


# September 2021

**École Élémentaire Astral Drive Elementary School**

**902-462-8500**

**<https://ade.hrce.ca/>**

**[ade@hrce.ca](mailto:ade@hrce.ca)**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
Week 1 5	Labour Day 6	First day of School! 7 	8	Antibullying/Pink Shirt Day 9	10	11
Week 2 12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Week 1 19	20	21	22	Curriculum Night 23	PD Day (No Classes) 24	25
Week 2 26	27	28	Orange Shirt Day 29	Truth & Reconciliation Day (No Classes) 30	October 1 Picture Day	2
Week 1 3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Looking Ahead:

October

1 – Picture Day

11 – Thanksgiving Day (no classes)

22 – Provincial PD Day (no classes)

31 – Halloween

November

11 – Remembrance Day (no classes)

19 – Assessment & Evaluation Day (no classes)

25 – PD/Parent Teacher Interviews (no classes)

December

22 – Christmas Break begins

## **WELCOME BACK!!**

To most of you, welcome back! To some of you, welcome to our school! To all of you, Happy September! We are so pleased that you have entrusted your children to our care. We value your children and want nothing more for them, than that their educational experience be the very best in every way possible.

September is an exciting time for our students, staff and parents! We want to extend a special welcome to our primaries and their families. We trust you will receive a warm welcome at Astral Drive Elementary. A special welcome also to new students who are moving from another school, town or province; we endeavor to make your transition smooth.

Each year we emphasize the importance of maintaining a strong partnership between home and school. Parents/guardians are encouraged to keep in contact with your child's teachers through notes, phone calls, and emails. Our school newsletter will be emailed to you at the beginning of each month and will be posted on our website. Please ensure that your e-mail is up to date on your registration forms.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

## **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.

## **REGISTRATION & MEDIA RELEASE FORMS**

Registration and Media Release forms will be coming home with your child/ren. Please review and make changes needed so that the school has the most recent contact information in case of an emergency and/or early closure.

These will need to be returned to your child's teacher no later than Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. This ensures all information is up-to-date as soon as possible.

## **PARENT PORTAL**

As families are aware, changes were made to the Parent Portal. For parents/guardians who have not already done so, 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 to 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.

## **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>.

## LUNCH MONITORS NEEDED

Each day we have lunch monitors providing supervision for your children and we are always looking for more. This is a paid position, so if you have a couple of hours each day, it would be a great service to our school and an opportunity to make extra money at the same time.

If you or anyone you know might be interested in becoming a lunch monitor at Astral Drive, please call the school at your earliest convenience at 902-462-8500.

## STAND UP AGAINST BULLYING

On Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, students and teachers at Astral Drive Elementary and across the Province will support **Stand Up Against Bullying Day**.

Students are asked to wear Pink to show their support. Our students will be doing activities in their classrooms to bring awareness on how to Stand Up Against Bullying.

## SCHOOL BELL TIMES

Arrival Time	8:20
Staggered Recess	9:45 – 10:45
Lunch 1	11:25 – 12:10
Lunch 2	12:15 – 1:00
Dismissal	2:25

Students are reminded to arrive between 8:10 – 8:25 and to go straight to their classroom. There is no supervision outside in the morning. Thank you to parents for not congregating around the doors. This allows teachers an opportunity to safely get students to their assigned destinations at the end of the day.

## LIFE THREATENING ALLERGIES/MEDICAL FORMS

The Halifax Regional School Board has a policy on Life Threatening Allergies. A number of procedures are put into place annually to implement this policy. Parents of students with allergies and or medical conditions e.g. asthma are requested to complete annual forms. These forms are available at the school office. Please inform your child's teacher and the office immediately of any allergies/medical conditions. Contact information for all teachers can be found at [ade@hrce.ca](mailto:ade@hrce.ca).

## SCENT AND FOOD ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL



ADES is a scent aware school; therefore, we ask that our students refrain from wearing scented products. A number of students, teachers and parents are asthmatic and/or allergic to scent. Scented products such as detergents, fabric softeners, perfumes, and hair products are especially problematic.

## **EMERGENCY PLANS**

Each school has an Emergency Plan with procedures for emergency situations that might arise. In keeping with that, we will practice fire drills, hold and secure drills and lockdown drills. During the first month of school we will have one fire drill, one hold and secure drill and one lockdown drill. The teachers will work with the students to prepare them for this; however, we want to make you aware of this so you can talk to your child/ren. Please do not hesitate to contact your children's teacher with any concerns.

## **SCHOOL PHOTOS**

This year, our picture day will be Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. A form will be sent home for parents to choose their preferred background. Pictures will be taken by Photomaster once again this year. All orders may be done online with the information given on our student proofs when we receive them. Please ensure that you send a change of clothes if you do not wish to have your child get their good clothes dirty.

## **\*\*\*NEW\*\*\* SCHOOL PAYMENTS**

Paying school-related fees is about to get easier!

We're excited to let you know that HRCE is launching a new system that will allow you to make payments electronically, with the click of a button. From lunch orders to yearbook fees, you will be able to make all payments safely, securely and quickly through SchoolCash Online.

Our school will post items for purchase and assign school fees relevant to your child. You can make all purchases and payments from your phone, tablet or computer.

We would like families to register as soon as possible.

To get started, please register for SchoolCash Online. It's free and takes less than two minutes. 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 [schoolcashionline.com/Home/Support](https://hrce.schoolcashionline.com/Home/Support)

We hope that SchoolCash Online makes paying school-related fees more convenient!

## **BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS, CELL PHONES, etc.**

Students are permitted to drive their bikes to school. 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, MP-3 players, i-Pods and other electronics not be brought to school. The school assumes no responsibility should these items get misplaced or broken.

## SAFE ARRIVAL

If your child will not be attending school or will be late, we request that you call the school at 902-462-8500 Ext. 1 and leave a message. You may also email Safe Arrival at [ADESafeArrival@hrce.ca](mailto:ADESafeArrival@hrce.ca) and leave a message there. Please ensure we have the up-to-date telephone numbers on record.

If your child is arriving late, please remind them that they are to come into the office for a late slip before going to their classroom.

## CHANGE OF CLOTHING

**Please ensure your children have an extra change of clothing in their school backpacks at all times. 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 8:10 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 at 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:

- Please adhere to signage when picking up or dropping off your child. Please don't stop in the bus loop on the Lakeshire side. Please don't drive down the driveway on the Astral side. We appreciate your efforts in keeping our Astral families safe.
- Do not use private driveways when dropping off or picking up your child, as this creates a hazard for our students.