



Fairview Heights Elementary / March 2026 Newsletter

Our Vision Statement:

Fairview Heights is a welcoming and safe school where learning happens because everyone belongs, and our many cultures and languages are celebrated.

Traffic Congestion

I am very sorry to have to continue to write about the difficulties we are having with traffic in this area. We have made extensive efforts to address the ongoing traffic concerns at both the sites here at Fairview Heights, yet some drivers continue to put children's lives at risk.

We regularly contact Traffic Compliance (311) and have done so consistently. Staff members stand outside during morning arrival, and afternoon dismissal whenever possible, to help monitor the area. We have placed pylons at the entrance in the past; however, they were unfortunately removed by unknown individuals.

We have also worked closely with our police liaison officer, who has parked at the entrance and directed parents, and police have been asked to patrol the area. We have been advised that patrol vehicles drive by once or twice per week. In addition, reminders have been included in every Newsletter about traffic safety and designated parking expectations.

Despite these continued efforts, some drivers are not adhering to the guidelines or our repeated requests. Consider this yet another reminder to families reinforcing the importance of following designated parking procedures and ensuring the safety of all students, especially during high-traffic times.

"Traffic is very congested in the mornings and at end of day pick up at both of our sites. For the safety and security of all in our school, if possible, we are asking parents to park on the blocks surrounding the school and walk over to drop off or pick up your child. Drop off (approximately 7:55am – 8:05am) and pick up (approximately 2:10pm – 2:20pm). Please be mindful of buses during these times.

Vendor Fair!!

Join us on March 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Main school gym for a Card Show and Vendor Fair featuring great finds and local sellers. Admission is \$3.00 or enjoy free entry with the purchase of a \$5.00 raffle ticket at the door. All

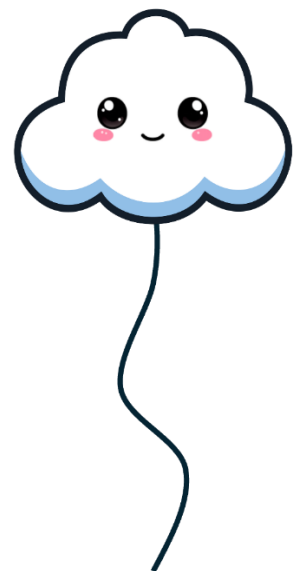
proceeds will support Mr. Westhaver's Grade 5 class field trip fund—help us make this year's trip as memorable as possible.



Spring Concert

Our Spring Concert, "Lizzy and the Cloud," for students in the Grade 2 through Grade 5, will take place on Tuesday, March 31st at the Bella Rose Auditorium located at Halifax West High School (283 Thomas Raddall Drive, Halifax, Nova Scotia).

More information will be shared closer to the date.



Upcoming Dates:

Mar. 7th – Vendor Fair
Mar. 8th – International Women's day
Mar. 13th – Assessment and Evaluation Day (No School)
Mar. 16th – Mar. 20th – March Break (No school)
Mar. 17th – St. Patrick's Day
Mar. 20th – Eid al Fitr
Mar. 21st – World Down Syndrome Day
Mar. 21st - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
Mar. 31st – Spring Concert Grades 2-5
Mar. 31st - International Transgender Day of Visibility
Apr. 1st – Report Cards sent home
Apr. 2nd – Professional Practice AM / Progress Conferences 1:00pm–3:00 PM
Apr. 2nd - Parent Teacher Evening, 5:00-7:00pm
Apr. 3rd. – Good Friday (No School)
Apr. 6th – Easter Monday (No School)
Apr. 8th – SAC @ 5:30pm
Apr. 29th – PD Day (No Students)

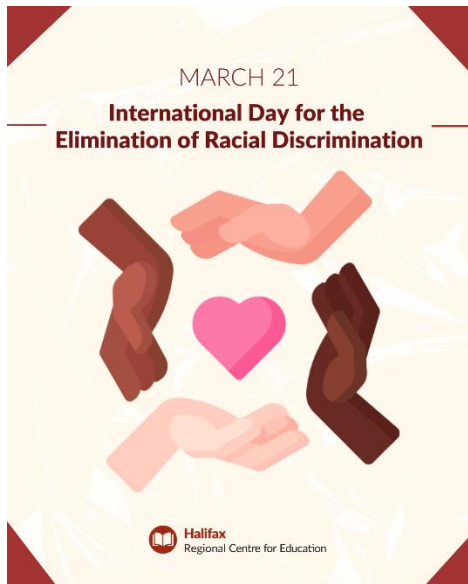
Items to Leave at Home

Items brought in from home can be a source of distraction in school. We request these items REMAIN home as they can lead to distraction or loss of items in school. These items include, but are not limited to:

- Pokemon Cards
- Handheld game devices
- Fidget/spinner toys
- Stuffedies
- Other special items from home

The above noted items should NOT be brought to school (unless there has been an arrangement made with the teacher). Please know there may be special occasions at school where children are able to bring in stuffedies, etc. from home, but these will be communicated by the teacher. The school does not assume responsibility for any items brought from home that go lost, missing/stolen, or broken. The list noted above is not exhaustive. There may be other special items/collectable items that children want to bring to school, however these distract from learning and have caused problems between children.

March 21 is International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination



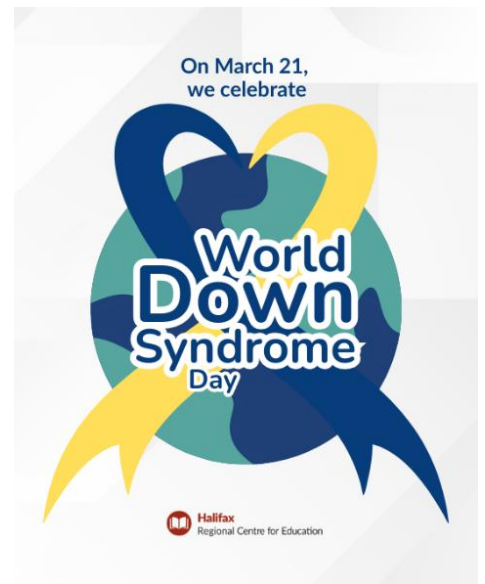
Today we recognize International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to build awareness, empathy, and respect among students of all backgrounds. The United Nations established this day in 1966 to call for a global commitment to ending racial discrimination in all its forms.

By learning about the impacts of discrimination and celebrating diversity, children gain social skills and knowledge to be inclusive both within school and home community. Families are our students' first educators and through your continuous conversation valuing equity and the elimination of racism, we will continue our shared goal of a society where racism no longer exists.

March 21 is World Down Syndrome Day

World Down Syndrome Day, celebrated each year on March 21, gives us the chance to recognize those with Down syndrome and the awesome contributions they make to our school communities. It's an opportunity for families, students, and staff to strengthen inclusion, acceptance, and belonging. By celebrating differences and promoting understanding, our schools help create welcoming environments where every child feels valued and supported.

On this day, many schools encourage students and staff to wear mismatched socks as a colourful symbol of diversity and solidarity. Activities such as assemblies, classroom discussions, and creative projects highlight the abilities of individuals with Down syndrome, fostering empathy and friendship throughout the school. These efforts ensure that everyone has a voice and a place in our communities, reinforcing the importance of respect and kindness.



March is Nutrition Month: Make the Most of the Nova Scotia School Lunch Program



March is celebrated across Canada as Nutrition Month, a perfect opportunity for families to focus on building healthy eating habits together. Nutrition Month allows us to explore sustainable eating patterns, food literacy, and learning about the benefits of balance and variety in everyday meals. By highlighting the connection between nutrition and long-term health, Nutrition Month empowers everyone to build habits that benefit both individuals and the planet.

Use Nutrition Month as a reminder to take advantage of the Nova Scotia School Lunch Program! With nutritious, balanced meals prepared daily, the program ensures students

have the energy and focus they need to succeed in the classroom and beyond. The School Lunch Program is designed to provide accessible, affordable, and appealing meals that feature a variety of foods from all food groups, following Canada's Food Guide. By participating, families can help their children develop lifelong healthy habits while making mornings a little less hectic.

Together, we can make small changes that lead to healthier futures for our families and communities.

Responding to Technology-Facilitated Harms Among Young People

Unplugged Canada is hosting a free community event at the Canada Games Centre on Thursday March 5 at 7 p.m., available both in person and virtually. Join to learn from Dr. Alexa Dodge, Assistant Professor of Criminology at Saint Mary's University and a leading Canadian researcher on technology-facilitated sexual violence.

This session will explore cyberbullying, the sharing of intimate images, and other online harms youth face, along with research on the support and responses young people need when problems arise online. This presentation will be valuable for any caregiver or adult supporting young people as they navigate the challenges of their digital social lives.

Thursday, March 5, 2026, at 7 p.m.

Canada Games Centre Boardroom - 26 Thomas Raddall Drive, Halifax

Please register for in-person or virtual [here](#).

Safer Internet Day 2026: Navigating the Internet Safely

As our kids and teens spend more time exploring, creating, and learning online, it's natural to wonder how we can best support them — especially with emerging technologies like artificial intelligence becoming part of their digital world. On Safer Internet Day 2026, Google shared helpful updates and tools designed to make it easier for families to guide, protect, and empower young people as they navigate the Internet safely. Learn more [here](#).

Behaviour Expectations for Lunch Program

All students are eligible to remain at school over the lunch hour. They need to bring or order their lunch each day. Please do not send items that need to be microwaved, we are unable to accommodate this. Our lunch program is run by lunch “monitors,” who are responsible for keeping your children safe over the lunch hour. Please remind your children to be respectful of the lunch monitors. Children need to build independence as well. Please ensure containers are not too difficult to open. We will encourage children to pick up their garbage and place it in appropriate recyclable containers or garbage. If behaviors become too challenging over the lunch hour, school administration will call you to discuss.

Peanut and Nut Awareness

Due to food allergies and sensitivities at school, please do not send food to school that contains peanuts and/or tree nuts, including Nutella, which is made with hazel nuts. Students who bring sandwiches with WOW butter or other types of non-nut spread, please indicate, with a note in your child's lunch bag, what the spread is and that it does not contain nuts. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Planning for Inclement Weather

Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school buses 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 the HRCE website](#)
- [On Instagram](#)

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation. Please remember: As a parent or guardian you always have the choice of whether or not to send your child to school.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

Student Insurance Program (SIP)

SIP has provided information on the [Student Accident Insurance Program](#).

Homework Hub (Mathematics) Update

Tutoring is available during the following times:

- o **Grades 4-6:** Monday-Wednesday 5:30-7:30 pm

[NS Homework Hub 4-6](#)

Open your home to an international student!



Have you considered opening your home to an international student?

BECOME A HOST FAMILY
OPEN YOUR HOME AND HEART TO AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

\$875 /month PER STUDENT (Tax Free)

\$975 /month If you can accommodate a vegetarian or lactose free diet

\$1075 /month If you can accommodate a vegan or celiac diet

* Effective in September 2025

RECEIVE \$100 FOR EVERY SUCCESSFUL REFERRAL OF NEW HOST FAMILY
Share the name and contact details of an interested host. Once they are approved and actively hosting, you'll receive \$100.

Halifax Regional Centre for Education
Learn More: nsisp.ca/host
Email hostastudent@hrce.ca or call 902-464-2000 ext. 2548

HRCE's International Services welcomes students from all over the world who would like to attend schools in our region. Hosting a student in your home can be an enriching and rewarding experience. We're looking for warm and caring families like yours to provide them with a home away from

home.

Hosting an international student is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that gives your family the opportunity to bring the world home. For students, it's a way to learn about the Canadian way of life.

As a host, your family would be matched with a student who will attend your neighbourhood school and participate in your daily routines.

What you can expect:

- Host families receive a tax-free monthly stipend to help cover hosting expenses (\$825 current, \$875 effective September)
- Students stay for periods of three to 10 months
- Ongoing support is provided by an experienced Homestay Coordinator
- You will learn about and communicate with your student before their arrival
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Learn more [here](#) or contact:

HRCE International Services

(902) 464-2000 ext. 2548

hostastudent@hrce.ca

Please share this message with anyone who may be interested.

Thank you! Gracias. Merci. Xie-Xie. Danke. Arigato. Grazie. Obrigado. Kamsa-Hamnida. Kawp-Kun-Ka. Shukran. Teşekkür Ederim.

HRCE International Services