



# Fairview Heights Elementary School

Principal: Amy Hunt Vice Principal: Michael Corbett

Administrative Assistants: Sherry Mitchell (Main Building) & Marwa Dewidar (Annex)

YMCA School Settlement: Zobeida Al-Zobeidy

# **Upcoming Dates:**

Jan 2nd: First Day of

School in 2024

**Jan 17th:** Parent Teacher Association (5:30) - Main Building Staff Room

January 18th: Special Guest Speaker for Parents & Caregivers (Fairview Junior High, 6:00pm)

January 23rd: School Advisory Council (5:30) -Main Building Staff Room

**February:** Registration Month for Pre-Primary & Primary in 24/25!

# **Contacts:**

**Phone:** 902-457-8953

Website: <a href="https://fvh.hrce.ca/">https://fvh.hrce.ca/</a>

Email: fhes@hrce.ca

Follow us on  $\mathbf{X}$  (Twitter)

@FhesHeights

**Facebook**: Fairview Heights Elementary School Families

# **Message to Fairview Heights Families:**

Welcome to 2024! We hope you enjoyed a safe and restful holiday with loved ones. We are excited to support your child's learning and growth over the next six months!

We are hoping to have many family and community members participate in special events at school that support the academic achievement and well-being of our students. Please note the following important dates for the months ahead! More details are enclosed.

- ✓ Guest Speaker for Parents & Caregivers: January 18th
- ✓ Family Literacy Day: January 27th
- ✓ World Read-Aloud Day: February 7th
- ✓ **School Concert, Bella Rose Theatre**: March 5th (grades 3-5)
- ✓ March Break (No Classes): March 11-15th
- ✓ Assessment & Evaluation Day (No Classes): March 18th
- ✓ Parent-Teacher Meetings (No Classes): April 4th
- ✓ **Spring Fair:** June 8th

# **Health & Safety Information:**

There are a lot of illnesses in our school community at this time. Please keep your child(ren) home if showing any signs of illness, to help stop the spread and to help them



recover well. Take preventative measures including adequate sleep and rest, eating nutritious and vitamin-rich foods, and dressing appropriately for cold weather (hats, mitts/gloves, zipped up coats, scarves, snowpants, warm socks and boots). Finally, teach and encourage your child to wash hands effectively and frequently with warm water and soap as long as it takes to sing the alphabet!



This month's SchoolsPlus Family Drop-In will take place at Fairview Junior High (155 Rosedale Avenue). Any child or youth in attendance will need to stay in the library with SchoolsPlus staff while adults are invited to a special talk by Dr. Daniel Chorney:





# CONCERT UPDATE AND INFORMATION

Due to the continuous growth at Fairview Heights, Ms. Cleveland has had to make some changes to our concert plans! Grade 3 (including 2/3 Smith) through to Grade 5 will take part in a school concert on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at the Bella Rose Auditorium (Halifax West High School). More information will come closer to the date.

# But what about the Primaries, Ones and Twos!?

Not to worry! Ms. C. and Mr. Henwood will be holding informances!

### What is an Informance?

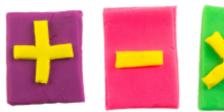
An informance is an opportunity to come into the school to take part in a music class with your kiddo(s)! This gives you a chance to see the types of activities we do together and structure of our classes. Your children will love to play, explore, and improvise with you!

PERFORMANCE	INFORMANCE
Showcases a polished final product	Showcases the process
Designed to entertain an audience	Designed to educate an audience
Students are discouraged from making musical mistakes	<ul> <li>Students are encouraged to show how we recover from musical mistakes</li> </ul>
The production is separated from the "behind-the-scenes" work  The production is separated from	The production IS the "behind- the-scenes" work

Informances will be happening in the spring.

More information will be shared closer to that time.







# What does it mean to be fluent with math facts?

Information for families and caregivers



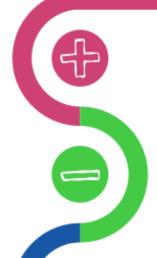
# DID YOU KNOW? Children are fluent when they demonstrate:

#### Accuracy

- Correctly solving a problem Flexibility
- The ability to think about a problem in more than one way and to adapt or adjust thinking as necessary

#### Efficiency

 Solving a problem in a reasonable amount of time



# MYTH: Math today is so different

FACT: While the math itself hasn't changed, the focus of math instruction has shifted to ensure students are actively engaged in developing an understanding of the skills and concepts. Representing concepts using models to develop strategies and exercising critical thinking is a much more effective way to build understanding.

# MYTH: Memorization is the best way to master basic facts.

FACT: Children may have memorized basic facts, however, they may not have a strategy to solve the particular fact. Memorized facts can be forgotten, but when a strategy is understood, children hang on to it forever.

# MYTH: Children who have memorized the facts won't be challenged.

FACT: The goal is not to memorize facts, but to develop a range of strategies to apply to more complex concepts such as multi-digit computations, decimals and fractions. Developing strategies and an understanding of when to use these appropriately, asks children to think at higher levels.

## MYTH: Timed tests help children master facts.

FACT: Timed tests do not assess fluency, only accuracy and efficiency. As well, research tells us that timed tests can lead to the development of anxiety around mathematics.

# Questions to support fact fluency conversations with children

- · How did you solve it?
- · How do you know it is correct?
- · Is there another way you could solve it?
- · If someone didn't know the answer to \_\_\_\_, how would you help them to figure it out?
- What strategy can you use to find that fact?
- How is \_\_\_\_ like \_\_\_\_? How are they different? (example: How is 2 x 7 like 4 x 7?)



Halifax Regional Centre for Education









# New year. New website!

Find all of the information you need about HRCE in our new, easy-to-navigate website experience!

HRCE.CA









# Guidelines for school and/or bus cancellations due to inclement weather

Nova Scotia winter weather can change quickly and can be challenging to predict. This document outlines the steps we take when deciding whether to cancel school and/or bussing.



All schools are closed for the day



Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day



All schools are open, but some or all busses are not operating for the day



All schools are delayed in opening by 2 hours

If weather deteriorates, or is forecast to worsen throughout the morning



#### An 11:00 am announcement could be:

Bussed students will be picked up 2 hours earlier than their regular dismissal time



Walking students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour



Parents/guardians always have the right to keep their child home from school if they believe that the travelling conditions are unsuitable.

How does Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) decide on school and/or bus cancellations?

By 4:30 am, HRCE staff begin to gather information from:

- A contracted weather service that provides radar and satellite imagery, realtime road conditions and weather warnings;
- A meteorologist who provides forecast details, level and type of precipitation and impact on road conditions:
- HRCE's three transportation service providers, who provide updates on road conditions in their area;
- Municipal and provincial transportation staff; and
  - Other local weather services, including Environment Canada and the Weather Network.

By 5:30 am, HRCE staff make recommendations to the Regional Executive Director (or designate), who then makes the final decision.

This decision is communicated by 6:00 am.



#### Halifax

Regional Centre for Education

Where can cancellation information be found?

Website: www.hrce.ca Twitter: @HRCE\_NS

Subscribe to email/text notifications at www.hrce.ca

Phone: 902-464-INFO (4636) Local media outlets