

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

HORIZON ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES

NOV. 1 - TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK DAY
SAC MEETING 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM
NOV. 2 - PHOTO RETAKE DAY 10:30 AM

NOV. 5 - DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS AT
2:00 A.M. MOVE CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR

NOV. 7 - PTO MEETING 7:00 PM
NOV. 8 - INDIGENOUS VETERANS' DAY
NOV. 9 - REMEMBRANCE ASSEMBLY 10:30 AM

NOV. 13 - REMEMBRANCE DAY OBSERVED
(NO CLASSES)

NOV. 17 - ASSESSMENT &
EVALUATION DAY (NO CLASSES)

NOV. 20-23 BOOK FAIR

NOV. 23 - PD DAY AM & PARENT-TEACHER
1:00-3:00 PM & 5:00-7:00 PM (NO CLASSES)

DEC. 4 PROFESSIONAL LEARNING
(NO CLASSES)
DEC. 12 & 13 - CHRISTMAS CONCERTS
DEC. 21 - FIRST DAY OF HOLIDAY BREAK
JANUARY 2, 2024 - CLASSES RESUME

FEBRUARY 1-29 - REGISTRATION MONTH

FEB. 19 - HERITAGE DAY (NO CLASSES)

MARCH 10 - DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS
MOVE CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR

MARCH 11-15 - MARCH BREAK
(NO CLASSES)

MARCH 18 - ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION
DAY (NO CLASSES)
MARCH 29 - GOOD FRIDAY (NO CLASSES)

APRIL 1 - EASTER MONDAY (NO CLASSES)
APRIL 4 - PD & PARENT TEACHER
APPOINTMENTS (NO CLASSES)

MAY 20 - VICTORIA DAY (NO CLASSES)

JUNE 27 - ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION DAY
(NO CLASSES)
JUNE 28 - 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 Thursday, November 9th 10:30-11:30 AM. 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 main foyer at 10:15 AM.

Mi'kmaw Heritage Month

Horizon Elementary honoured Truth and Reconciliation Day and kicked off Mi'kmaw Heritage month by having a school assembly. Our students and team enjoyed an assembly presented by Brittany and Courtney Pennell, parents of Mi'kmaw students who attend Horizon. We learned about Mi'kmaw music and dance and the importance of Orange Shirt Day.

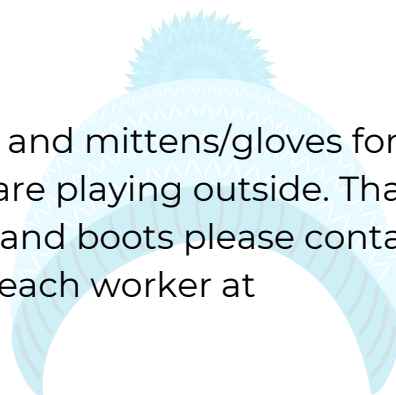


School Photo Retake Day - November 2nd

Photomaster Studios will be doing photo retakes on Thursday, November 2nd at approximately 10:30 AM.

Dress For Colder Weather

The cold weather is coming. Please pack a hat and mittens/gloves for your child so they can stay comfortable while they are playing outside. Thank you! If you need support with winter clothing and boots please contact Sam Galvin our Schools Plus Community Outreach worker at samantha.galvin@hrce.ca.



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

12:25-1:15 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- 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 p.m.

Assigned Doors

If your child comes to school by **bus**, they enter the building through the **Main Entrance doors**. Walking students and those who get a drive enter and exit through their assigned door according to class. The numbers are displayed on each door.

DOOR #1	DOOR #2	DOOR #3
Pre-Primary	Primary-1 Carrington	3 Hodder
Grade 1-2 Doiron	Primary Gordon/Saturley	1 Boudreau
Grade 2 Pearson	Primary MacDonald	3 Kinch
Grade 2-3 Wilhelm	Primary MacLeod	2 Bigg
Grade 1 Haverstock	3 Boudreau	2 Comeau-Shantz
		Grade 1 Animashaun/ MacCallum

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 *Our School* page.

School Advisory Council - SAC

Our School Advisory Council invites you to attend our next SAC meeting on **Wednesday, November 1st at 7:00 p.m. 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 some returning members and are looking for new members. **If you are interested in volunteering on the SAC please email Ms. Liberatore for the Zoom link: nliberatore@hrce.ca**



Students will begin borrowing library books

Please mark your calendars for **LIBRARY DAY** for your child(ren). Returning library books on time allows your child to get new books during their library time. Book borrowing from our library will start on November 6 for some classes and October 30th & 3st for others.



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.

Lunch Monitors

We are looking for substitute lunch monitors. If you are interested in working one to two hours per day, one to five days per week, please call the office for details. New employees need to have their Criminal Record & Vulnerable Sector Check as well as a Child Abuse Register check and complete a lunch monitor application. Please call Ms. MacKenzie at 902-465-8651 ext.0 for more information.

Breakfast Program

Thank you

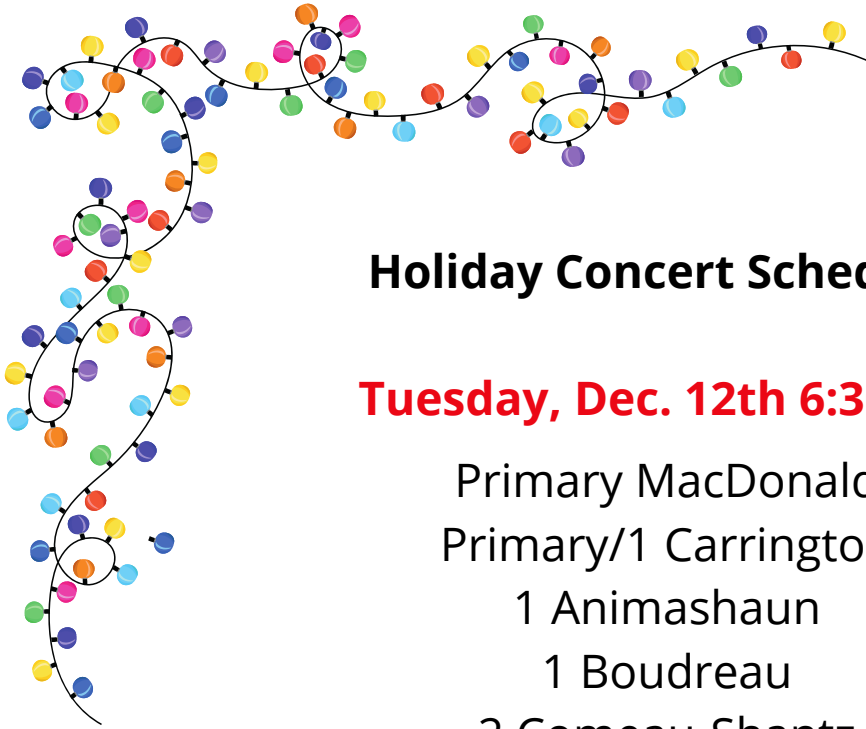
We offer a breakfast program led by Ms. Haverstock, Kathy Jollimore and parent volunteers. For information on donations or volunteering, please contact kathyjollimore@gmail.com. Our sincere thanks to everyone for providing our students nutritious food to start to their day!

PTO

We are looking for members for our Parent Teacher Organization. Members plan fun events for the children throughout the year. The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 7th at 7:00 PM** in the staff room at the school. All are welcome to attend! Please consider volunteering at one of our events.

Administering Medication at School

In order to have medication administered to students while in school, parents/guardians need to drop off the medication and fill out the required forms. Medication needs to be in the original bottle with the prescription label. School staff can only administer prescribed medications. Please advise the school in advance of administering medication so that the appropriate forms can be sent home.



Holiday Concert Schedule

Tuesday, Dec. 12th 6:30 PM

Primary MacDonald
Primary/1 Carrington
1 Animashaun
1 Boudreau
2 Comeau-Shantz
2 Pearson
2/3 Wilhelm
3 Hodder

Wednesday, Dec. 13th 6:30 PM

Primary Gordon
Primary MacLeod
1 Haverstock
1/2 Doiron
2 Bigg
3 Kinch
3 Boudreau





Appropriate Bus Behaviours

The principal and teachers will be having conversations with students about bus safety. **Please reinforce with your child the importance of staying seated on the bus and not distracting the driver while the bus is moving. It is important that children treat each other with respect and keep their hands to themselves.**

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.

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

Scholastic Book Fair at Horizon Elementary

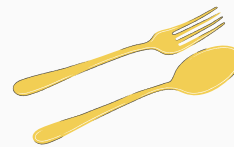
We will be hosting a book fair Monday, November 20-23. More information to follow.



SAC Meeting

If you would like to participate on our School ASdvisory Council please email Nancy at nliberatore@hrce.ca to receive a link to the Zoom meeting. Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 1st at 7:00 PM. We are looking for more members.

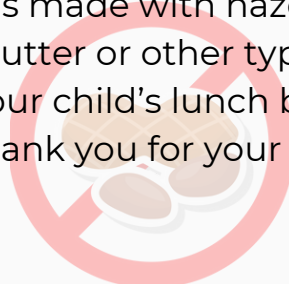
Utensils & Water Bottles



Students need to bring a clean water bottle to school each day. The school fountains no longer have a spout to get a sip of water. We have water bottle refill stations. Please ensure their name is on the bottle. Children need to bring the necessary utensils to eat their lunch. We purchase one time use forks and spoons in case a utensil is forgotten.

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 types 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.



Transgender Awareness Week

Observed annually from November 13-19, Transgender Awareness Week provides an opportunity to raise awareness and acknowledge the positive contributions made daily by members of the transgender community. The week concludes with Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20, a day on which we memorialize victims of transphobic violence.

Be an ally

An ally is someone who actively and consistently supports, stands with and advocates for the 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. The best way to be an ally is to listen with an open mind.

It is our responsibility to treat all people with dignity and kindness.



Would you like to volunteer at Horizon Elementary?

Follow the steps below



1

Fill out the online form for the Child Abuse Registry 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/volunteer>