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JANUARY 2020 NEWS!!!

Les nouvelles janvier 2020

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 14 - SAC 6:00 pm PTA 7:00 pm
January 27 – 31 - Family Literacy Week (More Information to Follow)

SPECIAL THANKS”

We would like to express sincere gratitude to the Hammonds Plains Fire Department for their support with assisting families from our school over the holiday season. We would also like to thank any parents who donated to help us supplement the items for the families.

*****PLEAS NOTE***BOTTLED WATER IN SCHOOLS:**

Following up with the news release by the EECD in December, our school has been provided drinking water dispensers until the school water is tested later in the spring. **Please send your child with a water bottle that they can keep at school and label it with their first and last name.** Thank you for your support. Attached to this newsletter is the notice that was sent home on December 19, 2019 for your information.

KLEENEX:

With cold and flu season upon us, our classrooms go through large quantities of Kleenex. If you are able to send a box of Kleenex into your child’s classroom teacher it would be greatly appreciated.

ELECTRONICS AND TOYS:

With the holidays, many children will have received electronic devices and toys for Christmas. Just a reminder that we cannot guarantee the security of these items, so we do not encourage students to bring them to school.

RAINY DAY AND COLD WEATHER DAY BAGS:

Winter is definitely upon us and with that comes cold temperatures and indoor lunches. A suggestion is to fill a large freezer bag with items that would keep your child amused on those days when we cannot get outside to play. For the younger students a doodle pad, crayons, a favorite book, Lego, coloring book, building blocks etc. and for older students, crossword puzzles, word searches, sketch pad, sudoku books,

novel etc. This indoor lunch bag can be kept in the student's desk or in their backpack. If you have any age appropriate games gently used with all pieces that you no longer use and would like to donate to indoor lunch days, please send them in to your child's teacher.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND THE SCHOOL:

Parents and Guardians are encouraged to contact the school first if they have a school-based concern. The Halifax Regional Center for Education is committed to addressing parent concerns in an efficient and respectful manner. Every reasonable effort will be made to resolve issues brought to the attention of the Board and its professional staff. The initial contact is with the classroom teacher and if unresolved school administration.

SAFE ARRIVAL:

It is important that you phone in to our safe arrival line 902-832-8426 when a student will be absent. Although letting the teacher know by email is very conscientious **we cannot guarantee that they will receive the email in a timely manner to prevent a call from our safe arrival team.**

PLANS FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER:

It is important to take the time now to review our policy on inclement weather. Earlier in the school year each family completed a form for each of their children which gives information on where their child is to go and with whom, should school be cancelled during the school day. This emergency dismissal could be for bad weather or other emergencies. Please review this information with your child and if there are any changes, please advise the school. Keep in mind that when we have an early dismissal, buses are often delayed due to road conditions and space restrictions. **We are unable to give estimated arrival times as we do not have that information.** We thank you for your patience when these circumstances occur.

The Halifax Regional Centre for Education takes great care when making the decision to cancel schools and/or buses, or delay the opening of school, in the event of severe or inclement weather. When these situations occur, the information is posted on the HRCE's website at www.hrce.ca, on Twitter at www.twitter.com/HRCE.NS, recorded at 902-464-INFO and communicated to all local radio stations.

If weather conditions warrant, the HRCE could implement a delayed opening. Delayed openings would be considered when a severe weather event has concluded but snow clearing or other operations require additional time. Delayed opening may also be considered when the physical plant is experiencing an issue such as a power outage or loss of water and additional time is required to prepare the school to open. If this was to occur, school would be delayed by two hours. In our school, this means school would start at 11:00 a.m. If Stock Transportation is operating, the expectation will be that students are picked up two hours later than their regularly assigned time, pending any weather-related delays. Lunch and dismissal times will remain the same and EXCEL will be cancelled for the morning only. **During delayed opening days, the cafeteria will not be open. Please remember to send your child with a lunch.**

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER:

With the cold weather upon us, we would like to remind parents and students of the importance of dressing appropriately for the weather. Students are required to have snow pants and boots to be down on the field to play in the snow to prevent getting wet. Students also need to have warm winter attire such as hats and mitts

(extra mitts in their bag are always a good idea as well, in the event of mittens getting wet or lost). Children will be playing outside as long as the temperature is above -15C, so please make sure that your child is dressed warmly each day. Please remind your children of the importance of not throwing snowballs. Snow can be a lot of fun to play in, but snowball throwing can cause unnecessary injuries.