

Admiral Westphal Elementary School

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026

Hello AWES Families...

February already! WOW! Time continues to fly by. Although some of us may have had enough snow for one winter students have been having lots of fun here at school climbing and digging!

Students and staff have also been hard at work in classrooms since returning in January. It has also been great to welcome Ms. Julia Tynes and Mr. Keonte Beals to Admiral over the past few weeks. Both provided amazing assemblies that encouraged students to be proud celebrate who they are!

We are looking forward to an amazing February!

As always, please reach out should you ever have questions or concerns.

All the best,

N. MacDonald

Contact AWES...

902-435-8305

awes@hrce.ca

<https://awe.hrce.ca/>



Julia Tynes
Keonte Beals

Upcoming...

Feb. 3rd - Guest Keonte Beals Assembly

Feb. 16th - Holiday.

Feb. 24th - SAC Meeting 6PM

Mar. 16th -20th March Break

Apr. 2nd - Progress Conferences

Apr. 3rd & 6th - Holiday

February is Registration Month

Do you have or know a child who will be starting Pre Primary or Primary this fall? It's time to register!

Registration for the 2026-27 school year begins on Monday, February 2. To ensure we have the right staff and supports in place for September, it's important that we gather enrolment numbers now.

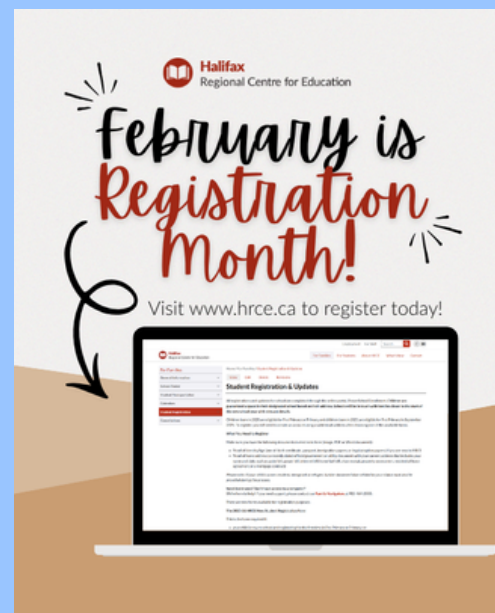
Tip: Before you begin, make sure you have the following documents in electronic form (image, PDF or Word document):

Proof of identity/age with one of the following: birth certificate, passport, immigration papers, or legal adoption papers if you are new to the HRCE

Proof of home address with one of the following: a recently dated official government or utility document with your current address that includes your name and date, such as water bill, power bill, internet bill, home fuel bill, a tax receipt, property assessment, a mortgage contract or a residential lease agreement

Visit the HRCE website for more information and to enrol your child today through PowerSchool Enrollment!

Don't have a child to register? Maybe you know someone who does! Please help us spread the word and pass this information on to friends, neighbours or relatives who will be looking to register for the fall.



It's that time of year...



Guidelines for school and/or bus cancellations due to weather

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or school 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.



If there are any changes to our regular operations, we will communicate in the following ways:

- 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
- On X (formerly Twitter) at twitter.com/hrce_ns
- On Instagram at [instagram.com/hrce_ns](https://www.instagram.com/hrce_ns)



How does Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) decide on school and/or bus cancellations?

- By 4:30 a.m., HRCE staff begin to gather information from:
 - A contracted weather service that provides radar and satellite imagery, real-time road conditions and weather warnings;
 - A meteorologist who provides forecast details, level and type of precipitation and impact on road conditions;
 - HRCE's transportation service providers, who provide updates on road conditions in their area;
 - Municipal and provincial transportation staff; and
 - Other local weather services, including Environment Canada and The Weather Network. By 5:30 a.m., HRCE staff make recommendations to the Regional Executive Director (or designate), who then makes the final decision. This decision is communicated as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible.

Remember: Parents/guardians always have the right to keep their child home from school if they believe that the travelling conditions are unsuitable.

[Please click here For further information on these guidelines.](#)

Most days, students will be spending time outside at recess & lunch. As the weather begins to turn, it is important that students are dressed appropriately with jacket, hat, mittens, etc. We keep many items on hand at the school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if your child requires items.



AFRICAN 20
HERITAGE
MONTH 26

Strength *in* Unity

This year's African Heritage Month provincial theme is "Strength in Unity: Moving Forward with Purpose, Prosperity, Power, and Progress." The theme speaks to the power that comes when African Nova Scotians and people of African descent stand together with a shared sense of direction. It recognizes unity as an active force for change that strengthens communities, advances justice, and creates new opportunities.



UPCOMING FREE EVENT!

Thriving Offline:

How Delaying Smartphones Can Help Kids Flourish



When: Tuesday, February 24th @ 6:30pm ADT

Where: St. Margaret's Bay Elementary, NS

(Virtual Zoom option available)

Register: [UnpluggedNSThrivingOffline.eventbrite.ca](https://unpluggedNSThrivingOffline.eventbrite.ca)

Connect with other parents in our supportive community!



What happens when a school loses power?

Learn more at hrce.ca/families/cancellations under Power Outage Information for Families



BECOME A HOST FAMILY

OPEN YOUR HOME AND HEART TO AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

\$875
/month

PER STUDENT
(Tax Free)

\$975
/month

If you can
accommodate
a vegetarian or
lactose free diet

\$1075
/month

If you can
accommodate
a vegan or
celiac diet

* Effective in September 2025.

RECEIVE \$100 FOR EVERY SUCCESSFUL REFERRAL OF NEW HOST FAMILY
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Halifax
Regional Centre for Education

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or call 902-464-2000 ext. 2548

