



NOVEMBER

In November's newsletter, you will find the information below

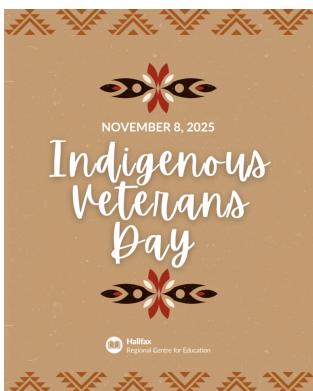
- Important dates
- Indigenous Veterans Day
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Important dates in November/December

November 8	Indigenous Veterans Day
November 10	Remembrance Day Assembly
November 11	Remembrance Day (no classes for PP-12)
November 13-19	Transgender Awareness Week
November 21	Assessment & Evaluation Day - (no classes PP-9)
December 1-4	Book Fair (Save the date, more details to follow)
December 4	Progress Conferences (no classes for PP-12)
December 9-10	Winter Concerts (Save the date, more details to follow)
December 17	Green Holiday (Save the date, more details to follow)
December 19	Last day of school before the break

November 8 is Indigenous Veterans Day

Celebrating and recognizing Treaty Day is an important way we can strengthen understanding and respect for Indigenous cultures and histories. It highlights the significance of treaties as living agreements that shape relationships between Indigenous peoples and the government. By educating students about Treaty Day, we promote awareness of Indigenous rights and contributions and encourage



reconciliation. This celebration helps build a more inclusive and respectful society, where students learn the importance of honouring commitments and working together for a better future. Indigenous Veterans Day is an important occasion to honour the sacrifices and contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples who have served in the Canadian Armed Forces. Recognizing this day in schools is especially significant, as it provides students with the opportunity to learn about the often-overlooked histories and experiences of Indigenous veterans. By commemorating Indigenous Veterans Day in our schools, we ensure that younger generations understand the vital role Indigenous peoples have played in defending Canada, while also promoting respect, reconciliation, and a more inclusive understanding of Canadian history. This recognition helps strengthen empathy, respect for diversity and a greater appreciation for the many ways in which Indigenous peoples have shaped our country.

November 11 is Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day holds an important place in our schools as it provides a meaningful opportunity for our students to learn about the sacrifices made by veterans and all those who have served in times of conflict. Through ceremonies, discussions and creative projects, we demonstrate respect and gratitude for the freedoms Canadians enjoy. Observing Remembrance Day also helps students connect with Canada's history and reinforces the values of peace, tolerance and community responsibility.



November 13-19 is Transgender Awareness Week

Transgender Awareness Week provides an important opportunity to strengthen understanding and respect for the transgender community, to encourage inclusivity in our schools and to promote safe environments where all students feel valued and supported. Learn more [here](#).

Safe Arrival

If your child will not be attending school or will be late, it is imperative that you call the school's safe arrival line at **1-833-582-6940** or visit <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to record them as absent. The automated system will call out for all unaccounted absences.

If your child will be arriving late, please record them as absent, and the office will mark them present once they have arrived at school. The automated system is not set up to account for half day absences. Daily attendance and prompt arrival at school ensure your child(ren) and all other students in the class a successful start to their day. Missing even 10 minutes of a morning routine can interrupt student learning. We encourage parents to call the safe arrival line rather than calling the school.

Learning more about the Student Attendance and Engagement Policy

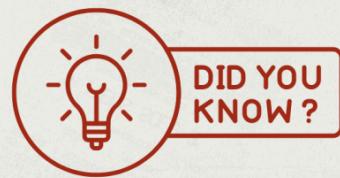
Did you know? [The Student Attendance and Engagement Policy](#) guides our approach to attendance and is in place to support all students.

The policy states that regular, punctual attendance supports academic success, responsibility, and preparation for the future.

Ensuring regular attendance is a joint effort between students, families and schools. As a parent/guardian, you play an important role by monitoring attendance, communicating with the school when your child is absent, and supporting your child's regular attendance.

What Should You Know?

- Communication about absences
 - Schools will monitor attendance and lateness.
 - All absences must be communicated to the school, following the school's procedure.



Ensuring regular attendance is a joint effort between students, families and schools.

What can you do?

- ✓ Monitor and encourage punctual, consistent attendance
- ✓ Maintain open communication with the school when absences or challenges arise
- ✓ Work with school staff to understand supports or accommodations for your child
- ✓ Be aware of the attendance thresholds and possible consequences

- If absenteeism or lateness reaches 10% of class time, the school will begin to engage more actively with the student and family.
- If it goes beyond 15%, more targeted supports may be used (counselling, referrals, community supports).
- High school credit requirement
 - For Grades 10–12, students must attend at least 80% of class time to earn the credit.
 - If more than 20% of class time is missed, and efforts to improve attendance haven't succeeded, the teacher may recommend "loss of credit." The principal makes the final decision.

What Can You Do?

- Monitor and encourage punctual, consistent attendance
- Maintain open communication with the school when absences or challenges arise
- Work with school staff to understand supports or accommodations for your child
- Be aware of the thresholds (10%, 15%) and possible consequences (intervention, loss of credit in high school)
- Remember: the policy allows flexibility. If your child has a legitimate reason for missing school (health, family issue, etc.), schools are encouraged to take a supportive approach.

Planning for 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 Instagram](#)

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation. Please remember: As a parent or guardian you always have the choice of whether or not to send your child to school.

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

AI and your child's learning
 October is Canadian Library Month, a time to celebrate our wonderful libraries and the Library Support Specialists who support our students. The third Friday of the month is Canadian Library Workers Day and the fourth Monday is Canadian School Library Day. Please join us in thanking our school library workers for all the do every day in creating safe and welcoming spaces, encouraging a love of reading and helping students succeed in school and beyond.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AND YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING
 A QUICK GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS IN HRCE

WHAT IS AI?
 Artificial Intelligence (AI) means computers that can learn from information and find patterns to help make decisions. AI doesn't think or feel like people—it uses data to make connections that lead to informed responses.

HOW AI IS USED IN SCHOOLS?

- Teachers choose if and how AI is used in the classroom.
- Some lessons may include AI tools for learning or creativity.
- Students learn how to use technology safely and responsibly.

HOW AI CAN HELP LEARNING?

- AI can:
- Complete tasks quickly and accurately.
- Help with idea generation when a child is stuck.
- Adjust lessons to fit different learning needs.
- Change reading levels of text so it is more easily accessible.

Remember, teachers will always tell students when they can or cannot use AI for school work.

AI PRIVACY AND SAFETY TIPS:

- Never share personal info with AI tools.
- Only use apps approved by your school or regional centre.
- Look closely at the age restrictions of AI tools.
- Talk with your child about what's real, what's private, and what's fair online.

AT HOME YOU CAN HELP BY:

- Setting screen time limits and tech-free times.
- Talking about what your child does online.
- Reminding your child to check if AI answers make sense.
- Asking teachers about the AI usage guidelines.
- Reviewing classroom/school academic integrity guidelines.

Scan the QR code for a list of approved learning tools and information about technology in education.

Halifax
 Regional Centre for Education



Hungry for something fun? Check out the Nova Scotia school lunch cookbook!



Cook up your favourite school meals at home

with Nourish Nova Scotia's new cookbook!

Within its pages, you'll find easy recipes, meet inspiring lunch heroes, explore local ingredients, and enjoy bite-sized food facts.



All proceeds from the sale of this cookbook will support food programs in Nova Scotia schools.



Hungry for something fun? Get cooking with the new cookbook *What's for Lunch? Nova Scotia Recipes to Cook and Enjoy Together*, a joyful collection of most-loved recipes from school food programs.

Proceeds from the sale of this book go directly to supporting school healthy eating programs in Nova Scotia, such as breakfast and snack, cooking clubs and school gardens. Learn more and order yours [here](#).

Whether you're a new cook, a young chef, or a family learning together in the kitchen, *What's for Lunch?* invites you to bake up a handmade pizza, create a picnic plate, make a big batch of breakfast sandwiches, or stir up some butter chicken! Each easy-to-follow recipe comes with tasty ideas for toppings, sides, and simple swaps to make it just right for you and your family.

Within its pages, you will meet some of the inspiring folks behind Nova Scotia's made-from-scratch school lunches, explore where local food ingredients come from, and discover bite-sized fun facts to spark curiosity. Colourful illustrations by students at Oxford School in Halifax and beloved local illustrator Emma FitzGerald bring it all to life!

Head Lice

Head lice are tiny insects and parasites that live on the human body and are most often attached to clean hair. Their eggs, also called nits, stick to the hair shaft, very close to the scalp. Head lice are spread most easily through direct head-to-head contact or through personal items used on the head or in the hair (e.g. hats, combs, brushes, ponytail holders). Nova Scotia Public Health recommends two head lice treatments to completely break the head lice cycle. The second treatment should be used 7 to 10 days after the first or as directed by

the product. The first treatment kills live head lice. Some lice may hatch after it, but they are adolescent nits and cannot lay eggs.

Combing your child(ren)'s hair and removing nits is a daily requirement. The second treatment kills the adolescent nits and breaks the head lice cycle. Check your child(ren)'s head(s) and hair regularly. Teach your child(ren) not to share personal items that have touched their head. Please keep the school informed about head lice issues as they arise. Additional information on how to prevent, find, and treat head lice is available at

www.novascotia.ca/dhw/publications/public-health-education/07135-head-lice-pamphlet-en.pdf

You're invited to HRCE's Job Fair!

In an effort to recruit employees and support our ongoing commitment to diversity, HRCE is hosting a Job Fair. Open especially to those of African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry, as part of our strategy to increase under-represented groups in our workforce, we welcome all candidates to attend.

There will be several representatives from Human Resource Services, Excel, Operations, Pre-Primary and our Diversity Team who will host booths and answer questions regarding working with HRCE and the various casual, part-time and full-time roles we have.

The date and location of the event is as follows:

Thursday, November 20 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Zatzman Sportsplex Thistle Room