

*Hawthorn Elementary*

# NEWSLETTER

10 Hawthorne Street • Dartmouth, NS • B2Y 2Y3 Tel # (902) 464-2048  
Website: Haw.hrce.ca • Email: hawthorn@hrce.ca • Twitter: @HawthornElem



**May 2023**



Dear Families,

April was a great spring month! Our first Ceilidh was a wonderful success. A huge thank you to Ms. Tipper and the HSA for organizing our Ceilidh and families for supporting our music program! This month, Ms. Dunn has organized a Monday Run Club for our Grade 3-6 students, our Grade 3s will write our Nova Scotia Literacy and Math assessments, and Grade 4-6 students will be completing our Student Success Survey. We welcome Anna Daniels, our Learning Center teacher, for the rest of the school year and Mr. Church, our Art Specialist, is joining us at Hawthorn for the next few weeks too! We are enjoying spring and warmer, sunnier days as students play and take learning outside.

Sincerely,

*Ms. Gourlay and Ms. Dunn*

## Dates to Remember:

- May 8: HSA Meeting @ 7pm School Library
- May 8: EXCEL registration begins for new participants
- May 8, 18, 25, 29: Run Club for grades 3-6
- May 16, 17, 24, 25: Grade 3 Provincial Assessments
- May 17: Strings and Band Concert @ 6pm School Gym
- May 22: Victoria Day/No School

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## Spring Fair: Saturday June 3, from 10am-12pm

The Home and School Association would like to invite you to the Spring Fair! Join us for a cake walk, fish pond, canteen, raffle baskets, cookie decorating, face-painting, guessing jars, karaoke room, sucker pull, turnip bowling, and much much more! This event is one of the biggest fundraisers for the school and 100 percent of proceeds go towards students and their school funding field trips, school supplies and supporting Hawthorn Elementary.

At the moment we are looking for many volunteers. Volunteer jobs include:

- Help with set-up on Friday June 2 from 9-12
- Work at a game table at the Spring Fair (1 hour shifts)
- Work the admission table or ticket table (1 hour shifts)
- Help with take down on Saturday June 3 from 12-1
- Bring a cake (on June 2) for the cake walk

If you can volunteer, please go to our sign-up website: [bit.ly/3VgAW96](https://bit.ly/3VgAW96) and let us know if you can help out. Alternatively, you can email Lydia Mans at [lydiamans@gmail.com](mailto:lydiamans@gmail.com) to let us know if you can volunteer.

Thanks!

The Home and School Association

## New to the area or moving out of the area

**New to the area:** if you are aware of any families new to the Hawthorn area please direct them to contact the school at (902) 464-2048 and we will assure they get their child(ren) registered in a timely manner.

**Moving away:** if you are moving and your children will not be attending Hawthorn in 2023-2024 please contact the school to let us know. 902-464-2048 or [hawthorn@hrce.ca](mailto:hawthorn@hrce.ca)

## Bikes and Scooters

Students are asked to please use the bike rack that is located on the side of the school for bikes and scooters.

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## Pre Primary, Primary, and Grade 6 Students: Information & Orientation

As we prepare for next year, we want to provide families with information so students feel ready for the move to school for Pre Primary, Primary, or heading off to Junior High. As we finalize plans, we will be in touch with more information and details.

## School Garden Boxes

We recently received a \$1000 grant from HRCE Healthy School Communities towards a school food garden. With the installation of our outdoor classroom, we are looking to relocate some garden boxes to the back area of the school. We are looking to start in the coming weeks, so if there is anyone interested in helping us get started, please contact the school. 902-464-2048 or [Hawthorn@hrce.ca](mailto:Hawthorn@hrce.ca)

## 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!

## EXCEL registration

The EXCEL program is a recreation-based, fee-for-service before and after school program run by the Halifax Regional Centre for Education, offering before and after school care for elementary-aged children.

At each school site, the dedicated and qualified staffing teams plan weekly games and activities that suit the needs and interests of the registered students. These individual plans are framed around EXCEL's overall philosophy which is focused on physical activity and positive social interaction in a safe and fun environment.



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Highlights of our program include:

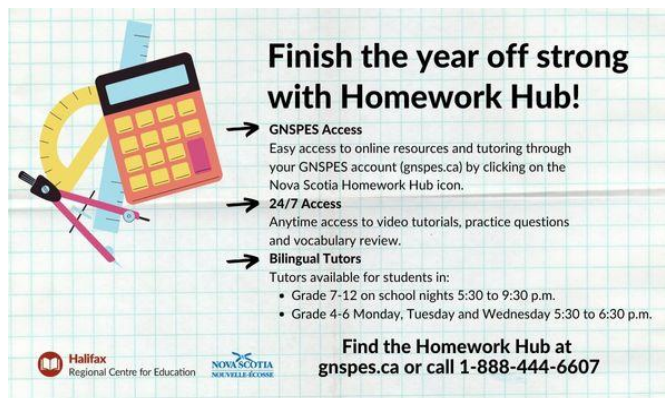
- EXCEL offers both structured and unstructured activities each afternoon.
- EXCEL provides a minimum of 45 minutes of structured physical activity every day.
- EXCEL offers outdoor physically active play opportunities each day, weather permitting.
- EXCEL provides an opportunity for individual choice in programming each day.
- EXCEL brings in our own special guest presenters and external programmers.
- EXCEL offers P.A.L.S. Playground Activity Leaders in Schools for participants in Grades 4-6.
- EXCEL offers HRQ/Gym (Homework/Reading/Quiet Time/Gym) time each afternoon from 5:30 to 6:00 pm enabling those who wish to complete homework the opportunity to do so.
- EXCEL is a “High Five” registered organization.

Registration for returning children began April 24 and registration for new EXCEL participants will begin on May 8. [Click here](#) for more information.

## Homework Hub: Finish the year off strong!

Did you know your student has access to Homework Hub? Finish the year off strong with the help of experienced tutors!

- **GNSPES Access:** Easy access to online resources and tutoring through your GNSPES account ([gnspecs.ca](http://gnspecs.ca)) by clicking on the Nova Scotia Homework Hub icon.
- **24/7 Access:** Anytime access to video tutorials, practice questions and vocabulary review.
- **Bilingual tutors** available for students in:
  - Grade 7-12 on school nights 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.
  - Grade 4-6 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
  - [Watch this video](#) to learn more about Homework Hub!



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**Find the Homework Hub at**  
[gnspecs.ca](http://gnspecs.ca) or call 1-888-444-6607

Hallifax Regional Centre for Education | NOVA SCOTIA NEWVILLE SCHOOLS

## 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)

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## School Advisory Council (SAC)

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

## Recycling for Hawthorn

We have an account with a local recycling depot, Canadian Recycling located at 365 Portland Street. If you drop off your recycling you can let them know the funds can be added to the HSA Hawthorn account as part of a school fundraiser.

## Reminders

- In the mornings, students can arrive at 8:40 am, which is when teachers are on duty. The bell rings at 8:55 am and instruction begins at 9:00 am.
- 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.
- Students are not permitted to use cell phones during the school day. If students bring cellphones to school, they must stay in their backpacks for the entire school day.

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

Student Ramadan presentations.



Ceilidh Fun!



Our new flag!

