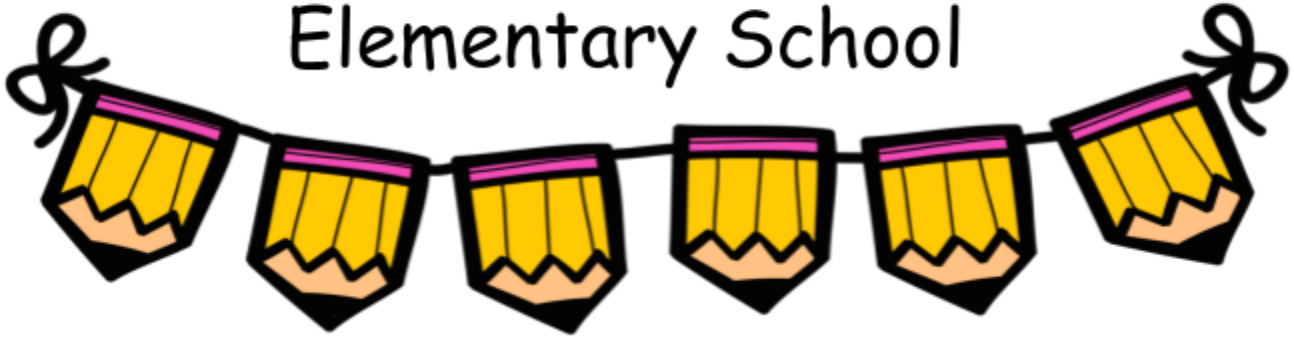


Welcome to Kingswood Elementary School



We hope that this will be the beginning of many happy and exciting learning experiences for your family. Entering Primary is an exciting time for every child. Moving from the home/daycare/Pre-Primary environment to the P-6 school environment is a big step. Both parents and school want this transition to be as smooth as possible.

Primary is one of the most important years of a child's education. The basics of academic skills and the attitude towards school life, in general, are initiated and developed in the Primary year. It is imperative the school, community and family work together to make the Primary year the best it can be for a child. We need your help and your input. Communication is a key factor in supporting a child. We will work as a team so the children may develop to their full potential.

Kingswood Elementary Phone	(902) 832-5522
Kingswood Elementary Email	kwe@hrce.ca
Kingswood Elementary Website	https://kwe.hrce.ca
Safe Arrival	1-833-582-6940

School Bell Schedule

Supervision Begins/Drop-off time	8:25 am
First Bell	8:40 am
Classes Begin	8:45 am
Recess	10:20am-10:35am
Lunch	11:45am - 12:45pm
Dismissal	2:55 pm



School Readiness: Here is a list of skills that you can work on with your child to make sure that they are ready for school.

Social Skills:

- Taking turns
- Sharing
- Playing cooperatively
- Listening when others are speaking
- Following directions
- Waiting
- Using manners
- Solving problems effectively

Independence:

- Fasten shoes and outdoor clothing (zippers, buttons, snaps)
- Personal hygiene (washroom routines including using public washrooms), proper use of tissues, coughing in sleeve). There are washrooms in the Primary classes. Students are expected to be able to use the washroom on their own without assistance. Please practice this over the summer.
- Following established routines
- Taking care of personal belongings
- Separating from parents with relative ease

Emotional Regulation:

- Reacting appropriately to a variety of situations
- Staying calm and controlling impulses
- Using words to share feelings
- Asking for help

Fine Motor Skills:

- Dressing/undressing
- Opening containers
- Holding a pencil correctly and using scissors safely
- Drawing /colouring
- Being familiar with other writing and craft tools (crayons, markers, glue stick, paintbrushes, etc)

Oral Language:

- Talking about shared experiences
- Asking and answering questions
- Playing with pretend situations
- Singing familiar nursery rhymes/songs
- Playing rhyming and letter-sound games

Early Literacy Skills:

- Recognizing name
- Printing name (with a capital letter at the beginning and lowercase for the rest of the letters)
Recognizing, naming and printing letters (beginning with the child's name and then with family members).

Items: The following is a list of items that students will need to bring with them to school:

Clothing

- ❑ **Indoor Shoes** - students will need one pair of indoor shoes (good for running activities in phys ed class) that will be left at school to be used each day in the classroom. If your child is registered in Excel they will need a 2nd pair of indoor shoes to be left in Excel.
- ❑ Children who are beginning school should have clothing that they can get into and out of easily. Practicing over the summer would be a good idea.
- ❑ **Extra Clothes** - Little children have accidents and if we have some clothing (socks, underwear and pants) on hand they will be able to change and carry on with their day. Please make sure **all clothing**, boots, backpack etc are **labelled with your child's name** - Our lost and found is always full of beautiful clothes that we would gladly return to the owner if we could find a name.
- ❑ **Dress for the Weather** - Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather.
- ❑ Tying laces is not a simple task for four or five-year-olds. Please help your child learn to tie, but in the meantime, consider having him/her wear Velcro-style sneakers at school.
- ❑ **Backpacks** - should be able to hold a full-sized scribbler or duotang laying flat.
- ❑ **School Supplies** - a list of school supplies that your child will need for the year will be posted on our website.

Food

- ❑ **Recess** - students need to bring a recess snack to eat. Snacks should be easy for the student to handle and not take very long to eat. Some examples would be a nut-free granola or cereal bar, piece of fruit, cheese and crackers etc.
- ❑ **Lunch** - students need to bring lunch to school every day unless they order from the cafeteria. The food they bring should be easy for your child to handle and not take more than 20 minutes to eat. Some examples would be a sandwich, piece of fruit and juice **or** a slice of pizza, a piece of fruit and a juice. Be creative! To help promote independence it is a good idea to practice opening snacks, containers and juice boxes before school starts.
- ❑ **Cafeteria** - Our cafeteria is now open and parents can order meals on-line for their children. All information about the cafeteria and how to order can be found on our website. Students in Grades Primary and One have their meals delivered to them in their classroom.
- ❑ **Food Allergies** - Kingswood is a **Nut Smart and 'Scent'sitive School**. We have several students who have life threatening allergies to peanuts and nut products. We ask everyone to respect their health and well-being by sending their child with snacks and lunches which do not contain peanuts. Nutella is a nut product. Additionally, many of our students have medical conditions which can be worsened by scented products.
- ❑ **Excel** - If your child is registered in Excel they will also need an afternoon snack for Excel.

Medical / Administration of Medication (If applicable)

- The office **MUST be notified of all students who are on medication or who may have life-threatening allergies.**
- Please reach out to our office so that we can send you the forms that you will need. Please complete and return the forms to your child's classroom teacher during the first week of school.
- All medications must be kept in the prescription containers with the appropriate instructions and the child's name affixed on the container. All medications will be kept in the office and administered by office staff.



Your Child's Health is Important - Please help them:

- Get enough sleep (10 – 12 hours)
- A nutritious breakfast is especially important. A healthy snack for recess will reinforce these habits. Please **DO NOT SEND PEANUTS OR NUT RELATED PRODUCTS.**
- Develop habits of cleanliness and independent personal hygiene. Proper handwashing is very important!
- Keep them at home when they are ill (contact the school's safe arrival to report an absence).
- Inform the school of any medical problems that might affect your child's well-being or progress in school.

Absences & Appointments

- Absent or Late** - If your child/ren will be late or absent from school, please **ENSURE you let Safe Arrival know** by 9:00 am by calling 1-833-582-6940.
- Even if you have advised the teacher, please call 1-833-582-6940 as well.
- Late** - If you are dropping your child off late for school, you can ring the doorbell of the school and we will open the door for you. You can then send them into the building and we will make sure that they get to their classroom.

Picking Up A Student

- Sign out** - If your child/ren needs to leave school early, call the school upon your arrival or ring the front doorbell and we will bring your child to you.
- If your child is going to be picked up by someone other than the person who usually picks them up, you must let us know. You can send a note with them to the teacher or call the school at 902-832-5522.
- Same-Day Change in Dismissal Plans** - If there is a change in dismissal plans please call the office at 902-832-5522. **Please do not email the change to the teacher as they may not check their email before dismissal.**

Before & After School

- Early morning supervision** begins at 8:25 am. Please do not drop students off prior to this.
- After school - Dismissal is at 2:55 pm.
- Students enrolled in Excel will be dismissed to their Excel leader.
- Students being picked up or taking the bus will walk out with a teacher.

Please do not take your child from the dismissal line until you have talked to the teacher!

Toys/ Electronics

- We strongly discourage children from bringing their toys, electronics or anything of value to school because they will not be allowed to play with them during school time. Toys often get broken or lost at school. This can be very upsetting to your child and we prefer children to interact with the educational activities that have been carefully chosen to support the curriculum.

Contact Information

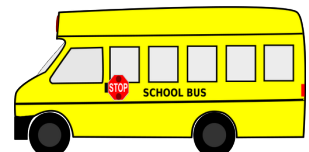
- Don't Forget** - Let the school know if you:
 - Change your phone number (home, cell or work)
 - Change your address or email address
 - Have an addition, separation or death of a family member

Storm Days

- Storm Days** - Decisions to close schools due to bad weather are made by the HRCE. These decisions are made in the morning around 6am. You can find out if schools are closed by signing up for a text or email message at www.hrce.ca. You can also check the HRCE website or listen to a local radio station. For your information Kingswood is part of the West Bedford Family of schools.

Early Dismissal Plan

- Early Closure** - There may be times where schools have to close early. Please make sure you have a plan in place and your contact information is up to date.
- In the event of early closure:
 - School staff will contact you to confirm dismissal plans
 - Students in grades Primary-Five will not be released from school unless parents/designates have been informed directly using the school communication network.
 - Please keep in mind that Excel will be closed if there is an early dismissal.



Transportation

- ❑ Transportation for bussing students is organized by the transportation team at the HRCE. Parents will be contacted in July about bussing for September. Transportation inquiries should be referred to **HRCE's Transportation Team at 902-431-4723 (HRCE) or via email (transportation@hrce.ca)**.
- ❑ All students who attend Kingswood are eligible for bussing and we encourage families to send their children on the bus. The bus is a very safe mode of transportation, they are rarely late and it helps alleviate traffic issues around the school.
- ❑ Students attending a daycare or a sitter before and/or after school must have the daycare/sitter information registered in our student information system.
- ❑ Children are not permitted to go on a different bus than their usual one without permission from Transportation.