



September 2024

Ross Road School

Welcome Back! We hope you have had a safe and restful summer. Our staff is excited to welcome new families and returning families alike. We look forward to getting to know your children and working with you to ensure your child's success in school this year.

New Cell Phone Directive for Nova Scotia Schools

In response to provincial action to support Safe and Caring Schools, we will be implementing the NS Cell Phone policy at RRS. Cell phones are not permitted in classrooms during instructional time. All cell phones must be turned off and stored in backpacks, in cubbies or for Jr. High students, in lockers. Jr. High students will be permitted to use cell phones during lunch period only, then returned to their locker before afternoon instruction. If a student's cell phone is heard or seen during instructional time, the student will be referred for a talk with Administration and their cell phone will be stored in the school safe until the end of the school day. Parents can support their children by encouraging them to leave their cell phones at home and/or reviewing the expectations.

Stand Up Against Bullying Day is September 12

On the second Thursday of September, we recognize Stand Up Against Bullying Day. This day, happening on September 12 this year, is an opportunity for us to start the school year off right – by celebrating inclusivity, kindness and friendship. All schools in HRCE are focused on ensuring all students have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and thrive.

Please join us and wear pink if you're able on September 12 to take a stand against bullying.

Join us in observing National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Each year on September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation honors the children who didn't return from residential schools, as well as survivors, their families, and communities. Orange Shirt Day, led by Indigenous communities, aims to raise awareness about the inter-generational impacts of residential schools and allows us all to show our support for the Every Child Matters movement.

As there are no classes on Monday, September 30, we welcome staff and students to wear orange on Friday, September 27.

Using BusPlanner

Everything you need to know about student transportation including eligibility, stop times and stop locations can be found on BusPlanner. Once you register and subscribe, you may also receive email notifications on changes to routes, bus delays or cancellations.

To sign up, go to BusPlanner at hrce.mybusplanner.ca and click on Parent Portal. Follow the instructions to create an account.

Don't have a BusPlanner Parent Portal account? Need help logging in? Please contact the HRCE Student Transportation Team at transportation@hrce.ca or call 902-431-4723.

Interested in becoming a Volunteer or a Coach?

There are many ways parents can volunteer to support our school. Here are a few ways that may interest you:

- Field trips • Fundraising • Special events • Classroom support • Breakfast/Lunch programs • Reading with students • Assisting teachers with teaching materials • Coaching • School beautification • Tutoring • Chaperones

Please contact the school if you are interested in volunteering. You will be required to have a current Criminal Record Background Check and a current Child Abuse Registry Check. (within 3 months of starting the volunteer position)

Purple Tag Program

To help our youngest riders arrive to/from school safely, we will implement the Purple Tag Program to children in Pre-Primary to Grade 2 in September. Parents/guardians (or a designate) are responsible for accompanying Pre-Primary to Grade 2 children to their designated bus stop, waiting with them until safely boarded, and greeting them at the stop at the end of the day. If a seatbelt is available and a child is less than 40 pounds and 57 inches in height, parents/guardians (or a designate) are also responsible for buckling/unbuckling them from their seat. School staff will do this when the child is at school. The Purple Tag Program will help school staff and bus drivers identify these children to ensure they are not left alone at a stop and receive the assistance they may need. Families will receive a purple tag from the school. This tag should be attached to the left-hand side of the child's backpack or school bag, or another area that can easily be seen by school staff and the bus driver. Parents/guardians (or a designate) will be asked to write the name of their child's school and their morning/afternoon route number(s) on the tag before fastening it to their backpack. Tags should stay on backpacks for the remainder of the school year. Schools will be given extra tags for those that are lost or damaged. Please note that personal information such as the child's name, home address and/or personal phone number should not be written on the tag for privacy and safety reasons.

Home and School

Ross Road's Home & School Association is a volunteer group of parents and staff who plan activities, events, and fundraisers to ensure a positive experience for everyone at Ross Road School. They are already busy planning for the 2024-25 school year, and it began this week!

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Ice Cream Social on September 3rd. It was great to see so many returning Ross Road Families and meet some new ones as well. Home & School's next event will be a Welcome Back Movie night on September 26th so please mark your calendars. Details will follow soon! We hope to see you all there!

Important Dates

- Sept. 5** First Day of School
- Sept. 9** Home and School meeting (6:30 in library)
- Sept. 12** Stand Up Against Bullying Day (wear pink)
- Sept. 16-20** [Gender Equality Week](#)
- Sept. 20** Terry Fox Run/Walk
- Sept. 27** Orange T-shirt Day
- Sept. 30** [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Oct. 2** Picture Day

