

Hawthorn Elementary

September 2025 Newsletter



Message from the Principal

Dear Hawthorn Elementary Families,

I am thrilled to welcome you to a new school year as the new principal of Hawthorn Elementary! It is an honor to join this vibrant school community, and I look forward to getting to know your precious children and each of you.

I firmly believe that strong communication is the foundation for building meaningful relationships and a positive school environment. At Hawthorn, we are committed to partnering with families to support the growth and success of every student.

Our dedicated educators are excited to welcome your children on the first day of school and begin a year filled with learning, growth, and discovery.

We also invite you to join us for Curriculum Night on Wednesday, September 3rd at 6:00 PM. We will begin the evening in the gym, followed by visits to your child's classroom, where you'll hear an overview of the year's curriculum and have a chance to start building a connection with your child's teacher. We'll wrap up the night with a fun ice cream social—a great opportunity to meet other families and staff in a relaxed setting. A huge thank you to members of the Home and School for organizing the ice cream social!

We're looking forward to a fantastic school year ahead. Thank you for your partnership and support!

Warm regards,

Tina Waterhouse-Campbell

Principal, Hawthorn Elementary



[Links to 2025-2026 Calendar](#)

Important dates to remember in September:

- **Wednesday Sept. 3:** [PowerSchool Opens for Families at 3pm.](#)
- **Wednesday Sept. 3:** [Curriculum Night and Ice Cream social 6pm to 7pm](#)
- **Thurs., Sept. 4:** First day of school for students!
- **(September 8-12, 2025)** Fire Drill # 1
- **(September 15-19, 2025)** Lockdown Drill #1
- **Thurs., Sept. 11:** Stand Up Against Bullying Day
- **(September 22 - 26, 2025)** Hold and Secure Drill
- **Friday, Sept. 26:** Observe orange shirt day
- **Monday, Sept. 29:** Professional Development Day – No classes PP-12
- **Tuesday., Sept. 30:** National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Important dates to remember in October:

- **Wednesday, Oct. 1:** Treaty Day - Culturally Significant Day - schools open
 - **Wednesday, Oct. 1:** Meetings- SAC 6pm HSA 7pm
 - **Thurs., 2:** [Picture Day \(Paul Adams\) - retakes to be scheduled - we will update families soon.](#)
 - **(October 6-10, 2025)** Fire Drill # 2
 - **Monday, Oct. 13:** **Thanksgiving Day** - no classes all schools
 - **Thursday, Oct. 23:** HSA Event-Family Dance (details and time to come)
 - **24:** NSTU Provincial conference day - no classes all schools
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Provincial Safe Schools Strategy



The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development works with Regional Centres for Education, school staff and many other partners to make sure Nova Scotia schools are places where students can focus on learning and staff can safely do their jobs.

Nova Scotia's safe school strategy ensures schools have policies, procedures and resources that support our commitment to safe and supportive schools.

For more information for families, please go [here](#).

PowerSchool Opens for Families on September 3

PowerSchool will open to families on Wednesday, September 3 at 3 p.m. In PowerSchool, you'll be able to view your child's teacher(s).

Stand Up Against Bullying Day is September 11



On the second Thursday of September, we recognize Stand Up Against Bullying Day.

On Thursday, September 11, we will celebrate inclusivity, kindness and friendship. All staff at Hawthorn Elementary are focused on ensuring all students have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and thrive.

We welcome students and families to wear pink if you're able on September 11th to take a stand against bullying.

Please 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 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 29 and Tuesday, September 30, we welcome staff, students and families to wear orange on Friday, September 26.

Demographic Form Updates

On September 9, the Demographic Updates Form will be available to families in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. This form should be updated by every family to ensure all information about your child is current, including contacts, medical information, consents and demographics. Even if there are no anticipated changes, please still review this information and submit the form. This information will then be reviewed by the school before updates are finalized. The deadline to submit the form is October 6, 2025.



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.

Communication



Building strong relationships between school and home is crucial for creating a supportive and effective learning environment. Understanding the communication plan can help ensure that all stakeholders—students, parents, and teachers—are on the same page and working together toward student success. Please see our communication plan below.

[School Communication Plan](#)