



September News

Dear Hammonds Plains Consolidated Families,

Welcome Back! We hope you had a fantastic summer and are as excited as we are to begin the 2024-2025 school year. Our team has been working diligently to ensure a smooth start, and we want to share some important updates and reminders as we get ready for the first day

Important Information for the Start of the School Year



Pre-Primary Orientation: We are excited to invite you to our Pre-Primary Orientation on Wednesday, September 4th from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. This orientation will provide you with valuable information about our Pre-Primary program, classroom environment, and daily routines. You will also have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and ask any questions you may have. Educators will reach out prior to this date



Class Lists and Classroom Configurations: We know you're eager to learn your child's class placement, and we appreciate your patience as we finalize the lists. Class configurations are still in progress and will be finalized by the end of September. Please refrain from contacting our administrative assistant or your child's current teacher about potential changes, as we cannot accommodate requests at this time. You'll receive detailed instructions from your child's teacher closer to the start of school.



BusPlanner: Everything you need to know about student transportation including eligibility, stop times and stop locations can be found on BusPlanner. Once you register and subscribe, you may also receive email notifications on changes to routes, bus delays or cancellations. To sign up, go to BusPlanner at hrce.mybusplanner.ca and click on Parent Portal. Follow the instructions to create an account. Don't have a BusPlanner Parent Portal account? Please contact the HRCE Student Transportation Team at transportation@hrce.ca or call 902-431-4723. If you need help signing in.



Safety First: Visitor Protocol: The safety of our students and staff is our top priority. All visitors to the building, including volunteers and guests, must sign in at the office and obtain a visitor's tag from our administrative assistant. Please note that parents are not permitted in the building during instructional hours. If your child is being dropped off late or picked up early, they must be signed in/out at the office. Additionally, if someone other than a parent or legal guardian is picking up your child, that individual must be listed in PowerSchool.



New Cell Phone Directive: At Hammonds Plains Consolidated Elementary, cell phones are prohibited during the school day. If your child possesses a cell phone, it must remain in their backpack and be turned off. School administration understands that urgent information is best shared in a private and supportive environment. The Principal will ensure that school contact numbers are available for urgent messages to be passed along in a timely and confidential manner. Exceptions to this policy may be made for individual needs (medical/ability) in consultation with the Student Planning Team, including parents/caregivers. Please note that bus transportation is considered an extension of the school day and is subject to the Provincial Code of Conduct Policy. Personal use of mobile devices while waiting for or riding the bus must align with school expectations. Students are not permitted to record or take pictures while on the bus.



Universal School Lunch Program: We're excited to launch the Universal School Lunch Program at HPCS starting October 28. In the meantime, lunches can still be ordered through the Tiny Feast portal on our website. New families should ensure their child is registered. Snacks will continue to be available for purchase at the lunch counter.

Lunch Monitors Needed!

Interested in becoming a lunch monitor this year? Please contact the office for more information on how to proceed.



School Advisory Committee/ Parent Teacher Association: We invite you to get involved with our School Advisory Council (SAC) and Parent Teacher Association (PTA). These groups play a vital role in promoting student success by providing feedback on school initiatives and policies. It's a great way to contribute to your child's education and the school community. The First meetings will take place on Sept.10. PTA 5:30-6:30 and SAC 6:30 -7:30.



Stand Up Against Bullying Day: On the second Thursday of September, we recognize Stand Up Against Bullying Day. This day, happening on September 12th this year, is an opportunity for us to start the school year off right – by celebrating inclusivity, kindness and friendship. All schools in HRCE are focused on ensuring all students have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and thrive. Please join us and wear pink if you're able on September 12th to take a stand against bullying.



Curriculum Night: "Join us for Curriculum Night on September 19th from 6 to 7 PM! This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your child's teacher and get a glimpse of the exciting plans we have for the 2024-2025 school year. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing what's in store for our learning community!"



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Each year on September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation honors the children who didn't return from residential schools, as well as survivors, their families, and communities. Orange Shirt Day, led by Indigenous communities, aims to raise awareness about the inter-generational impacts of residential schools and allows us all to show our support for the Every Child Matters movement. As there are no classes on Monday, September 30, we welcome staff and students to wear orange on Friday, September 27.



If your family is experiencing difficulties at home. We would like to provide additional support at school. We understand that you are not always able to share details and that's okay. If your child is coming to school after a difficult night, morning or weekend, please email the classroom teacher and/or the office "Handle with Care". Nothing else will be said or asked this will let us know that your child may need extra time, patience, or help during the day



A Collaborative School Community: We are thrilled to be part of your child's educational journey and believe that our school community thrives when we work together. We kindly ask that you reinforce behavior expectations with your child and support our commitment to a safe and welcoming environment for all.



- Wed, Sept 4: Pre-Primary Open House
- Thurs, Sept 5: First Day!
- Tues, Sept 8: PTA/SAC
- Thurs, Sept 12: Stand Up Against Bullying Day
- Thurs, Sept 19: Curriculum Night 6-7
- Fourth week of September: [Gender Equality Week](#)
- Mon., Sept 30: [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a fantastic school year!

Warm regards, Lynn Corkum: **Principal**
Andrea Marsman: **Vice Principal**
Hammonds Plains Consolidated Elementary School