Christmas Concert



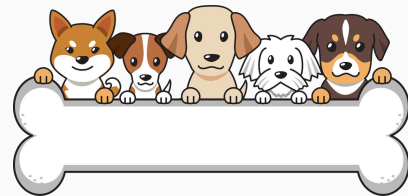
We will be having two performances of our concert on Wednesday, December 11th, 2024 at 1:00 PM and 6:30 PM. The PTO will be selling raffle tickets for front row seats. More information will be sent home at the end of November.

Parking Lot Safety

Please drive slowly and use extreme caution when entering and exiting the parking lot. There is a "kiss and go lane" to drop off students and proceed to exit the parking lot. If you are leaving your vehicle to walk your child to their assigned door, please park your vehicle in the marked spaces and watch for moving vehicles. The driveway loop at the front of the school is for buses.

Animals on School Property

Please do not bring pets on school property. Children and adults can be nervous around animals. We want to keep everyone safe, including your pet. Thank you for complying.



**HORIZON
SAFE ARRIVAL**

 1-833-582-6940

 <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/>
Click School Messenger
Click Menu
Click Attendance

 Download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices

24 hours/day
7 days a week
For any school day during the current school year

The graphic features a dark blue background with a large green arrow pointing to the right. The text is white and green, providing contact information and service details for the Safe Arrival program.

Safe Arrival

You can report future absences using the SchoolMessenger app, website, or toll-free phone number. If your child is absent and the absence has not been reported in advance, you will receive notifications via email, text, and phone calls from SchoolMessenger. If SchoolMessenger cannot reach you, office staff will follow up. To report your student absent, you can use any of the following methods:

PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal

Parents/guardians can log in to <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to access the SchoolMessenger website to report future absences.

SchoolMessenger App

Parents/guardians can download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices and use their username and password for the PowerSchool Portal.

Toll-Free Number

Parents/guardians can call 1-833-582-6940 to report future absences using an automated system

Will school be cancelled?

HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the normal operations of schools and school buses due to weather.

Learn more at hrce.ca



Inclement Weather

Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school buses in the event of severe or inclement weather.

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible. **A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:**

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours and bus pickups are delayed by two hours; or
- All schools are open, but some or all busses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.

If weather deteriorates, or is forecasted to worsen throughout the morning, **an 11:00 a.m. announcement could be:**

- Bussed students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Walking students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.

How will I find out?

By email to the addresses in PowerSchool

By text message, if you have opted-in. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: 978338

On the HRCE website

On X

On Instagram

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/weather.

Dress for Colder Weather

Children spend time outside while at school. We are located close to the ocean, it is often windy and colder than you might think. Please pack a hat, sweater and mittens so they can be comfortable no matter what the weather. Please write your child's name on sweaters, jackets, hats and footwear. Students may not recognize their own clothing and our lost and found is overflowing with unclaimed clothing. We have designated lost and found locations in the building where we place unclaimed clothing and lost items. If your child is missing something, please inform the teacher so we can locate it before items are donated to Value Village.



Appropriate Bus Behaviours

The principal and teachers have conversations with students about bus safety. **Please speak with your child the importance of staying seated on the bus and not distracting the driver. It is important that children treat each other with respect both physically and verbally and that they keep their hands off one another.** Buses may return to the school if students are not acting appropriately therefore delaying their drop-off. Safety is our priority. Please speak with the bus driver or contact transportation@hrce.ca if you need to report a bus incident.

🎉 The Book Fair is Coming Soon 🎉

The Scholastic Book Fair is returning to the Horizon Library December 2nd to December 5th. Classes will be going to the Book Fair during their regular library time. Parents/guardians are welcome to attend with their child. Students may use cash for their purchases or debit cards with a note. If the item is sold out you can usually reorder it, prepaid. If you cannot attend in person you can view and purchase online. Online purchased items will be sent to the school then distributed to the student or parent/guardian if it is a gift. More information will be sent to families soon.



Would you like to volunteer at Horizon Elementary?

Follow the steps below



1

Fill out the online form for the Child Abuse Register search:

<https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-child-abuse-register-search>

2

For your criminal record check email horizon@hrce.ca and ask for an invitation to mybackcheck.com or go to your local police station

3

Share your results from mybackcheck.com

4

When you receive your C.A.R. clearance, bring it to the school main office to be copied.

For more information visit:
<https://www.hrce.ca/families/volunteering>