



“We Help Each Other Grow”

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December, 2018

December brings many things to our school community; cooler weather (eventually), a buzz of excitement related to celebrations, and a number of special events. Through it all we aim to maintain as much routine as possible and a focus on learning. We look forward to seeing you this month at the holiday concerts.

Wishing you all the best,

Stephen Driscoll
Principal



Guidelines for School/Bus Cancellation:

Student safety is the first priority of the Halifax Region Centre for Education (HRCE) when making school cancellation decisions. HRCE staff begins to gather information from various sources beginning at 4:30 am. Staff consults with Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) staff on road conditions, local weather services, and Stock Transportation. By 5:30 am, staff makes a recommendation to the Regional Director based on the information gathered. If it is safe to have students on the roads and sidewalks, then schools will be open. If not, all or some schools may be closed depending on the weather and road conditions in different areas of the board.

Parents/ guardians - winter is coming. Do you have a childcare plan in place in the event of a school closure? Do you know what Family of Schools your child's school belongs to? Parents/ guardians always have the right to keep their child home from school if they believe that the travelling conditions are unsuitable.

For full day closures of all or some schools, the decision will be announced as close to 6:00 am as possible. Announcements will be:

- Posted on the HRCE's website (www.HRCE.ca);
- Posted on the HRCE's Twitter account (HRCE_Official);
- Recorded on the HRCE's School Cancellation Information Line 464-INFO (4636);
- Shared with subscribers to the board's email and text notification system; and
- Communicated to local media outlets.

If conditions deteriorate throughout the day, the Regional Executive Director may close schools early when weather or road conditions are considered to be a threat to the safety of students. In the event of an early school closure, the announcement will be made by 11 am. School busses will be dispatched to schools two hours earlier than their normal regularly scheduled pick-up for the afternoon dismissal, walking students will be dismissed at 11:30.

On school days when weather conditions exist that it is not safe to open schools at the regularly scheduled time, but it is predicted that conditions will improve, a 2 hour delayed opening may be considered. Delayed openings

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would be considered when a severe weather event has concluded but snow clearing or other operations require additional time. Delayed opening may also be considered when the physical plant is experiencing an issue (power, water) and additional time is required to prepare the facility for opening.

In the event of a delayed opening the following will apply:

- School opening will be delayed 2 hours
- School bus pick up times will be delayed 2 hours
- Excel child care will be cancelled for the morning only
- Pre-Primary opening will be delayed 2 hours
- Each school will alter morning schedules to best address their timetables.
- Lunch times will not change
- Afternoon class schedules will not change
- Dismissal time will not change

Holiday Concerts – Our annual Holiday Concerts will be on Wednesday, December 12th, 6:00pm and Thursday, December 13th at 6:00pm. Please reserve those dates to come and enjoy the talents of young, energetic and talented students. The classes will be divided to perform on one night, but the choir will be performing on both nights.

There will be an afternoon performance each day at 1:00 pm for grandparents or family members/friends who won't be able to attend the evening performance due to our limitation of two tickets per family for the evening event.

Wednesday, December 12

Primary Piercey
Primary Potter
P/1 Josey
1 Trainor
2 Fraser
3/4 Dares
4/5 Johnson
4/5 Jardine
5 Eleftheros

Thursday, December 13

Pr/1 Boyle
P/1 Conrad
1/2 Geddes
2/3 Linney
2 Surette
3 McCarthy
3 Tynan
4/5 Kennedy

Concert Info Continued:

- Each student will be given two tickets. Admittance to the evening concert will be by ticket.
- Tickets will be given to the students on the day of each of the concerts.
- Childcare is available for children aged 3+ in room 104.
- All performing students are asked to be at the school at 5:30 pm the night of the concert.
- Doors will open at 5:30pm.
- Choir members are asked to please meet in the Music Room at 5:30pm. Choir members will join their class after the choir sings.
- We are collecting non-perishable food donations to be used as part of the Breakfast Program.
- Please do not park in the fire lane. The school needs to be accessible to emergency vehicles.
- After the concert, parents are asked to go to the classrooms to pick up their children. This procedure ensures the safety of our students on a very busy evening. Please note that all students will have already seen the concert.
- Grandparents, friends, and the community will have an opportunity to view the concert on each afternoon of the scheduled evening performance beginning at 1:00 pm.

Regional Executive Director's Monthly Report

Have you ever wondered what public school really looks like in 2018? Are you curious to learn about what teachers do on professional development days? Do you wish you could hear from students about what they need in order to find success in school?

The answers to these questions (and more!) can be found in the HRCE Regional Executive Director's Report for October: <http://bit.ly/REDreportOct>

This report brings life to the powerful work happening in our schools and classrooms. The goal is to demonstrate the positive impact on student achievement through stories and videos featuring student and teacher voice. Great work must be showcased and celebrated – and all HRCE families are invited to celebrate these successes!

The HRCE is always looking for story ideas that matter to families. What are you curious about? If you have a story idea, reach out to connect@hrce.ca.

Breakfast Club - Breakfast club has been up and running since September and the children are loving it. Our aim is to provide a nutritious (and delicious) breakfast to any student who stops by the Breakfast Club room. We receive annual funding from the Breakfast Club of Canada, however, we also depend on support from parents and the school community to ensure the sustainability of this important program. Below is a list of items that we are currently in need of to support the program. Any contribution you can provide is greatly appreciated. **We will have a bin out for donations on the evenings of both Christmas concerts, but you are free to drop off donations at anytime.** If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at sarahthorpe48@gmail.com

By working together, we will make a real and lasting difference in students' lives and ensure that every student receives their first bite to success!

Oatmeal

Apple Sauce

Cereal (Cheerios, Corn Flakes etc)*

Apple Juice

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Goldfish Crackers (or similar)
Granola Bars
Cereal Bars
Raisins

Thank you,
Sarah Thorpe
Breakfast Club coordinator

Home and School News - This is sure to be the busiest time of year and there is no exception at Cavalier Drive School. We have many events happening this month. Here is everything you need to know to get through to Christmas Break!

Green Christmas - On Tuesday, December 18th we will be holding a Green Christmas Sale for students. Students will be asked to bring a small amount of money if they wish to purchase gently used items for members of their family. All items will sell for 50 cents. All students will have the opportunity to shop for at least 4 gifts. Money raised will be used to support families in our community during the season.

Wednesday, **December 5th is PIE DAY!** Pie pickup will take place between 4-8pm during Parent-Teacher Conferences. Please come to the end of the hall to the right of the gym. We will give you ALL of the pies that were on your order sheet. It is then your responsibility to distribute your orders. Pies that are not picked up by 8pm will NOT be stored and will be donated as we do not have freezer space to store unclaimed pies.



Comfy Couch Tickets are due back to the school by Monday, December 10th, the winners will be drawn on Monday morning and the lucky people will receive a call.

Thursday, December 20th is our annual "**Stuff A Car**" event. Students are asked to start bringing in food donations between now and then to stuff in a car full of non-perishable food and personal care items. These will be donated to Beacon House in Sackville.



Thanks for all of your support so far this year, have a safe and happy Holiday Season!

Cavalier Drive Home and School Committee

Makerspace

Thank you to the volunteers who have helped transform our Makerspace. Thanks also to the many people who have dropped off supplies.

We are collecting:

- Fabric
- Buttons
- Cardboard tubes
- Plumbing parts – ABS (plastic pipe), elbows, caps etc.
- Ribbon

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Lunch Monitors Needed – We have added a couple new lunch monitors to our staff, but are still in need of additional lunch monitors to work from 11:15-12:30 either as a substitute monitor or as a full time monitor. This is a paid position through the Halifax Region Centre for Education and their employment requirements need to be fulfilled in order for our school to employ someone. For more information, please contact Lynn Doyle at ldoyle@hrce.ca or at 864-7524.

Winter Safety – With the first major snowfall of the season ahead of us, we ask parents to review snow safety procedures with their children. Please remind your children of the danger of slippery sidewalks and also that cars cannot see students with snow banks blocking their view.



Dates to Remember:

December 5-6 Book Fair – Library – during Parent-Teacher conferences
December 5 Parent-Teacher Conferences 5:30 – 7:30pm
December 6 AM – Professional Development for staff
PM – Parent-Teacher Conferences 1-3pm
December 12 Holiday Concert 6:00 – doors open at 5:30pm
December 13 Holiday Concert 6:00 – doors open at 5:30pm
December 14 Holiday Concert Storm Date – 6:00
December 18 Green Christmas
December 20 Stuff-A-Van – non-perishable food donations requested
December 22 First Day of Christmas Break
January 3 Schools Reopen
January 24 Chocolate Bar Bingo 6:00pm
February 1-28 Registration Month
February 7 French Immersion Information Session 6:00 – 7:30pm
February 12 Art Show 6:00 – 7:30pm
February 18 Heritage Day – Celebrating Maude Lewis (no classes)
March 8 Assessment & Evaluation Day (no classes)
March 18-22 March Break (no classes)
April 4 Student Reports go home
April 11 AM – Professional Development for staff
PM – Parent-Teacher 1:00 – 3:00pm, 5:30 – 7:30pm
April 19 Good Friday (no classes)
April 22 Easter Monday (no classes)
May 9 Primary Orientation session for parents 6:00pm
May 16 Family Dance 6:00 – 7:30pm
May 17 Professional Development day (no classes)
May 20 Victoria Day (no classes)



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May 23 Talent Show 12:30pm – families welcome
June 8 Spring Fair 11:00am – 2:00pm
June 13 Volunteer Assembly 12:45pm
June 26 Final Assembly 9:00am
June 27 Assessment and Evaluation Day (no classes)
June 28 Last day of school for 2018-19



Wishing you



Peace and

Joy

