

September 2026 Newsletter

Kingswood Elementary School

34 Vrege Court, Hammonds Plains, N.S., B4B 1K2

PRINCIPAL: David Madgett **VICE PRINCIPAL:** Joanne Treen

ADMIN. ASSISTANTS: Jennifer Kennedy & Tracey Power



Principal's Message

Dear Kingswood Elementary Families,

Welcome to September and to the start of the 2026-27 school year! We hope this message finds everyone rested, refreshed, and ready for the new school year! It is with great anticipation that we welcome you all back to what promises to be an amazing year of learning, growth, and success. Whether you're returning to our school or joining us for the first time, we're thrilled to have you as part of the Kingswood family.

Over the summer, we have experienced higher-than-usual enrolment growth due to a small boundary change, the addition of our Grade 6 students, and several new families moving into our community. As a result, we anticipate that some adjustments to class configurations will be necessary during the first few weeks of school. Any changes will be communicated to families as more information becomes available.

Speaking of over the summer, we would like to send a big shoutout to HRM for the tremendous work in getting our three playgrounds replaced and ready for opening day.

Please take note of the dates and events coming up in September. Throughout the school year we will add to our calendar which can be found on the school website to keep you as up to date as possible.

We would like to sincerely thank our Kingswood families for the warm welcome you have extended to us as the new administrative team. We are excited to be joining such a vibrant school community and look forward to the many opportunities ahead to meet, connect with, and get to know our students, staff, and families throughout the 2026-27 school year. We are looking forward to a wonderful year together!

Yours in Learning,

Dave Madgett, Principal and Joanne Treen, Vice-Principal

Upcoming Events

Sept. 1st

- School Organization Day - no classes

Sept. 2nd

- PowerSchool Opens for Families
- 12pm lunch ordering deadline
- PD Day - no classes

Sept. 3rd

- First Day of School for Students

Sept. 7th

- Labour Day - no classes

Sept. 8th-11th

- Fire drill

Sept. 10th

- Stand-up Against Bullying Day (Pink Shirt Day)

Sept. 15th

- 5:30pm SAC, 6:30pm PSA

Sept. 24th

- 6-7pm KWES Curriculum Night/Open House

Sept. 25th

- PD Day - no classes

Sept. 28-29th

- Smile! It's Picture Days

Sept. 30th

- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - no classes

Oct. 1st

- Treaty Day



What's New

PowerSchool and Teacher Welcome Emails



PowerSchool will open to families on September 2nd. On the afternoon of September 2nd, you will also receive an email from your child's teacher welcoming them to their class and providing important information for the first day of school. <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/home.html>

School Hours, Morning & Afternoon Bus Routines

Student drop-off begins at 8:25 a.m. The first bell rings at 8:40 a.m., and classes begin at 8:45 a.m. The dismissal bell rings at 2:55 p.m. Your child's teacher will include specific instructions regarding morning arrival/drop-off and afternoon dismissal procedures in their introductory email.

To help us make the first day run as smoothly as possible, it is always a huge help if families provide their child's teacher, in writing, with their child's morning arrival and afternoon dismissal/transportation plan. In particular, please let us know whether your child will be travelling by bus, being dropped off or picked up, walking, or following another arrangement.

Student Transportation



Everything you need to know about student transportation including eligibility, stop times and stop locations can be found on BusPlanner. Once you register and subscribe, you can choose to receive email and/or text message notifications on changes to routes, bus delays or cancellations. To sign up, go to BusPlanner at hrce.mybusplanner.ca and click on Parent Portal. Follow the instructions to create an account.

Don't have a BusPlanner Parent Portal account? Need help logging in? Please contact the HRCE Student Transportation Team through the Transportation Inquiry Form at: [BusPlanner Web - BusPlanner Web](#) or call or email at 902-431-4723 or transportation@hrce.ca

When Visiting the School

Visitors are welcome! Please be aware of the following few protocols listed below to ensure the safety of our students:



- For the safety of students and staff, all visitors must enter through the front (main office) doors at all times. Please press the buzzer and wait to be greeted by Ms. Kennedy or one of our admin staff.
- Check in with our secretary, Ms. Kennedy, at the office.
- All visitors must sign-in (sign-in book is in main office foyer) and always wear a visitor or volunteer tag in the building.
- If you are meeting with your child's teacher, administration, or another staff member, please make sure an appointment time has already been established before coming to the school.

Stand Up Against Bullying Day is September 10



On the second Thursday of September, we recognize Stand Up Against Bullying Day. On Thursday, September 10, we will celebrate inclusivity, kindness and friendship. All HRCE school teams are focused on ensuring all students have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and thrive. Please join us and wear pink if you're able on September 10 to take a stand against bullying.

Parent-School Association (PSA) Meetings

Our Parent-School Association is a small but very active group of Parents/Guardians/Staff who strive to achieve these common goals:

1. To promote collaboration between school, families and the community
 2. To support programs **promoting the well-being and safety of students in the school**
 3. To **promote an interest in, and a better understanding of, the educational curriculum at the school**
 4. To provide **financial support to the school community to enhance the learning environment**
 5. To promote participation in school related activities by staff/parents/guardians and build community spirit.
- Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm in the Library from September–June to talk about fundraising and planning for upcoming events – ALL ARE WELCOME!

Curriculum Night

We invite all families to join us for Curriculum Night from 6:00–7:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher, visit their classroom, and learn more about the curriculum, routines, and expectations for the year ahead. Teachers will share information about classroom learning, communication, and ways families can support their child throughout the school year. We look forward to welcoming you and kicking off a great year together!

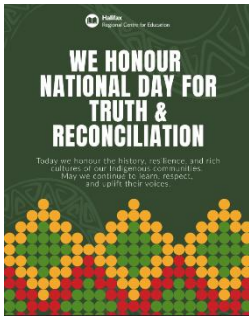
Nova Scotia School Lunch Program



The full Nova Scotia School Lunch Program menu is available on www.NSLunch.ca. This year's menu has new and improved kid-approved options like chicken fingers, pizza, and mac and cheese. The Nova Scotia School Lunch Program is pay-what-you-can, letting you to decide the amount you want to pay for lunches. The amount you choose to pay through the online ordering system is confidential. Schools and food service providers will only know that a meal has been ordered.

For more Information and ordering help please visit www.NSLunch.ca to explore the menu and get answers to frequently asked questions.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



On September 30, we honour the children who never returned home from residential schools, and the survivors, families and communities who continue to live with their lasting impacts. Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led movement that reminds us that Every Child Matters and encourages all of us to learn, reflect and support truth and reconciliation. As there are no classes on Wednesday, September 30, we invite students and staff to wear orange, if they're able, on Tuesday, September 29.

October is Mi'kmaq Heritage Month



This year's Mi'kmaq History Month theme is a focus Healing and Wellness. This year's theme invites people across Mi'kma'kik to reflect on healing as a lifelong journey—one rooted in understanding ourselves, our histories, our relationships, and our responsibilities to one another.

Inspired by teachings shared by the late Elder Murdena Marshall, the 2026 Mi'kmaq History Month poster explores healing not as a destination, but as an ongoing process. Through stories, language, community, and connections to the natural world, the poster encourages people to consider how understanding the past can help us make sense of the present and move forward in a good way. For more info follow the link: <https://mikmaqhistorymonth.ca/>

Life Threatening Allergies and Scent Sensitive School



We have several students who have life threatening allergies to peanuts and nut products. Please respect their health and well-being by sending your child with snacks and lunches that do not contain nuts. Additionally, some of our students have medical conditions that are be worsened by scented products.

Label, Label, Label



We would like to avoid an accumulation of clothing and gear over the coming months in our lost and found. Please label your child's items, such as clothing, boots, shoes, lunch bag, school bag, hats and gloves. To help families ensure that misplaced clothes are returned to their rightful owners, we have an ongoing fundraiser with Mabel's Labels. Mabel's Labels are laundry, dishwasher, and microwave safe, and easy to apply. Visit Mabel's Labels at <https://mabelslabels.ca/en-CA>, click "Fundraising" then select "Support a Fundraiser" and type "Kingswood Elementary School (Hammonds Plains)". They have a 15% back-to-school sale on. Use code: LABEL15 at checkout.