November 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

As we turn the calendar to November, we can look back on a busy and exciting October at Kingswood Elementary! Throughout the month, students participated in learning and activities recognizing Mi'kmaq History Month, celebrated Thanksgiving, learned about bus safety through our bus evacuation drills, and wrapped up the month with plenty of Halloween excitement. Thank you to our staff, students, and families for helping make October such a wonderful month at KWE!

November brings an important milestone in our school year as we wrap up Term 1. Teachers are busy assessing student learning and preparing report cards, and we look forward to welcoming families for Parent-Teacher Interviews. These conversations are a valuable opportunity to celebrate student successes, discuss areas for growth, and strengthen the important partnership between home and school.

November is also a month of reflection, celebration, and community. Some of our families will be celebrating Diwali, the Festival of Lights, and we extend our warmest wishes to all who celebrate. On Remembrance Day, we will take time to honour and remember those who have served, those who made the ultimate sacrifice, and those who continue to serve in the Armed Forces.

As we move toward the end of November, our Scholastic Book Fair will provide another wonderful opportunity to encourage a love of reading. We will also begin hearing the sounds of the holiday season as students start preparing for our December Holiday Concert. Meanwhile, our hardworking Parent-School Association (PSA) will be busy preparing for the upcoming Holiday Social in December.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the uncertainty surrounding the possibility of labour disruption over the past several weeks. As of this past weekend, we are hopeful that matters are moving toward a resolution. We are incredibly grateful for the dedication of all our staff and appreciate the patience and understanding of our families.

Wishing everyone a wonderful November!

Yours in Learning,

Dave Madgett, Principal and Joanne Treen, Vice-Principal

Upcoming Events

Important Dates

Sun. Nov. 1st
- End of Daylight Savings Time

Fri. Nov.6th
- First Day of Diwali
- Picture Retake Day

Tues. Nov. 10th
- 11am Remembrance Day Assembly
- Last Day of Diwali

Wed. Nov.11th
- Remembrance Day (School closed)

Tues. Nov. 17th
- 5:30pm SAC
- 6:30pm PSA

Thurs. Nov. 20th
- Assess. & Evaluation Day (No School for Students)

Nov. 30th-Dec. 4th
- Scholastic Book Fair

Mon. Nov. 30th
- Term1 Reports go home

Thurs. Dec. 3rd
- 5:30pm-7:30PM Parent-Teacher Interviews

Fri. Dec.4th
- AM PD Day (No School for Students)
- PM Parent Teacher-Interviews (12:30-2:30pm)



What's New

Toys at School

Squishies and Pokémon cards have become very popular with students, both at school and on the bus. Unfortunately, these highly sought-after items have also become a significant distraction throughout the school day. We have experienced several incidents involving toys going missing, being damaged, or causing disruptions in classrooms and other areas of the school. To help keep the focus on learning and avoid unnecessary disappointment, we are asking families to please ensure that Squishies, Pokémon cards, and other personal toys are left at home. Thank you for your understanding and support!

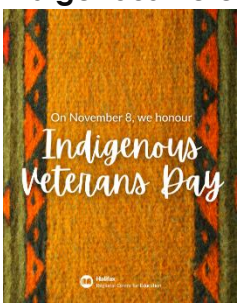
Remembrance Day Assembly

For our annual Remembrance Day Assembly on November 10th, we create a Wall of Honour slideshow featuring the relatives and family members of our students who are currently serving or who have served in the military. Please click on the link below to upload a photo and include a little info about your family member or relative. These photos are sent directly to Mr. Madgett through this form and will only be used in our slideshow for the Remembrance Day service. https://forms.gle/BAwXYBuK2hqPpaZq7 .

PD Day & Parent Teacher Interviews on Thursday, December 3rd & 4th.

Parent-Teacher Interviews will look a little different this year! Interviews will take place **on Thursday, December 3rd, from 5:30–7:30 p.m., and Friday, December 4th, from 12:30–2:30 p.m**. The morning of Friday, December 4th, will be dedicated to teacher professional development. We look forward to welcoming families and providing an opportunity to discuss student progress, celebrate successes, and identify next steps in learning. More information about booking interviews will be shared as we get closer to these dates.

Indigenous Veterans Day



On November 8, we recognize Indigenous Veterans Day and honour the First Nations, Inuit and Métis people who have served and continue to serve in the Canadian Armed Forces. Indigenous veterans have made significant contributions to Canada's military history, serving with courage and dedication while often facing discrimination and barriers to recognition when they returned home. This day is an opportunity to learn about their stories, recognize their sacrifices and reflect on the importance of ensuring their contributions are remembered and honoured.
We encourage families to take a moment to learn about Indigenous veterans and share their stories with the next generation. Learn more here.

Dressing for the Weather

Brrrr! IT IS GETTING COLDER OUTSIDE! The weather has certainly cooled off over the past couple of weeks. **Please ensure your child(ren) comes dressed for the weather.** We will be heading out daily for recess and lunch as well as take advantage of outdoor learning opportunities. Gloves/mittens and a tuque are always a safe bet to keep in the backpack just in case. It can be very windy but with proper clothing, we will be able to stay comfortable outdoors! Please let us know if we can help in any way.

Holiday Concert *Save the Date*

Mark your calendars! Kingswood Elementary School will be holding our **Holiday Concert on Wednesday, December 16th**. We are excited to celebrate the holiday season with our school community through music and student performances! There will be both an afternoon and an evening performance to provide families with opportunities to attend. More details, including performance times and arrangements, will be shared in our December Newsletter. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Planning for 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;
- All schools are open, but some or all busses 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:**

- Bussed students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Non-bussed 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 the HRCE website
- On Instagram

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation. Please remember: As a parent or guardian you always have the choice of whether or not to send your child to school. For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

Label, Label, Label

mabel's labels FUNDRAISING

As we approach winter, we tend to see an accumulation of hats, mitts, gloves, snow pants, etc. 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.

Free Screening of "Your Attention Please"



Join Unplugged Canada's Nova Scotia Chapter for a FREE screening of the documentary "Your Attention Please" on December 3, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the White Spruce Room at Keshen Goodman Library. Parents, caregivers and educators are invited to watch this thought-provoking documentary about the impact of technology on our attention, and come together for a discussion on how we navigate this. Please register in advance as tickets are limited. **Register:** https://yourattentionpleaseNS.eventbrite.ca