

November 2023

Smokey Drive Newsletter

Smokey Drive Elementary School

School Phone: 902-864-6838

Principal Mrs. J. Miller

School Website: <https://sde.hrce.ca>

Vice Principal Ms. E. Quigley

Safe Arrival: 1-833-582-6940

Admin Assistance Ms. L. MacNeil



Principal's Message

November is a month when the first report card of the year will be sent home.

Teachers will be evaluating all the assessment information they have collected on students to write a summary for this term.

We will also be reflecting and honouring past and present serving members of our community, the province, and our country. We thank you for all that you do to keep our country safe.

Important Dates:

Nov 6-10- Fire drill

Nov 8- Picture Retakes

Nov 8- SAC (6pm)/PTA(7pm) meetings

Nov 9 - Remembrance Day Assembly

Nov 13- **No School**- Remembrance Day Observation

Nov 17 - Assessment & Evaluation Day - **No School for Students**

Nov 23 - PD am/ Parent Teacher 1-6pm - **No School for Students**

Nov 30- Dr. Chrony Parent Presentation - Hillside Drive School

Dec 4 - Professional Development Day - **No School for Students**

Wall of Honour



We invite you to share a photo of your family member who has served or is currently serving. Please ensure the poster is clearly marked with the student's name and homeroom teacher. These posters will be returned at the end of November. To preserve your original photographs, we recommend using a photocopy. If you would prefer to submit a picture digitally, please send to Michelle Tyndall: mtyndall@gnspe.ca, include your child's name, homeroom teacher, the Veteran's name, relationship to the student, and any other additional info.

Kindly return the posters to the school as soon as possible, preferably before *November 6th*, so we can begin showcasing these meaningful contributions on the Wall of Honour. We deeply appreciate your involvement and thank you for helping us create this tribute.

On Nov. 8, we honour

INDIGENOUS



VETERANS'



DAY



Halifax

Regional Centre for Education



PTA News

A big thank you to our families for your part in making Pumpkin Palooza such a great success. Our next PTA meeting is Nov 8 @ 7pm in the library. All are welcome to attend.

Our first PTA fundraiser of the year runs Nov 1-15th. Mitchell's Soups are \$12.50 each or 3 for \$30. These can be purchased through SchoolCash Online or by cash. If you require a hard copy of the order form please email Ms. Lesley at Imacneil@hrce.ca

SAC- School Advisory Council- The SAC is a group of parents, staff and community members who act in an advisory capacity to the school principal and Regional Centre of Education on a range of issues related to the school and school system. SACs play an important role in supporting student success at the school community level. Our next SAC meeting will be Nov 8 at 6:00 pm. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

Holiday Concerts

This year we will be having our holiday concerts on Dec 6 (evening) & 7 (daytime).

Dec 6 there will be **two** evening performances. Our first performance begins at **5:30pm** for these classes: **PW, 1T, 2H, 3/4W and 4/5A**. Our second evening performance begins at **7:00pm** for **P/1G, 1/2C, 2/3WC/VP, 3/4D, 5B**.

Dec 7 Our first daytime performance begins at **9:00am** for these classes: **PW, 1T, 2H, 3/4W and 4/5A**. The second daytime performance begins at **11:00am** for **P/1G, 1/2C, 2/3WC/VP, 3/4D, 5B**.

Lunch Monitors

If you are interested in becoming a lunch monitor please reach out to Ms. Lesley at Imacneil@hrce.ca.

Parent Teacher & Report Cards

Our first parent teacher meetings of the year will be held on Thursday, November 23 from 1-6pm. A notice will be sent home soon for you to indicate potential time slots to meet with the teachers.

Report cards will be emailed home Nov 22-28. If you would prefer a hard copy of the student's report card, please let Mrs. Miller know.

Lost & Found

We will be donating the items that are currently in our lost in found this week. They will be donated to local charity.

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; or
- All schools are open, but some or all buses 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:**

- Bused students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Walking 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 our website www.hrce.ca
- On X (formerly Twitter) at [Twitter.com/HRCE_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS)
- On Instagram at www.instagram.com/hrce_ns/

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/weather.

SchoolsPlus Information



SchoolsPlus staff are here to support Smokey Drive families.

Did you know SchoolsPlus can:
Help you navigate getting Christmas support, such as gifts and food, for your family?

We understand the rising costs of everything has had a big impact for many families, which may lead to Christmas being a financial difficulty. Please feel free to reach out to us if you require Christmas support. We can help you find the forms to apply for food/gift support, fill in the forms with you, and even pick up your Christmas hamper if needed.

NOTE: Registration for the main Christmas support programs is already open and there are deadlines so please reach out ASAP.

REMEMBER: SchoolsPlus services are confidential.

Just give us a call!

Your Smokey Drive SchoolsPlus Team is Lydia Ritcey (Facilitator), Michelle Boudreau (Community Outreach Worker), and Charlotte Pike (Child & Youth Care Practitioner)

Contact us at 902-399-8320 (call or text) or michelle.boudreau@hrce.ca



Reminders

- There should be no dogs on the school grounds between 8am-6pm.
- Please use the entrance on Smokey Dr when arriving each day. We do not want people walking up the driveway.
- Please watch for signs indicating areas that parking is permitted around the school grounds.
- SDE is a peanut and nut free, and scent aware site. Please do not send nut or peanut products to school.
- Visitors must check in at the office.
- Supervision of students does not begin until 8:15, so they should not arrive until that time.
- Please label clothing items, water bottles, etc.
- Please send water bottles and cutlery each day with your child.
- Keeping a change of clothes in backpacks is a great idea that prevents us from calling home when a change is necessary.
- If you child is absent from school please call the Safe Arrival Line at **1-833-582-6940**