

# École Élémentaire Astral Drive Elementary

236 Astral Drive  
Dartmouth, NS B2V 1B8  
902-462-8500  
<https://ade.hrce.ca/>

## December 2018



### DATES TO REMEMBER

- Dec 5 Parent-Teacher Interviews –  
6-8 pm**
- Dec 6 PD-am/Parent-Teacher Interviews  
1-3 pm**
- Dec 7 We Bake for the Holidays  
fundraiser (for We Act)**
- Dec 12 Staff Appreciation Day (2/3  
Animashaun & 3/4 Joubert)**
- Dec 12 Christmas Concert - 6 pm**
- Dec 13 Popcorn Day**
- Dec 13 Christmas Concert - 6 pm**
- Dec 14 Holiday Bonus Lottery Draw**
- Dec 21 Last day before the Holidays**
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- Jan 3 First day back in New Year**
- Jan 14 PTO Meeting - 6:30**

### FROM THE OFFICE

A reminder that the Safe Arrival number is 902-462-8500, ext. 1. Email is [ADESafeArrival@hrce.ca](mailto:ADESafeArrival@hrce.ca). The morning bell rings at 8:20 a.m. Classes begin at 8:30.

PLEASE remember to contact the school to let us know if your child will not be in that day no matter the reason.

A reminder that parents/guardians/caregivers or babysitters should not be entering the school in the morning no matter the weather. All students know where to line up and if the line has already entered the school students are capable of coming in on their own. If there is a specific reason why someone needs to accompany their child please speak to someone at the office.

We ask that all hand sanitizers, baby wipes, etc., that are brought into the school be fragrance free as there are people who have severe allergies to scented products.

The weather has been cold, so be sure that your child has appropriate clothing! We go outside for recess and lunch even in the very cold. Brrrrrrr!

The website to book parent-teacher interview times is now open. The website is [schoolinterviews.ca](http://schoolinterviews.ca) and the event code is **m69ww**. If you are unable to access the internet please call the main office for help.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

The Halifax Regional Centre for Education takes great care when making the decision to cancel schools and/or busses in the event of severe or inclement weather. Decisions on school closures and/or bus cancellations are posted on the board's website at [www.hrce.ca](http://www.hrce.ca), on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/HRCE\\_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS), recorded at 902-464-INFO (4636) and communicated to all local radio stations. Families can also receive notice of school and bus cancellations by e-mail or text message by following the link on the front page (left side) of the HRCE website. The weather in Nova Scotia is unpredictable so it's always a good idea for families to have a back-up plan for child care when school is cancelled. To learn more about the process on how decisions regarding closures and cancellations are made, visit: <https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/inclement-weather>

**All above announcements should be made between 6:00 - 6:30 a.m. on most radio stations or at HRCE.ca.**

### BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The Breakfast program has been going very well thanks to the efforts of our volunteers, students, parents/guardians. The 100+ students per day love and appreciate the program!

There are still a few spots available for volunteers to help out. Please contact Jennifer via email [Jennifer.mckay@live.com](mailto:Jennifer.mckay@live.com) if you are interested. Other ways to contribute to the program is by dropping off healthy and nut free cereals or crackers. We will have a donation cart out for upcoming parent/teacher days December 5th and 6th.

Thank you to all for making this program a success!

## COLD and WET WEATHER

- Whenever possible, we allow students to go outside for fresh air and exercise.
- Parents must ensure that students are dressed properly for the weather conditions, regardless of whether they travel by bus, automobile, or walk.
- With all the wet, damp weather we have been getting, we have had a lot of puddles and mud outside on the playground.
- Waterproof boots are highly recommended.
- **Children will get wet! Please ensure that your child(ren) brings an extra change of clothes with them to cut down on the number of calls home for dry, clean clothing.**

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT SCHEDULE

We will be holding our Christmas Concerts at Prince Andrew High again this year at **6pm**. They have a wonderful facility that holds approximately 1000 people. We will have 2 concerts; one on Wednesday, December 12th and one Thursday, December 13th.

The classes will be divided as follows:

DECEMBER 12	DECEMBER 13
Primary Ferreira	Primary O'Neil
1 Irwin	P/1 Beaton
2/3 Animashaun	1 Redman
2/3 SmithDelahunt	1/2 Bourgeois
3 Fumerton	1/2 Smith
3/4 Joubert	2 Marr
4/5 Chisholm	3 Noseworthy
4/5 Aucoin	4 Casey
5 Peters	6 Laraque
5/6 Baxter	6 MacAulay
6 Hunter	

## WE ACT

Thank you for all of your donations during our first food drive of the year, WE Scare for Hunger. We donated the nonperishable food items to Feed Nova Scotia to help families in need.



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WE Act will be hosting “WE Bake for the Holidays” on Friday, December 7th to raise money for families in need over the holidays. Items will be \$1, with a 1 item limit to begin. There will be gluten-free options available, and we have asked all donations be nut free. Thank you for your continued participation!

## EAL CORNER

### ***Maintaining Home Languages***

Welcome to the new section of the school’s newsletter! This section will focus on English as an Additional Language (EAL) and will offer information, tips, resources, and suggestions for raising bilingual and multilingual children.

This month will focus on the *importance of maintaining home languages*.

Importance of Maintaining Home Languages:

- Pride in identity
- Deeper understanding culture and heritage
- Communication with grandparents, family, and friends
- Knowledge in home language supports learning in English
- Stronger skills in reading and writing
- Supports problem-solving skills
- More willing and able to learn additional languages becoming multilingual

How to maintain home language:

- Sing songs, poetry in home language
- Cook together - read recipes
- Share stories and folk tales
- Read stories - check out the public library - they have a growing number of books in various languages or check out [www.uniteforliteracy.com](http://www.uniteforliteracy.com) website - has short stories in English and a number of different languages.
- Make lists together - grocery list, list of favourite places, movies, colours etc.

Remember! Learning 2 languages will not confuse your child. Mixing words from 2 languages is common for children becoming bilingual. It is not a sign of confusion but a sign of mastering 2 linguistic systems.

For more information please visit [https://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/mylangu age/images/HoldOn\\_Brochure\\_Web.pdf](https://www.ryerson.ca/content/dam/mylangu age/images/HoldOn_Brochure_Web.pdf)

Or contact Ms. LeeAnn Brownell at [lbrownell@hrce.ca](mailto:lbrownell@hrce.ca) (EAL Teacher, HRCE)

### School Bus Survey Launched

The provincial government has launched an online survey to hear from parents and guardians about their experiences with their regional school bus systems. The survey is available at [www.ednet.ns.ca/bussurvey](http://www.ednet.ns.ca/bussurvey) and the deadline to complete it is **December 5**. All comments and survey results will be compiled in a summary that will be shared with the public and used to determine a new policy on public school transportation for the province. Please consider taking a few minutes to fill it out.

### 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](mailto:connect@hrce.ca).

### PTO NEWS

#### Important Dates:

**Dec 12 – Staff Appreciation Day**

**Dec 13 – Popcorn Day**

**Dec 14 – Holiday Bonus Lottery Draw**

**January 14 – PTO Meeting**

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The PTO would like to wish all the friends and family of ADES a safe and happy holiday season, and thank you for your continued support. We look forward to an exciting 2019!



The **Holiday Bonus Lottery** is back! Cash prizes of **\$200, \$300, and \$500** will be awarded just in time for the holidays. Raffle tickets for the lottery will be sold the upcoming **Parent Teacher Interviews** as well at both **Christmas Concerts**. Tickets are **1 for \$5 & 5 for \$20** and all funds raised will support the PTO in enhancing student learning at ADES within the Gym & Library. The draw will take place on **December 14th**. Don't miss out!

**Staff Appreciation Day** will be held on **Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**, and will be hosted by the families of 2/3 Animashaun and 3/4 Joubert. If you have a student in one of these classes, it would be greatly appreciated if you could send in a nut free treat. If you did not submit

a Staff Appreciation form at the beginning of the year, but are able to donate or help set up, please email us at [astraldrivepto@gmail.com](mailto:astraldrivepto@gmail.com). Treats can be homemade or store bought, edible or decorative, everything is appreciated! Thanks to all the families who have already committed to sending in some goodies.



**Popcorn Day** will be on December 13th. For families who haven't prepaid for the year, popcorn can be purchased for \$1/bag.

The PTO needs you! Our next meeting will be on **Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm** in the school library. Everyone is welcome!

