

Good afternoon Sunnyside Families,

November is a perfect time for reflection as we change seasons and head towards Remembrance Day. It is a time to focus on peace as well as the progress that we are making at school. In this message, you will find information about Remembrance Day, the Provincial Student Attendance and Engagement Policy, requests for your support in keeping our arrivals and dismissals safe, our holiday concerts, the Provincial lunch program and reminders about inclement weather.

We would also like to remind you of the parent talk on child and adolescent anxiety that is taking place at Eaglewood on Nov. 14 at 6pm. We are attaching the poster again for your information. If this is a topic that interests you, we hope that you can make it.

Remembrance 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.

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.

In our last couple of years, with our families' help, we were able to create a Wall of Courage to recognize of the present and past serving members of our community. This includes military and first responders. We would like to continue this tradition this year. We invite each of you who are military and first responders (parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.) to send us a picture of that person (in uniform, if possible) that we can display in the main hallway. The students are so proud of their family members and love to share them with their classmates. Please email your picture to your child's teacher or send in a copy by Nov. 6th.

Our Remembrance Day Ceremony will be held in the Eaglewood gym on November 8th at 10:00 am. Fort Sackville students in grades pre-primary, primary and one will be bused to the site to attend. We are extending an invitation to serving and former members of the military to attend our ceremony as honoured guests. If you plan to attend, please let your child's teacher know so we have sufficient seating arranged.

Student Attendance

Regular attendance at school supports greater student success. All students in Nova Scotia are expected to attend and be on time for class. The Nova Scotia Student Attendance and Engagement Policy supports the importance of students' attendance at school. In addition to daily attendance at school, it is also important that students arrive at school on time and ready to learn. The first hours of the school day are extremely productive times and often are scheduled for essential

literacy and mathematics learning. When students arrive late to school, it can be disruptive to the learning environment as teachers may be in the middle of a lesson, or students may have missed essential instruction. Barring exceptional circumstances, we ask that families work to ensure that students are arriving by 9:00 at Fort Sackville and 9:10 at Eaglewood. This will minimize disruptions to the school day and help make sure that students are present for all daily instruction and learning activities.

At school, it is our responsibility to monitor student attendance and to work with and support families if attendance is an issue. We will be contacting home when threshold absences are attained to see how we can help.

Parents and guardians have a responsibility to ensure that their students are attending school and to report student absences via SchoolMessenger. While student attendance is a critical determinant of student success, students are encouraged to engage in healthy habits and remain at home if they are feeling unwell, especially if they have an infectious disease that might affect fellow students or school staff.

Supervision at School

We must remind families that students are supervised at the Eaglewood site from 8:55 am to dismissal at 3:00 pm. Many students are arriving on the playground prior to 8:55 and staying to play unsupervised after school. This can pose a danger to them as there is no staff supervision to support fair play and to ensure that students are not getting hurt. It is important that students arrive at school between 8:55 and 9:10 and that they go home (or to their caregivers) directly following dismissal. We appreciate your support in this.

Kiss and Go Drop Off

We have noticed lately that the line up of vehicles waiting to get into the kiss and go lane each morning is blocking traffic. In order to help alleviate the wait time, families dropping off their students are reminded to pull up as far as possible when stopping and to ensure that students are ready to get out of the car right away. Parents and guardians are not to be getting out of the car to help. If you need to help your child out of the car, we ask that you park on the street and walk them to the school. Everyone using the kiss and go will appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Holiday Concerts: Save the date(s)!

Performing is part of the music learning curriculum from P-5 and we are pleased to invite our parents and guardians to our student concerts in December. We will be performing for parents/guardians and special guests at 10:45 and 1:30 on the days of the concert. There will not be evening concerts.

Date: Monday December 9

Classes: Primary MacDonald, 1 Chisholm, 2 Tracy, 2 Kelly Levasseur, 3/4 Bramwell/Graham, 2/3 MacFarlane/Shields, 3/4 Kelly and 4/5 Boudreau

Date: Tuesday December 10

Classes: Primary Heather, 1 Fraser, P/1 Isenor/Graham, 2 Bembridge, 3 Richardson, 4/5 Ebbett, 4/5 Caldwell, Strings

Nova Scotia School Lunch Program

The delivery of low and no cost lunches began at Sunnyside on Monday. We will be ironing out hiccoughs for a few days, and we are happy to see how many families are taking advantage of this opportunity. Please note:

- Students still need snacks for recess time.
- The meals are being delivered with compostable wooden cutlery. We recommend you tucking a fork and spoon in your child's lunch box, so they do not need to eat with the wooden utensils.
- The ordering window for the next cycle of meals opens on November 1st and closes at noon on November 6th. Once the ordering window closes, we cannot make any changes to orders so make sure that you've got your order in.
- For food safety concerns, we cannot send home any leftovers from the School Lunch deliveries.

Inclement Weather

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 morning bus pickups are delayed by two hours. This means Fort Sackville classes begin at 11:05 and Eaglewood classes begin at 11:15. Lunch and dismissal times for these days do not change; 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. We are in the Charles P Allen family of schools; 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 (12:05 at Fort Sackville and 12:15 at Eaglewood).
- In the event of an early dismissal, all families will be contacted via email by your child's teacher. We will ask that you reply to the email with specific dismissal instructions (student is to walk home, student is to take the bus, or student will be picked up). If we do not get a timely response to the email, we will be calling you (and your designates if we cannot reach you) to find out dismissal instructions. Students will not be released until we have made contact with you or your designate.

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.

Upcoming Dates:

Nov. 1-6—Ordering window for next cycle of lunches

Nov. 5—Picture Retakes

Nov. 7—Home & School meeting 6:30 pm Eaglewood Dr.

Nov. 8—Remembrance Day Ceremony at Eaglewood

Nov. 11—No School for Remembrance Day

Nov. 12—SAC meeting 6 pm Eaglewood

Nov. 14—Parent/Guardian evening with Dr. Chorney 6 pm Eaglewood

Nov. 22—Assessment & Evaluation Day—no school for students

Dec. 5—PD in the morning and Parent/Guardian-Teacher meetings afternoon/evening. No school for students

Dec. 7—Jingle Bell Breakfast

Dec. 9 & 10—Holiday Concerts

Dec. 20—Last day of school before Holiday Break