



October 2026

Smokey Drive Elementary

"Belong, Learn and Grow-Together."

Bell and Lunch Schedule

8:15 am - Arrival
8:25 am - First Bell
8:35 am - Learning Begins
12:05 pm - 1:00 pm - Lunch
2:30 pm - Dismissal

Calendar of Events

Oct. 1 - Treaty Day
Oct. 5 - Picture Day
Oct. 12 - Thanksgiving Day
No School
Oct. 21 - Bus Evacuation Drills
Oct. 23 - PD day - **No School**
Oct. 30 - Halloween Activities



PTA Reminders

Our PTA will be hosting a Halloween Dance and Pumpkin Auction on October 22, 2026 from 6pm - 8pm.



Principal's Message

As Fall settles in, our mornings are getting colder. Please help your child dress appropriately for the changing weather—layers are best, as mornings can be chilly while afternoons often warm up.

We also encourage families to **label all jackets, sweaters, hoodies, water bottles, and other personal items** with your child's name. This helps us return lost items quickly and keeps our lost-and-found from overflowing. Items that are not picked up will be donated to Beacon House.

Our PBIS focus for October will be on: Kindness, Empathy & Respecting Individual Differences

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child be prepared, on time, and ready to learn!

Do you know how to raise a concern?

Did you know that there's a protocol in place to help families contact schools or the HRCE office when you have concerns about your student's education or well-being?

- All concerns should first be shared with your child's teacher.
- If your concern is not resolved, you should then contact the principal.
- If your concern remains unresolved, you can reach out to HRCE's [Family Navigators](#) who can provide information about a wide range of supports and resources.
- If your matter continues to be unresolved, you can then initiate a formal review process in which the matter will be investigated by the appropriate HRCE Directors.
- The final step is for your concern to be passed on to the Regional Executive Director.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Curriculum Information

Teachers will be sending out curriculum information the first week of October, which outlines the key learning goals, topics, and communication methods for the year. We strongly believe that a close partnership between home and school is essential to helping your child thrive, as your ongoing encouragement and support play a vital role in their achievement. Please take a moment to review the enclosed materials, and know that our doors are always open as we work together to make this a rich, inspiring year for your child.

Safe Arrival Program

1-833-582-6940

If you have a new phone number or email address please contact the school so that we can ensure that you are getting the latest information from the school and your child's teacher.

It is the parents' responsibility to contact the school to identify if their child/ren will be absent.

You are now able to report future absences using an app, website, or toll-free phone number. If your student is absent and the absence has not been reported in advance, you will receive notifications via email, text, and phone calls from SchoolMessenger.

For more information please follow the link below:

<https://www.hrce.ca/SafeArrival>



Halloween

Children can wear costumes on the 30th of October.

Any snacks sent into the school need to be individually wrapped and nut free.

We are asking that parents not send in halloween masks or any costume weapons that might come with purchased costumes.

The option of wearing Orange and Black that day is a great option too!

School Calendar

October 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Treaty Day	2	3
4	5 Picture Day 	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Thanksgiving Day No School	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Bus Evacuation Drills	22	23 PD Day No School	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Halloween	31

Treaty Day

Treaty Day is an opportunity to learn, reflect and deepen our understanding of the historic and ongoing relationships between Mi'kmaq and non-Mi'kmaq people in Nova Scotia.

Treaties are not simply part of our past. They are living agreements that continue to shape our shared responsibilities today. In schools, Treaty Day provides an important opportunity to help students understand Mi'kmaq history, culture, rights and perspectives, while exploring what it means to live together in a spirit of respect, partnership and reciprocity.

By continuing to learn about the Treaties and our responsibilities within them, we help build stronger relationships and contribute to the ongoing work of reconciliation. Treaty Day, (October 1st) marks the beginning of Mi'kmaq History Month in Nova Scotia. Our students will be learning about Mi'kmaq history during the month of October and throughout the year at Joseph Howe School.

For more information please follow the link below:

<https://mikmaqhistorymonth.ca/>