

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS

NEWSLETTER

April 2025

April is Autism Acceptance Month

Recognizing and celebrating World Autism Awareness Day in our schools fosters inclusion, understanding, and support for those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). On April 2 and every day, we strive to raise autism awareness among peers and educators, celebrate accomplishments and promote acceptance for those with ASD. Join us in creating a positive community where all students can thrive and learn about each other's diverse experiences.

Upcoming Dates

April 17th – Spring Concert 6:30pm-8:00pm

April 18th – Good Friday (No School)

April 20th - Easter Sunday

April 21st – Easter Monday (No School)

April 22nd – Earth Day

April 24th – Holocaust Remembrance Day

April 30th - PD Day (NO School)

May 12th – 27th – Literacy and Math
Provincial Tests Grade 3

Spring Concert

2025 SPRING CONCERT

In case you missed it in our previous newsletter, our Grade 2 (including 1/2 Spooner) to 5 spring concert, "Ocean Meets Sky," will be on Thursday, April 17th at the Bella Rose Auditorium located at Halifax West High School (283 Thomas Raddall Drive, Halifax, Nova Scotia). Students should arrive at 6:00PM, for a 6:30PM start.

2 tickets per family will be sent home the week prior to the concert and are REQUIRED for entry (you must bring them with you!). Seats will not be assigned and will be occupied on a first-come, first-served basis.



This summer, Fairview Heights Elementary's main building will receive a new modular classroom unit. This upgrade will replace some of the school's portable classrooms and will support continued enrolment growth. The new modular unit is expected to be ready for students this September.

What is a modular?

You are likely familiar with the modular unit at the school's annex. If not, a modular is a standalone building beside the school that contains classrooms connected by hallways and includes washrooms. Your new modular will contain six new classrooms. Each classroom will be equipped with heating, ventilation and technology.

Modular classrooms allow us to respond to enrolment growth quickly, and provide safe, comfortable learning spaces for students and staff. [Click here](#) for a short video that shows what they look like.

What does this mean?

- To make space to prepare for the modular unit, one portable classroom will be temporarily relocated on school property this coming weekend. We expect that it will be ready for use on Monday, April 7.
- Classes will continue to use the portables until the end of the school year.
- Your school Principal will work with staff to determine which classes will occupy the new modular space in September.

Construction impacts

Every effort will be made to schedule noisy or disruptive work outside of school hours and during the summer months. In the coming weeks, crews are expected to begin preparation of the school grounds for the incoming modular. Here's what you can expect:

- Safety fencing will be placed around the work area. Regular pedestrian routes may be impacted.
- The back playgrounds, outdoor learning area and entrance to the basketball court will be temporarily closed. The school will be given field access for additional play space.
- The area of Coronation Avenue next to the school will be closed off to accommodate work vehicles.
- Nearby street parking may be limited once construction begins.

We will keep you updated as work progresses. If you have any questions, please email hrceoperations@hrce.ca.

Sincerely,
Steve Gallagher
Regional Executive Director
Halifax Regional Centre for Education

Measle Prevention

We are sharing the following on behalf of Nova Scotia Public Health:

Measles cases are rising in Canada. Measles is a virus that spreads easily and can cause serious complications. The best way to prevent measles is vaccination.

Nova Scotia offers free vaccines to eligible people. These can be given by primary care providers, pharmacists and Public Health.

Parents are encouraged to check their family's vaccine records and get the measles vaccine if missing doses. Check your vaccine records at vaxrecordns.nshealth.ca.

Who should get vaccinated?

- Anyone born in or after 1970 should get two doses of vaccine, typically given at 12 and 18 months. If missed, children and adults can catch up for free.
- Adults born before 1970 are generally considered immune but can get a single dose if travelling.
- Infants 6-12 months old can get a single dose if travelling but still require two doses after their first birthday to complete the series.

Find out more about measles vaccination: www.nshealth.ca/measles.

Math Support

I would like to introduce our Math Support Teacher, Jill Snow, who works in our grade 2 and 3 classes. Ms. Snow is a part of daily math lessons, and also supports students in small groups, both within the classroom and in pull-out sessions. We are fortunate to have Ms. Snow as a part of our team, contributing to the success of our students in mathematics!

Lunch Program in Action

Last month was Nutrition Month, and what better way to celebrate healthy eating than to shine a spotlight on the Nova Scotia School Lunch Program!

[Click here](#) to see how students at one HRCE school are using the program to dish out some serious leadership skills. It's a feast of learning and fun!

To register and order, please go to <https://nslunch.ca/>

Supporting Literacy at Home

Did you know? Teachers use the [Six Pillars of Effective Reading Instruction \(Français\)](#) to support students' learning.

Reading is best learned when children get clear and structured support in key skills: listening, recognizing sounds in words, learning letter sounds, building vocabulary, reading smoothly and understanding what they read. These skills work together and when you strengthen one, it helps improve the others.

Good reading instruction includes learning how letters and words work and practicing reading in books. The goal is for children to understand what they read, enjoy reading and learn new things from books.

The links below may help you support your children with reading at home:

- [Ideas for parents to help children to practice their reading and writing skills](#)
- [10 Ideas to Raise A Reader](#)