

# March 2025 Newsletter



**HOW TO REPORT AN ABSENCE:** If your child will be absent, please let us know by using one of the following methods:

- **Toll-Free Number**—Call 1-833-582-6940 to report an absence using an automated system.
- **PowerSchool Parent Portal** — Log into <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> and access the SchoolMessenger website to report an absence.
- **SchoolMessenger App**—Download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices and sign up using your PowerSchool username (full email address).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <b>PJ DAY</b> YOGA (P-3)	4 <b>WACKY HAT/ OUTFIT DAY</b>	5 <b>SPORTS JERSEY DAY</b>	6 <b>BRIGHT COLORS DAY</b> SCHOOL-WIDE BREAKFAST	7 <b>Assessment &amp; Evaluation Day— No classes</b>	8
9	<b>March Break</b>					15
16	17 YOGA (P-3)	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 YOGA (P-3)	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## Guidelines for school and/or bus cancellations due to weather

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or school 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.



If there are any changes to our regular operations, we will communicate in the following ways:

- 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](http://www.hrce.ca)
- On X (formerly Twitter) at [twitter.com/hrce\\_ns](https://twitter.com/hrce_ns)
- On Instagram at [instagram.com/hrce\\_ns](https://instagram.com/hrce_ns)



How does Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) decide on school and/or bus cancellations?

- By 4:30 a.m., HRCE staff begin to gather information from:
  - A contracted weather service that provides radar and satellite imagery, real-time road conditions and weather warnings;
  - A meteorologist who provides forecast details, level and type of precipitation and impact on road conditions;
  - HRCE's transportation service providers, who provide updates on road conditions in their area;
  - Municipal and provincial transportation staff; and
  - Other local weather services, including Environment Canada and The Weather Network. By 5:30 a.m., HRCE staff make recommendations to the Regional Executive Director (or designate), who then makes the final decision. This decision is communicated as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible.

Remember: Parents/guardians always have the right to keep their child home from school if they believe that the travelling conditions are unsuitable.

## PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please do not drive or park in parking lot to drop-off or pick up students at any time. This includes Excel before and after school. Our driveway and parking areas are for the use of busses and staff only. Please let any caregivers know (grandparents, aunt and uncles, etc) that they should not enter the parking lot.

We limit traffic as a way to promote safety for our students.

## SCHOOL-WIDE BREAKFAST

Students in PrePrimary through Grade 6 will be participating in a school wide breakfast on the morning of Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. This will take place during school hours (8:45am and 9:40am) in two groupings. Students will be offered a variety of food items to choose from. We will do our best to ensure that food allergies/intolerances are met. If you have not already sent back the completed pink paper indicating any concerns, please do so at your earliest convenience.



## MARCH IS NUTRITION MONTH

Did you know March is Nutrition Month! This is a great time to explore and learn about food. An important part of this is food literacy, which includes having the knowledge and skills to grow, choose, prepare, and talk about food.

Some ways to engage your family during Nutrition Month:

- Get kids involved in meal planning. Ask them to help choose recipes, write out grocery lists and explore grocery store flyers.
- Make cooking a family event! Kids can participate in age-appropriate tasks, such as measuring ingredients or setting the table.
- Enjoy meals together when you are able. Mealtimes can be a great time to connect in conversation.
- Start planning for an indoor or outdoor garden. This is a great way to explore where our food comes from.

## STUDENTS GOING HOME FOR LUNCH

Just a reminder that if your child is going to be going home during lunch, they need permission from a parent/guardian. Please ensure you call, email or send in a note to the teacher and/or office giving permission for your child to leave school property. If this is a daily occurrence, one note or a phone call to the school stating they have permission to go home daily is fine. Students who do not have permission will not be permitted to leave school property.

## NEW VICE-PRINCIPAL

We are pleased to welcome Mary Dowden-Marrie as our acting VP at CVES. Ms. Marrie begins on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

## AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

February was African Heritage Month, and the theme was Legacy in Action. Students at CVES participated in multiple learning opportunities, including:

- Students in Ms. Hovey, Mr. Dutton, Ms. Brown, Ms. MacKenzie and Ms. Babstock's class had Lindsay Ruck, author of 'My Favourite Colour' visit their classrooms to read from her book.
- Students did projects and presentations for other classes.
- All students learned a new fact about an important African Canadian on announcements each morning and answered a trivia fact each week about what they learned.

