



November 2024

Ross Road School

UNIVERSAL LUNCH PROGRAM

Mr. Smooth Food Truck is the vendor for our lunch program at RRS. We are off to a great start for week 1! Students are enjoying the meals and coming back for more! If you have not registered for your child to receive hot lunch order, please do so at lunch@hrce.ca. If you have questions/concerns on the registration process, please contact the school. Families looking to provide feedback are welcome to send a message to lunch@hrce.ca.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

"School Advisory Councils play 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 the Regional Centre for Education on a range of issues related to the school and the school system. Membership can vary, but generally consists of the school principal, parents, teachers, and other community members" (HRCE Website/SAC) Typically the SAC meets 6 times a year to discuss issues relating to the school, initiatives, funding and student achievement. ***In our efforts to have a balanced council representative of our SAC Agreement, we are looking for community members. Community members:***

- must not be an employee of Ross Road School;
- must not have children registered at Ross Road School; and
- must reside in the geographical area served by Ross Road School or provide a service to or within the geographical area served by Ross Road School
- The African Nova Scotian community member will represent the African Nova Scotia community of Ross Road School.
- The First Nations community member will represent the First Nations community of Ross Road School.

If anyone knows of someone who is interested in volunteering to be a part of the SAC, or would like to learn more about it, please contact the school.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

This year we will host our Ceremony of Remembrance on November 8 assembly-style for our staff and students. All students and staff who are members of cadets, scouts, etc. are invited to wear their uniform. Students and staff are encouraged to wear a poppy. There will be poppies available at school for those who may need one. On November 11, there will be no classes so we can pause and reflect on the sacrifice of our veterans, during World War I, World War II, and other conflicts. This solemn day is marked by ceremonies, moments of silence, and the wearing of poppies in honour of those who have served and fallen. Together, these days remind us of the courage and resilience of all who have served. Lest we forget.

INDIGENOUS VETERANS DAY

On November 8, we honour Indigenous Veterans who have served in missions in times of war and peace. While not often enough acknowledged, the military service of First Nations, Inuit and Métis in Canada has deep roots. **Indigenous Veterans Day** acknowledges the unique contributions and sacrifices made by Indigenous soldiers. This day highlights the bravery and commitment of Indigenous veterans, who have served with distinction despite facing historical and ongoing challenges.

TRANSGENDER AWARENESSES WEEK

Transgender Awareness Week, observed in the second week of November, focuses on raising awareness about the issues facing transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. The week highlights the challenges transgender people face, such as discrimination and lack of healthcare access, and promotes acceptance and inclusivity by encouraging supportive policies and practices.

The week helps to foster solidarity within the transgender community and with allies, providing emotional support and strengthening the transgender movement. It culminates in the Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20, a day to honour those lost to anti-transgender violence, emphasizing the need for continued protection and support.

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.

HOME AND SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who came out to help with the Bottle Drive and Outdoor Cleanup in October. The school looks so much better after some TLC from some amazing Ross Road families!

Every year we host a shop where students can come to purchase gifts for their immediate family members. They love picking out something special and always go home feeling so excited about what they have chosen for holiday gifts. The gifts go home wrapped and ready for them to share with their families! **We are looking for donations!** Gently used items that could be regifted, wrapping paper, gift bags and tissue paper are always needed for this event. If you have anything you would like to donate please bring it to the school. Our Santa Shop will be held on December 9th.

Our movie nights have been such a huge success that we will be hosting another Holiday Movie night on November 28th! Mark your calendars and keep your eyes on our Facebook page for the movie announcement!

Reminder: The cheese and candles fundraiser forms are due back by November 8th. Both make great gifts for teachers, family members, or even yourself! The class who sells the most will win a hot chocolate party!

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Like last year, parents will have the opportunity to conference with their child's teacher in person. A notice will go home for parents to indicate their preference of afternoon or evening appointment. Parent/Teacher conferences will take place Thursday, December 5, 2024 from 1-3:00 PM and 6-8:00 PM.

SCHOOL SECURITY

Our school uses a video surveillance system as part of our continued efforts to support a safe, positive and effective learning environment. We recognize that the images recorded by this video surveillance system are personal information and, as with all other personal information, we take steps to balance privacy rights with safety and security concerns. The school has the legal authority to collect this personal information under Section 24 of Nova Scotia's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Only designated staff has access to our video surveillance equipment and such access is restricted as required by law. The system is used to enhance school safety and to deter or take action in response to unlawful behaviors.

If you have any questions about video surveillance at our school, please contact Administration at 902-462-8340.

SCHOOLSPLUS

Ross Road Families, my name is Stephanie Downey-Saunders, and I am the SchoolsPlus Community Outreach Worker at Ross Road School. In my role, I work with parents and families to connect with community resources. This could mean support with: transportation, advocacy, and accompaniment to meetings and appointments (at school or in the community), applying for funding, (such as for sports or recreation programs), information and connections to local services. I am excited to get to know the Ross Road families! I can be reached at: 902-240-6006

HEAD LICE

We would like to remind families to check their child's head for lice everyday. HRCE guidelines recommend that if a child has live lice, they must be treated with the medicated shampoo before returning to school.

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 \(formerly Twitter\)](#)
- [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.

November Important Dates

Nov. 4	Home and School meeting 6:30pm
Nov. 5	School Advisory Council Meeting (virtual at 6:30 pm)
Nov. 6	Take Our Kids to Work Day, Gr. 9
Nov. 8	Remembrance Day Ceremony 10:00 am
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day, no classes
Nov. 20	Transgender Awareness
Nov. 22	Term 1 Ends, Assessment and Evaluation Day, no classes
Nov. 26	P-6 goes to Alderney Landing Theatre to view The Nutcracker
Nov. 28	Home and School Family Holiday Movie Night
Dec. 3	Report Cards go home via EduPort
Dec. 5	PD Day; 1-3:00 pm and 6-8:00 pm Parent Teacher Conferences, no classes