

Hawthorn Elementary
NEWSLETTER

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September 2024



Dear Families,

Welcome Back to School! We had a great first week. Students and staff are excited to be back. September is a month of positive beginnings. Classes are working on building relationships and establishing routines to create safe learning environments. Please read through our newsletter so that you can keep in touch with us and follow along with the great things happening at Hawthorn Elementary.

Sincerely,

Ms. Gourlay and Ms. Bambury

Upcoming Dates:

- September 12: Pink Shirt Day-Stand Up Against Bullying
- September 18: SAC & HSA information session 6:00 pm School Library
- September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (No School)
- October 1: Treaty Day
- October 1: School Picture Day
- October 11: Professional Development Day (No School for Students)
- October 14: Thanksgiving Monday (No School)
- October 25: Provincial Conference Day (No School for Students)

Morning Drop Off and After School Dismissal

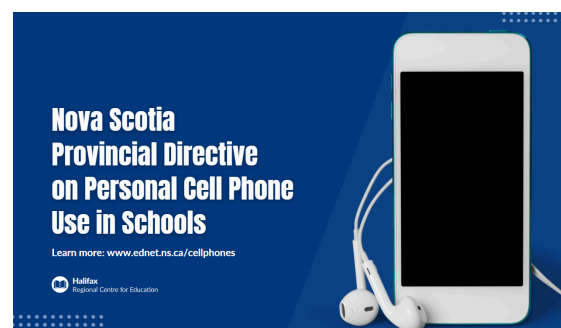
Primary-Grade 6 Students can arrive at school at 8:40 am and will be outside with teacher supervision. There is no supervision prior to this time. Students will play on the side area or back area of the school (including field and playground), not the front of the school. At 8:50 am the bell will ring and students will come inside and go to their classes for a 9:00 am start time. Pre Primary students can be dropped off with their Pre Primary teachers at 8:55 am. All students will dismiss at 3:00pm from their designated doors.

Recess and Lunch

We will be outside in various types of weather, so please dress your child to be comfortable for the weather outside. Recess is supervised by our teachers. During the lunch hour, students will eat in their classroom from 12-12:30 pm and go outside from 12:30-1:00 pm with our lunch monitors. If your child is going home for lunch, please send in a note with your child and ask them to sign out at the office before they leave. If your child is going home for lunch regularly, please email your child's teacher and the office and we will keep the note on file. They are still asked to sign out at the office before leaving for lunch.

New Cell Phone Directive for Nova Scotia Schools

A new cellphone directive was introduced by the province. See [here](#). Students bringing a cellphone to school will need to turn off and store their cell phones for the entire day, including non instructional times like recess and lunch.



Student Information Updates

In the coming weeks, you will receive an email with information on how to confirm and/or update your child's information in PowerSchool. In previous years, we sent home Registration Forms for families to review and return to school. This will now be done online.

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 to 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 honours the children who did not 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.

Parking at School

A reminder to follow street signage for parking around the school. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

SchoolCash Setup

SchoolCash Online is an easy-to-use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. You can pay for your child's yearbook, class trips and so much more, quickly and conveniently. Simply register an account to be able to pay in several different payment forms. [Click here](#) for more information.

Lunch Monitors

We are reaching out in search of lunch monitors. If you have or are willing to have a criminal record check/vulnerable sector and child abuse registry done and are able to help, please phone 902-464-2048 and we can begin the process. Even if you are only available certain days of the week your time is appreciated. Thank you!

Home and School Association (HSA)

Home and School Association is a volunteer, non-profit organization of parents and school staff. Membership is free and open to any interested parent/guardian or staff member. We are having an information meeting, Wednesday, September 18th at 6pm in the school library. All are welcome! Please contact us if you would like the link to our meeting, Hawthorn@hrce.ca

School Advisory Council (SAC)

We are having a School Advisory Council (SAC) information meeting Wednesday, September 18th at 6pm in the school library. If you are interested in attending and possibly joining, you are welcome to attend our meeting. Also, if you are interested in learning more, please do not hesitate to reach out to the SAC Chair: Emily Mercer by email : hrce-sac-haw@gnspe.ca

Head Lice

If your child has been in contact with someone who has lice, you need to check your child's head carefully to see if they have caught lice. Head lice spread easily, so if one person in the household has lice, others may have it too. See Guidelines [here](#).

Reminders

- Please, do not send nut or peanut products to school (this includes Nutella products).
- It is helpful to have a complete change of clothes in your child's backpack just in case of mud, puddles, or spills and it may save you a trip in the middle of your day.
- Please do not bring dogs onto school grounds. If you do bring your dog, please stay on the sidewalk or the field and not on school property.
- Please ensure that your child has indoor shoes for school and wears outdoor shoes/boots to help keep our school clean.