



## **November 2023**

### **Ross Road School**

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#### **November Important Dates**

<b>Nov. 6</b>	<b>Home and School meeting 6:30pm</b>
<b>Nov. 10</b>	<b>Ceremony of Remembrance 10:00am</b>
<b>Nov. 13</b>	<b>Remembrance Day, no classes</b>
<b>Nov. 17</b>	<b>Assessment and Evaluation Day, no classes</b>
<b>Nov. 20</b>	<b>Term 2 begins</b>
<b>Nov. 22</b>	<b>Term 1 Report Cards sent home (via EDUPOST)</b>
<b>Nov. 23</b>	<b>AM: Professional Development Day, no classes, 1-3:00 PM: Parent/Teacher Conferences 6-8:00 PM: Parent/Teacher Conferences</b>
<b>Nov. 28</b>	<b>School Advisory Council meeting 6:30pm</b>
<b>Dec. 4</b>	<b>PD day, no classes</b>

*Thank you to Sarah Keddy and the members of the Home and School who hosted a Spooktacular event. The Halloween Family Dance was a great success! The decorations and the music were awesome. There were even a few uninvited guests from 'the other side' trying to get through the gym equipment room to join in on the fun!*

#### **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.

#### **REMEMBRANCE DAY**

This year we will host our Ceremony of Remembrance on November 10 assembly-style for our 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, we pause and reflect on the sacrifice of our veterans, past and present. Lest we forget.

### **HOME AND SCHOOL**

The Home & School Association will be hosting the annual Santa Shop on December 5th where students can purchase new and gently used items for their immediate family. If you have any items you are able to donate please send them in with your student any time! Wrapping paper, tissue and gift bags are also appreciated!

On November 30th we will be hosting a Christmas Movie Night in the gym!! Please mark your calendars! We hope lots of families will come in their Christmas pajamas and enjoy a family movie together. More information to come.

Be sure to follow *Ross Road Home & School Association* on Facebook for all the updates on events and fundraisers!

### **PARKING LOT SAFETY**

During arrival and dismissal times, parents are reminded that when entering the school parking lot, to please use the drop off lane along the fence in the upper parking lot. Only HRCE staff, busses and emergency vehicles are permitted in the lower parking lot beyond the fence. Thank you for your support in keeping everyone safe.

### **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

### **FALL WEATHER**

The cold weather is arriving! Please make sure that your child is dressed for cold weather. Warm hats, mitts and boots make outdoor play at recess and lunch much more enjoyable.

### **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 buses 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:**

- Bused 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 our website [www.hrce.ca](http://www.hrce.ca)
- On X (formerly Twitter) at [Twitter.com/HRCE\\_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS)
- On Instagram at [www.instagram.com/hrce\\_ns/](https://www.instagram.com/hrce_ns/)

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](http://hrce.ca/weather).

### **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.

### 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.

### WATER BOTTLES

Ross Road School continues to use the water bottle filling stations placed throughout our school. These are not ordinary fountains. We ask that you send your child to school with a water bottle as this is the only way students can use the water bottle filling stations. This limits the number of trips needed to the stations throughout the day and reduces the large number of disposable cups that we are consuming on a daily basis. Your help with this is greatly appreciated.

### 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 representing all students and the geographical areas that feed into our school, we are looking for members to represent Preston Township.*** If anyone is interested in volunteering to be a part of the SAC, or would like to learn more about it, please contact the school.

### 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, November 23 from 1-3:00 PM and 6-8:00 PM.

