

# NOVEMBER 2023

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
Week 1			1	2	3	4/5
Week 2	6	7	8	9	10	11/12 Remembrance Day
Week 1	13 Remembrance Day Observed (no classes)	14	15	16	17 Assessment & Evaluation Day (no classes)	18/19
Week 2	20	21 Report Cards emailed home	22 Evening - Teacher/Parent Conferences	23 AM-Prof Dev PM - Teacher/Parent Conferences (no classes)	24	25/26
Week 1	27	28	29	30		

**November:**

- 13<sup>th</sup> - Remembrance Day observed (no classes)
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Assessment & Evaluation Day (no classes)
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Report Cards emailed home
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Parent Teacher Conferences (evening)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - AM Professional Learning / PM Parent Teacher Conferences (no classes)

**December:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> - Professional Learning Day (no classes)
- 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> - School Spirit Week
- 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Concerts (6 pm - 7 pm)
- 21<sup>st</sup> - First Day of Holiday Break (PP-12)

**January:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Classes resume

# DECEMBER 2023

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
Week 1					1	2/3
Week 2	4 Professional Learning Day (no classes)	5	6	7	8	9/10
Week 1	11	12	13	14	15	16/17
<b>SPIRIT WEEK 2023</b>						
Week 2	18 Holiday Concert	19 Holiday Concert	20	21 Holiday Break Begins	22	23/24
Week 1	25	26	27	28	29	30/31

January:  
 2<sup>nd</sup> – Classes resume

February:  
 February is Registration Month!!  
 19<sup>th</sup> – Heritage Day (no classes)

## **Messages For Students**

If there is a change in your child's regular pick-up routine, please e-mail or send along a note with your child to their teacher.

## **Office Phone Use**

Students are permitted to use the telephone only in emergency situations with the permission of school staff. Students *will not* be permitted to use the office phone to arrange for visiting friends after school; such plans should be made prior to the start of the school day.

## **Colder Weather**

As the weather is starting to get colder, please ensure you send your child to school with the proper outdoor gear as they spend a lot of time outside during fair weather days. Also, include an extra pair of socks, pants, mitts, etc., 'just in case'.

## **Health & Wellness**

As we approach the usual cold/allergy season we expect to have some kids in school with runny noses and coughs due to asthma or wood stoves. Mild, lingering symptoms do not prevent individuals from returning to school. You, as parents, know your child best. We do ask that you keep a watchful eye for new or worsening symptoms and call 811 if you have concerns about your child.

## **Registration & Media Release Forms**

A reminder to parents who have not yet updated their child/ren on-line should do so at their earliest convenience. We need them completed fully to keep our records up to date for emergencies or early closures.

### ***How do I get started?***

Visit the PowerSchool Parent Portal at <https://sishrs.ednet.ns.ca/public/>.

*From inside the Parent Portal:*

- 1. Select the student you wish to register along the top*
- 2. Select the "HRCE Demographic Updates" icon from the Navigation menu on the left side*
- 3. Enter the Date of Birth*
- 4. Complete the form.*

### ***I can't remember my login for the PowerSchool Parent Portal.***

*If you aren't able to retrieve your login credentials using the "Having trouble signing in?" link on the Sign In page, please contact your school directly for assistance logging in to the Parent Portal.*

### ***Do I have to answer all the questions?***

*No, but some questions are marked "Required" and must be answered before you can submit your form.*

### ***What if I make a mistake?***

*If you would like to make a change prior to submitting the form, you can either navigate back to the page using the "Previous" and "Next" buttons or if you are on the Review page select the underlined field. If you have already submitted the form, you will need to contact your student's school so they can make the changes for you.*

### ***I've completed the form, now what?***

*Once you have finished entering your information select "Submit." This will send all of the information you've entered to the school. If you cannot select this button you will need to make sure that you have answered all required questions.*

### ***What if I have more than one student in the district? Do I need to do this for each child?***

*Yes you will need to provide information that is specific to each child. We recommend that you complete and submit one form and then start another. This will allow you to "snap" (or share) selected family information, which saves you time.*

## Parent Portal

As families are aware, changes were made to the Parent Portal. For parents/guardians who have not already done so, you are encouraged to sign up for the new, updated system. All that is required is your email address as this will be your new username. Please ensure that we have the correct email on file for your child to streamline everything as easily as possible. If you have an issue signing on, please contact the school office and Mrs. Dalrymple will be happy to help you. The link to set up your is <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/>.

The Parent Portal will be used for you to mark in absences, check your child's class schedule, etc. New this year you will be able to update the registration information that has been sent home in previous years on paper, by signing on to your Portal. On the left-hand side of the page, you will find your Attendance and beginning Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, you will be able to fill out the Registration Form where you will be able to update information such as your contact list/details, phone numbers, etc. There is also the Media Release Form that needs to be completed every year.

## Subscribe To HRCE Notifications

If you would like to be notified by email or SMS of any school closings or other important announcements, please fill out your contact information at <https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/subscribe-notifications>.

## 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 buses 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:**

- Bused 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](http://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/](https://www.instagram.com/hrce_ns/)
- It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation.
- For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit [hrce.ca/weather](http://hrce.ca/weather).



Visit [hrce.ca/weather](http://hrce.ca/weather) for everything you need to know about how weather could impact the operation of our school.

## School Payments

Paying school-related fees is easy!

We are excited to let you know that HRCE has launched a new system that will allow you to make payments electronically, with the click of a button. From tickets for Halloween Howl, to bracelets for the Spring Fling, you will be able to make all payments safely, securely, and quickly through SchoolCash Online.

It's free and takes less than two minutes to register. You will receive an email once items are posted for purchase.

Visit <https://hrce.schoolcashionline.com/> and click Register to get started.

Need support? Connect with the SchoolCash Online help desk at <https://helpdesk.supportschoolcashionline.com/en/support/home>

## Bicycles, Scooters, Skateboards, Cell Phones, Etc.

Students are permitted to drive their bikes to school, but not on schoolgrounds as there are many young families who may get injured. Please remember, provincial legislation requires that everyone must wear a bike helmet. Parents, please review bike safety rules with your children. Students should bring a bike lock to secure their bike upon arrival.

It is best that Cell phones, I-Pods and other electronics are not brought to school. The school assumes no responsibility should these items get misplaced or broken.

## Change Of Clothing

Please ensure your children always have an extra change of clothing in their school backpacks. You never know when it will come in handy, and we would like to keep phone calls down to a minimum.

## Staff Parking/Student Drop-Off

*Arriving to School:*

- All walkers and students may arrive between 8:15 and 8:25. Students will immediately enter the building upon arrival and go directly to their classroom.
- After school, students are dismissed from specific doors. If you are unsure of which door to pick your child up, please contact the teacher. If your child is going somewhere different other than their regular afterschool program, please make sure their teacher and the afterschool program are both aware of any change.

*School Parking:*

The safety of our students is our top priority! Please **do not** drive into the staff parking lot on the Lakeshire side and **do not** drive down the driveway on the Astral side. Park as far away as necessary to always keep your child, and other children safe. The gate at the bottom of the Astral driveway is locked by 7:30am and opened at 4pm, this is to ensure that students have a safe place to play and walk during the day.

- Do not use private driveways when dropping off or picking up your child, as this creates a hazard for our students.

## Daily Reminders!

- a full water bottle as we do not provide cups for student use
- a lunch and cutlery (the school is unable to provide these items)
- a change of clothes (especially our younger learners)

## **Safe Arrival**

### **Safe Arrival by SchoolMessenger**

#### *A New Way for Families to Report Student Absences*

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring all students arrive at school safely each day.

Parents/guardians of students who attend our school now have the option to report their child's absence in advance using a toll-free number, the PowerSchool Parent Portal, or an app!

SchoolMessenger SafeArrival – an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for families to inform their child's school if they will be away – powers all three of these options.

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).

For more information about reporting your child's absence and a list of frequently asked questions, visit:

<https://www.hrce.ca/safearrival>.

