

Good afternoon Sunnyside Families,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school. We hope that you all had a lovely break and we were thrilled to welcome our students back today.

As we head into 2025, there are some reminders we want to share with you.

- **Nova Scotia School Lunch:** The next ordering window for school lunches will be January 11-15th.
- **Winter weather and playing outside:** The snow has returned and this is very exciting for Sunnyside Elementary. Our students are always very creative in the snow and have lots of fun. Please remember to send your student with appropriate outside clothing, including boots, jackets, mittens and snow pants. Students who are playing in snowy areas (including the field) must have all of the above clothing to stay dry and warm. If you have any extra snow pants that your children have outgrown, we would be pleased to take them at school to lend out to students who forget theirs.
- **Winter weather and school cancellations:** HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school busses 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 (11:05 at Fort Sackville and 11:15 at Eaglewood). Lunch and dismissal remain the usual times; 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; 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
 - Non-bused students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.
 - In the event that school is closed during the school day, we will contact you or your designate via email or by phone before dismissing your student.
- 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](#)
 - 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 www.hrce.ca/families/cancellations.
- **Significant Dates in January:**
 - **International Holocaust Remembrance Day:** International Holocaust Remembrance Day, observed on January 27, serves as a crucial reminder of the Holocaust. Through survivor stories, students learn empathy, compassion, and the importance of standing against antisemitism and prejudice. By observing this day, we ensure future generations uphold human rights and dignity, fostering a culture of respect and inclusion.



- **January 27 is Family Literacy Day:** Did you know? January 27 is Family Literacy Day! This special day is meant to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. This year's theme is "Learn to be Green, Together!" Make a pledge as a family to learn ways to be greener. Use less electricity, commute together, and reuse items. Being green together is a fun way to learn as a family while being kind to the environment.
- **Lunar New Year:** Lunar New Year, also known as Chinese New Year or Spring Festival, will be celebrated on January 29. It marks the beginning of the Year of the Snake, an animal sign that symbolizes wisdom, intuition, and renewal. It's a time for families to come together, honour their ancestors, and welcome the new year with hopes of prosperity and happiness.

