

Hawthorn Elementary
NEWSLETTER

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November 2024



Dear Families,

It's hard to believe another month has flown by! October was filled with learning, community, and celebration. We honored Mi'kmaq History Month through class activities and a meaningful school-wide assembly. Our Grade 6 students completed their Provincial Literacy and Math assessments, we smiled for Picture Day, and took part in the annual Terry Fox Walk.

We wrapped up the month with a fantastic Halloween Howl, a Harvest Moon Festival music performance organized by Mr. Campbell, and our first NS School Lunch delivery! Additionally, we welcomed new staff members to our team: Ms. Boe, who joins us in Grade 2, and our new EPAs, Ms. Tosh and Ms. Lafford.

As we head into November, we're excited to welcome musicians Morgan Toney and Keith Mullins for a special performance, as well as observe our Remembrance Day Assembly together. Looking forward, Term 1 will come to a close on November 22nd, followed by Report Cards and Progress Conferences in early December.

Warm regards,

Ms. Gourlay and Ms. Bambury

Upcoming Dates:

- November 5: Mi'kmaltic Music Performance: Morgan Toney & Keith Mullins
- November 6: School picture retakes-all students
- November 6: SAC Meeting 6pm School Library
- November 6: HSA meeting 7pm School Library
- November 8: Remembrance Day Assembly
- November 11: Remembrance Day (No School)
- November 22: Assessment & Evaluation Day (No School for Students)
- December 4: HSA meeting 7pm virtual
- December 5: Professional Learning AM & Primary-Gr. 6 Parent-Teacher Conferences PM (No school for students)
- December 11 & 12-Primary -Gr.6 December Concert
- December 21-January 2-Holiday Break (No School)

Remembrance Day

Every year on November 11, we observe Remembrance Day to commemorate the sacrifices of the armed forces 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.



This year, we are having a Remembrance Day Assembly, Friday, November 8th at 11:00am. We are inviting veterans and service men and women who are connected to our school community to join us. If you are able to join us, please *RSVP to the school by Tuesday, November 5th*. Hawthorn@hrce.ca All students who are members of Scouts, Guides, Cadets, etc, are welcome to wear their uniforms on November 8th.

We are also putting together a visual presentation honouring veterans and service men and women who are connected to our school community. If you would like to add a photo, please send it by email to our Principal at AGourlay@hrce.ca Please include the following

information with your photo: Person's Name and title/rank as you would like to have it presented, student's name and grade, and the relationship to the student at Hawthorn. Please send in the information by November 6th.

Indigenous Veterans Day

Indigenous Veterans Day, observed on November 8, 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.



New Little Lending Library



Hawthorn has a colourful, new Little Lending Library! A big thank you to the Howarth family for the donation. It is a beautiful new addition and a welcome spot to donate books or borrow books.

Dressing for the weather

As the weather starts to shift we are getting a few colder days and some wet, rainy days too. Please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Even if it is a rainy day, we may get a break in the rain and have an opportunity to get outside. As the weather is colder, we still go outside. Soon we will see mittens, hats, snow pants, and boots!

Visitors to the School

Visitors are asked to ring the doorbell upon arrival and Ms. Urquhart will answer through the intercom and ask how she can help you. We would be happy to deliver a forgotten recess snack or lunch bag to your child. We can meet you at the door and retrieve the item. If picking your child up early, please call ahead. **All visitors, regardless how brief the visit, must sign-in at the office and wear a visitor or volunteer tag.**

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!

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.

Save the dates: Hawthorn's Scholastic Book Fair is back !

Hawthorn's Scholastic Book Fair is coming! Discover hundreds of new, affordable, best-selling titles coming right to our school.

Students and families can shop the Book Fair IN-PERSON **Tuesday Dec 3, Thursday Dec 5, and Friday Dec 6.**

- Students can browse *in-person* on *Tues Dec 3* and shop *Fri Dec 6*
- Families can browse and shop in-person **Thursday Dec 5, 1-4 pm** and **6-8 pm** and **Friday Dec 6 from 9 am to 4 pm**

Every purchase supports our school library and helps keep kids reading. Thank you in advance for your support and see you at the Fair!

Interested in giving an hour of your time as a volunteer, helping set up on Monday Dec 2, or assisting during our browsing and shopping days? Have questions? Contact Deborah Copeman, Librarian, at dcopeman@hrce.ca or 902-464-2048

We accept cheques made payable to our school, cash, and Visa, American Express and MasterCard.

Need more shelf space? Donate your gently used kids books!

Hawthorn Library welcomes donations of gently used books, including

- picture books (Robert Munsch, Ruth Ohi, Shauntay Grant)
- first chapter books (Eerie Elementary, Owl Diaries, Magic Treehouse)
- graphic novels (InvestiGATORS, Big Nate, Baby-sitter's Club)
- non-fiction (information books about living things, vehicles, sports, crafts...)
- novels (Gordon Korman, Kelly Yang, Kate DiCamillo)

We add donated books to our school library and classroom libraries. We also make books freely available to kids and families through our Little Free Library at the Hawthorn playground.

Thank you for your support!

Reminders

- Please, do not send **nut or peanut products** to school (this includes Nutella products).
- Our school is a **scent-free zone**! We ask that all parents, guardians, and visitors refrain from using scented products such as perfumes, colognes, and heavily scented lotions when on at school. Many of our students and staff members have sensitivities or allergies to certain scents. Your cooperation and understanding in this matter are greatly appreciated.
- 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 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.
- Students are not permitted to use **cell phones** during the school day. If students bring cellphones to school, they must be turned off and in their backpacks for the entire school day.