

Hawthorn Elementary

NEWSLETTER

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January 2024



Dear Families,

Happy New Year! We hope this message finds you well-rested, rejuvenated, and ready for an exciting journey into 2024. As we dive into January, our school is buzzing with excitement and energy. We hope your holiday season was filled with joy and cherished moments.

We encourage you to stay connected with the Hawthorn community. Be on the lookout for upcoming events and opportunities to get involved. We believe that collaboration between home and school is essential for the success of our students, and we value the partnership we share with our families.

Here's to a year filled with curiosity, discovery, and achievement! We look forward to witnessing the accomplishments and milestones that await our students in the coming months.

Wishing you a fantastic start to the New Year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Gourlay and Ms. Dunn

Dates to Remember:

- January 2-School Reopens
- January 15-Home and School Meeting 7pm in School Library
- January 17-School Advisory Council Meeting 3:30 pm in School Library

January 27 is Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy Day takes place each year on January 27 to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family.

This year's theme, in honour of Family Literacy Day's 25th anniversary, is let's have a party! Make food, sing songs, and play games. The possibilities for learning are endless.



Parking around School

A reminder to follow street signage for both 'no stopping' and 'no parking' around the school. For safety reasons, we ask that there is room for the flow of traffic along Hawthorne Street to move. This is especially important as snow banks develop along the sidewalks and makes it harder to see people walking and crossing streets. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

Visiting 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. If picking your child up early, please call ahead. **For safety, we ask that all visitors and volunteers sign-in at the office and wear a visitor or volunteer tag.**

Plans for 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 buses 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:

- Bused 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 our website www.hrce.ca
- On X (formerly Twitter) at [Twitter.com/HRCE_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS)
- On Instagram at www.instagram.com/hrce_ns/

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.

Clothing and Winter Attire

With the cold weather upon us, we would like to remind families and students of the importance of dressing appropriately for the weather including hats, mittens, and snowpants (extra mitts are always a good idea too in the event of mittens getting lost or wet). As the weather changes we ask that all students pack a change of clothes in the event that their clothing gets wet or dirty/muddy while going outside during recess or lunch.

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.
- 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.