

*Hawthorn Elementary*

# NEWSLETTER

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**October 2022**



Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that October is already here. We had a great first month of the school year and we thank you for your support in helping with a smooth start! In our first week of school, we participated in Pink Shirt Day and our ongoing message to stand up against bullying. We successfully practiced a number of safety drills. After a few postponed dates, we were able to have our Terry Fox Walk. Thank you to Mr. Foot for organizing! Teachers and students discussed Orange Shirt Day and took time to reflect and learn about Truth and Reconciliation. We will continue to learn about Mi'kmaq History this month, our Grade 6s are completing provincial assessments, and all students will get a chance to smile for picture day!

Sincerely,

*Ms. Gourlay and Ms. Dunn*

## **Grade 6 Provincial Assessments**

Our Grade 6 students will be completing the NS Provincial Reading/Writing and Mathematics Assessment this month. The dates have been scheduled for October 12th, 13th, 18th, and 19th. Teachers are having conversations with students about the importance of being rested and having a good breakfast to start their day. Students will also have some practice time

before the administration of the assessments. If your child will be absent on the listed dates, please let your child's teacher know.

## Mi'kmaq history month



October is Mi'kmaq history month. The Mi'kmaq History Month (MHM) Committee are pleased to announce *Mi'kmaq Beadwork & the Art of Beading* as the theme for this year's History Month poster. The poster, produced each year as a resource for teaching about the Mi'kmaq during History Month, highlights a significant aspect of Mi'kmaq history and culture. The team from the Mi'kmawey Debert Cultural Centre, led by celebrated Mi'kmaq artist and storyteller, Gerald Gloade, anticipate this year's poster will help audiences better understand and celebrate this artform that was preserved and passed down by our ancestors for many generations.

## Communicating Student Learning

Our communicating student learning plan is posted on our school website. The plan explains what we do at the school to assess and evaluate your child's learning, and how we will communicate our expectations for learning and achievement.

<https://haw.hrce.ca/haw/policies-procedures/communicating-student-learning-plan>

## 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.

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## **Nourish Your Roots**

Time is running out to order your Nourish Your Roots box. Each box is \$40 online or \$38.00 paid in person at the school office. Nourish Your Roots farm box includes a variety of fresh, seasonal produce with a focus on root vegetables and may include fruit. Contents will vary depending on farm partner and availability.

**SCHOOL SALES ONLINE STORE CLOSES: October 24, 2022**

**SCHOOL PICKUP DATES: November 2nd, 2022**

Customers will pick up their box(es) from Hawthorn on November 2nd, starting at 3:10pm. Donated boxes are used for school food programming or distributed to families in their school community in need of support.

Please Note: The school is looking for volunteers to help distribute the Nourish Your Roots boxes! If you can help hand out the box orders, please call or email Ms. Urquhart in the office of your availability time.

## **No Parking/No Idling**

Please follow the No Parking and No Stopping signs on the streets around our school. We have a bus that comes to our school and requires space to stop in front of the school. We also have a No Idling sign new to our school to remind families to not leave their vehicles running and adding polluted air to our school community. We ask that you follow these guidelines for the health and safety of our students, staff, families, and community members,

## **Halloween**

The Home and School Association is planning a Halloween Howl Dance on October 27th. More details will follow. For Monday, October 31st students are permitted to wear costumes for the **afternoon**. With safety as a priority, we ask that: costumes are culturally appropriate, masks are not allowed, weapons are not allowed, no blood or gory costumes keeping in mind our younger students. Students need to be able to put on their costumes themselves in a timely manner (so no time for applying face makeup at school), move easily on the stairs, and be able to attend gym. The school will provide all classes with a healthy snack for all our students.

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## **Lunch time Activity Volunteers**

If you are interested in volunteering and running a lunch time activity, please contact the school. We are hoping to have lunch activities such as Lego group, Chess Club, Coding, etc. As a volunteer, you would need a completed criminal record check/vulnerable sector and child abuse registry on file at school. If you need to confirm that we have your most up to date documents, please contact Ms. Urquhart.

## **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. The HSA meets monthly. All are welcome! Please contact us if you have any questions about the HSA. [Hawthorn@hrce.ca](mailto:Hawthorn@hrce.ca)

## **School Advisory Council (SAC)**

If you are interested in attending and possibly joining the SAC, you are welcome to attend our meeting. Also, if you are interested in learning more, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Chair, Alexis Carter Malloch SAC, by email : [hrce-sac-haw@gnspe.ca](mailto:hrce-sac-haw@gnspe.ca)

## **Plans for Inclement Weather**

The Halifax Regional Centre for Education takes great care when making the decision to alter the normal operations of schools in the event of severe or inclement weather. Decisions on school closures and/or bus cancellations are posted on the board's website at [www.hrce.ns.ca](http://www.hrce.ns.ca), on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/HRCE\\_Official](https://www.twitter.com/HRCE_Official), recorded on 464- INFO (4636)



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and communicated to all local radio stations. You can also receive notice of school bus cancellations by email or text message by following the link on the front page (left side) of the HRCE website. Hawthorn Elementary is part of the Dartmouth High Family of Schools. If you are interested in learning more on how decisions regarding closures and cancellations are made, visit <https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/inclement-weather>

## **Dates to Remember:**

- October 10- Thanksgiving Day -No School
- October 18- Picture Day
- October 27-HSA Halloween Howl Dance
- October 28-Conference Day-No School
- November 2-Picture Retake Day
- November 10-Remembrance Day Assembly
- November 14-HSA meeting @ 7 pm in school library
- November 11-Remembrance Day-No School
- November 21- Assessment and Evaluation Day-No School for Students
- November 23- SAC meeting @ 3:30 pm in school library

## **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.

## A look at what's happening at Hawthorn!

Terry Fox Walk.



Grade 1/2 Hall problem solving together.



Morning Bin activities in Primary Campbell.



Collaborative Math work in Grade 4 Grattan.