WMES February 2025 Newsletter

Dear WMES families:

• Our February calendar can be found here.



Instead of weekly emails for this month, we will be sending one email at the beginning of the month with key highlights, and then only send subsequent emails as needed if new information needs to be shared.

Never hesitate to reach out if you have questions or concerns.

Here are some important highlights for this month:

PTC Family Movie night is Thursday, February 13th:

- We are showing: DC League of Super Pets.
- Bring your own cushion/blanket or camp chair if you like
- Admission is free
- Children must be accompanied by an adult
- Doors open at 6pm. The movie starts at 6:30pm
- You can bring your own snacks, but we will also have concessions (Snack box with a drink, popcorn and a treat for \$5)
- Check out the <u>flyer</u>.

February is Registration Month:

Do you have a child who will be starting pre-primary or primary this fall? It's soon time to register!

Registration for the 2025-26 school year begins on February 1. To ensure we have the right staff and supports in place for September, it's important that we gather enrolment numbers now.

Tip: Before you begin, make sure you have the following documents in electronic form (image, PDF or Word document):

- Proof of identity/age with one of the following: birth certificate, passport, immigration papers, or legal adoption papers) if you are new to the HRCE;
- Proof of home address (a recently dated official government or utility document with your current address that includes your name and date, such as water bill, power bill, internet bill, home fuel bill, a tax receipt, property assessment or a mortgage contract);

Visit the HRCE website for more information and to enrol your child beginning on February 1st through PowerSchool Enrollment!

Don't have a child to register? Maybe you know someone who does! Please help us spread the word and pass this information on to friends, neighbours or relatives who will be looking to register for the fall.

Celebrate African Heritage Month 2025:

African Heritage Month in Nova Scotia, celebrated each February, honours the contributions of African Nova Scotians.

This year's theme, **Legacy in Action: Celebrating Black Brilliance**, highlights the achievements and resilience of African Nova Scotians, who have shaped the province's history for more than 400 years.

In schools, recognizing African Heritage Month is crucial for promoting cultural awareness and inclusion. It fosters understanding of the diverse cultural landscape of Nova Scotia, empowering African Nova Scotian students by reflecting their history and heritage in their classrooms. Highlighting their achievements serves as a source of inspiration.

African Heritage Month 2025 is an opportunity to educate, inspire, and celebrate the richness of African heritage in Nova Scotia every day.

Community Health Team:

• Check out HRM's Community Health Teams February Program Information

Reminder: February 17 is Heritage Day: There is no school on the 17th.

Heritage Day 2025 honours the late Nora Madeline Bernard. From Millbrook First Nation, she was a Mi'kmaq activist who fought for her community and First Nations people across Canada.

Ms. Bernard played a key role in getting justice, recognition, and compensation for survivors of the Canadian Indian Residential School system. As a survivor of the system herself, she founded and became president of the Shubenacadie Indian Residential School Association in 1987. She then started a class-action lawsuit for the survivors, which inspired others across the country to do the same, leading to the largest class-action lawsuit in Canadian history.

Lockdown Drill:

We'll be holding our second Lockdown drill of the year between February 10th and 14th. As a reminder, a Lockdown is used when there is an immediate threat to a school. During a Lockdown, no one enters or exits the building, and everyone stays in a secure location away from doors and windows. Our staff will explain the drill to students beforehand and remind them afterwards that it was just practice. Our police partners may be with us for this drill. You can learn more about our safety procedures in HRCE schools here. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Literacy Development for Your Child (Primary to Grade 6):

Are you curious about your child's literacy development? A new page of information on HRCE.ca helps to break down development for children from grades Primary to 6 as they learn to read and write.

Learn more here.

Thanks everyone. Happy February.

Mrs. Wolfe and Mrs. van der Weegen

Important dates in February:

February 4th - Visiting Author - Heidi Rushton (For 2D and 3B)

February 6th - PTC and SAC meetings (6pm and 7pm in the conference room)

February 12 - Family Meeting for Grade 5 families at GPV 6-7pm

February 13 - PTC Family Movie Night Check out the Flyer!

February 17 - Heritage Day - No School

March 7 - Assessment & Evaluation Day - No School for students

March Break: March 10-14 No School