



Colby Village Elementary May 2026 Newsletter

92 Colby Drive, Dartmouth, NS
Phone: 902-464-5152
Email: cves@hrce.ca

BELL SCHEDULE



First Bell..... 8:25
Classes Start 8:30
Recess:..... 10:00—10:15
Lunch:..... 11:30—12:30
Dismissal Bell: 2:35

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).



- May is Asian Heritage Month
- Canadian Jewish Heritage Month
- Polish Heritage Month
- Speech and Hearing Month
- May 10-16 is Education Week
- May 15 - Black Excellence Day
- May 18 - Victoria Day (No classes - all schools)
- May 27 - Primary Orientation Day
- May 31 to June 6 - Access Awareness Week
- June 26 - Grade 6 Closing Ceremony (1pm)

PRIMARY ORIENTATION

Primary orientation will be held Wednesday, May 27th. More information will be sent out to families in the coming weeks.

MAY 15 IS BLACK EXCELLENCE DAY

Black Excellence Day 2026 in Nova Scotia is an opportunity for schools to reflect on the learning and exploration of Black people and culture over the past year. It recognizes, celebrates, and supports learning from the achievements, contributions, and leadership of Black individuals and communities. More than a single-day celebration, Black Excellence is the recognition of meaningful steps toward strengthening inclusive learning environments where all students see themselves reflected in curriculum materials, through the stories we tell and the histories we honour.

The purpose of celebrating Black Excellence in our schools and classrooms is to affirm student's identities, build confidence, and inspire futures by highlighting role Black people have made in education, science, arts, leadership, and community advocacy. It reflects and celebrates thoughtful conversations in schools about equity, representation, and the ongoing work to remove systemic barriers.

This moment of reflection also invites educators and school communities to consider how Black Excellence is represented within their own classrooms and learning spaces. For some, this may affirm intentional work already underway; for others, it may serve as an opportunity to begin or deepen this practice. Black Excellence Day reminds us that this work is ongoing, and that there is always time to plan, reflect, and be deliberate in ensuring all students see themselves meaningfully reflected in our schools.

We welcome everyone to wear a black shirt, if you're able, on May 15 to show your support for Black Excellence Day!



With the sunny weather just around the corner, families who wish their children to wear sunscreen should apply at home before arriving at school. If they should need to reapply during the school day, we ask that you send in a lotion and they will be responsible for applying the lotion themselves.



Thanks for your cooperation.

IT'S SPRING FAIR TIME!

It's that time of year again! Planning is underway for the 2026 Colby Village Elementary Spring Fair, taking place on Saturday, May 23rd from 11:00am-2:00pm.

This event is open to the public with fun for the whole family! Free entry - tickets for activities can be purchased on-site for activities (cash only).

Inflatable Obstacle Course ~ BBQ ~ Games & Prizes ~ Silent Auction ~ Cake Walk ~ Raffle Tickets ~ Cotton Candy & More

There'll be lots of information coming home over the next few weeks, so keep an eye on those emails and backpacks!

We need volunteers to make this event happen! Please contact Kaela at Kaela.goodman@gmail.com if you can help out.



UNPLUGGED WEBINAR ON SMARTPHONES, SOCIAL MEDIA AND MORE

Unplugged Canada is hosting a LIVE webinar on May 6 every parent and caregiver needs to hear. Topics include smartphones, social media, the research — and most importantly, what we can do about it.

Hosted by Kirsten Sweet, educator and National Program Director with Unplugged Canada with Tania Johnson, Co-founder of the Institute of Child Psychology and Dr. Michele Locke, Clinical Psychologist, learn about the impact of smartphones and social media on youth and how the Unplugged Canada Pledge and their resources can spark meaningful conversations in your home, school, and community.

We'll also introduce two new initiatives: the National School Champion Program and Operation Landline — a summer campaign helping families delay smartphones and reconnect in simpler, more intentional ways.

Come ready to learn, connect, and be part of the movement. Register [here](#).

ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK - MAY 31 TO JUNE 6

Access Awareness Week in Nova Scotia, taking place May 31–June 6, 2026, is an opportunity to recognize the importance of accessibility, inclusion, and the leadership of people with disabilities. This year's theme, "Disability Justice: Stronger Together, First Voice Leading Change for Collective Action," emphasizes the importance of centering lived experience and working collaboratively to create meaningful, lasting change.

In schools, this week is a powerful reminder that inclusion is everyone's responsibility. Classrooms are where understanding begins — through learning, conversation, and action. By listening to diverse voices, removing barriers, and fostering accessible learning environments, educators and students help build school communities where all learners feel valued and supported.

VOLUNTEERING AT SCHOOL

We recognize our responsibility to ensure that all students attending our schools are protected by taking reasonable precautions to screen volunteers who may be working with students without direct supervision of staff. In accordance with Nova Scotia's Provincial [Volunteer Background Check Policy](#), prior to volunteering with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education, all volunteers will provide:

- A completed Child Abuse Register search, which can be found [here](#). As of June 2025, digital confirmations are available for Child Abuse Register checks. For more information, click [here](#).
- A certified and true copy of a Criminal Records Check with [Vulnerable Sector Check](#) available [here](#), from your local Police or RCMP detachment or through online organizations endorsed by Nova Scotia law enforcement agencies

Please note: Both the Child Abuse Register Search and Criminal Records Check must be issued in the three months preceding volunteering and updated every three years.



Free Live Event

UNPLUGGED CANADA



A National Conversation

with Unplugged Canada Ambassadors

Tania Johnson,
M.C.

Co-founder of the Institute of Child Psychology
Award-Winning Author

Dr. Michele Locke,
Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist
Toronto Chapter
Co-founder

Kirsten Sweet,
M.Ed.

National Program Director
Alberta Chapter
Co-founder

- ✓ Explore the research: Smartphones and Social Media
- ✓ Review the Unplugged Pledge and Resources
- ✓ Join our National School Champion Program
- ✓ Check out our new resource: Operation Landline
- ✓ Invite all parents and caregivers in your school community

Wednesday,
May 6th

5pm PT | 8pm ET