

January 2024 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 First day back to school	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Family Literacy Day
28	29	30	31			

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.



For more information, visit <https://www.hrce.ca/learning/elementary/reading-your-child>.

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING

Winter is definitely here. Parents/guardians are reminded to ensure students dress appropriately for the weather. Sending in a change of clothes on wet days would be recommended.

PRE-PRIMARY AND PRIMARY REGISTRATION

As always, Pre-primary and Primary registration will take place during the month of February. Students currently enrolled in pre-primary who will be attending primary at the same location, do not need to register. The registration process is done completely on line at <https://www.hrce.ca/families/student-registration>

If you know anyone in your neighborhood with school aged children, please pass on the information. More information will be posted on our school website and the HRCE website when available.

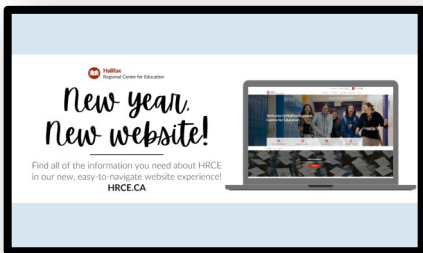
CHANGE TO THE LUNCH SCHEDULE AT COLBY

Effective, January 2nd, students will be going outside for the first half of their lunch at 11:30 a.m. and going to their classrooms at noon to eat until 12:30 p.m.

CHECK OUT THE NEW HRCE.CA!

Last winter, HRCE asked staff, families, and SACs for feedback on their website. They used that input to build a new family-focused site that prominently features the information our communities need most. You'll notice:

- Fewer pages – outdated information was deleted.
- A clean, modern look and feel – it's an easy-to-navigate, user-friendly experience.
- Significantly improved accessibility – this is better for our community members who use screen readers and translation services.



For more information, visit <https://www.hrce.ca>

NEWS FROM THE PTO

Happy New Year, CVES!!! We hope you had a wonderfully relaxing break filled with all the magic of the holiday season. We've been enjoying a bit of vacation ourselves, so not much to report this month!

The Santa Shop was a huge hit again this year. The kids had a great time and they really put so much thought and effort into each gift they selected. We hope you enjoyed your presents! If you have any leftover gift bags, we'd love to have them for next year's event - you can send them in with your child over the next couple of weeks.

We've had great success with Dominoes and Pita Pit, so dates for those have been added on the Healthy Hunger website through the end of the school year. Don't forget to place your orders!

The Spring Fair is our biggest fundraiser of the year, so we're already starting to work out the details! Our first Spring Fair Planning Committee meeting will take place on Thursday, January 18th at 7:00 pm. Please join us if you can, there are lots of fun volunteer roles for this event and many hands make light work! If you'd like to be involved in the organization of the Spring Fair but can't make the first meeting, please let us know :)

Our January PTO meeting is on Thursday, January, 11th at 7:00 pm. As always, you can join anytime throughout the year. Come see what it's all about!

Here's to a great rest of the year ahead for our children, families and the staff of CVES.

IMPORTANT WEATHER REMINDERS

Did you know? 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; 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:**

- 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.

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 child-care in the event of any cancellation.

For more information on how HRCE makes decisions during inclement weather, visit:

www.hrce.ca/families/cancellations

