

Millwood Elementary School News

“Providing a high quality education for every student every day.”

Principal : Ms. S. Dorrington

Vice principal : Ms. K. MacGillivray

Admin Assistant : Ms. S. Moore

September 2018

Welcome Back to School!

Sept - Oct	IMPORTANT DATES
Sept 13	Stand Up Against Bullying Day – wear pink t-shirts & bracelets
Sept 27	Curriculum night 6:30 - 7:30
Sept 28	PD Day (no students)
Oct 8	Thanksgiving Holiday – no classes
Oct 17	PD Day (no students)
Oct 26	Provincial Conference Day – no classes



Principal's Message

I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer with family and friends. I want to extend a warm welcome to students, staff, and parents as we begin a new school year. Millwood Elementary is a warm and inviting school where students, staff, parents and community work together to support student learning.

All HRCE employees now have @hrce.ca as their primary email address. Any emails that you may have sent to hrsb.ca addresses will be received. Please use the @hrce.ca exchange from this point forward. Staff email has been adjusted to reflect this change on our school website.

Just a reminder of the bell schedule change. Our lunch hour is from 11:30-12:30pm. All students grades primary to five will be dismissed at 2:30pm. It is important for parents to understand that upon dismissal students must go home. They are not permitted to stay and play on the playground as there is no supervision after school. It is the expectation that any student on the playground after school, is accompanied by their parent or sitter/caregiver. Thank you for your support as we work together to keep our students safe.

We want to express our sincere thanks to parents and visitors for compliance and support regarding the rules for drop off and pick at the school. The parking lot remains closed to all traffic from 1:00 – 3:00pm in the interest of safety. Only staff and those requiring accessible parking will be permitted to enter. Parking can be found on Sawyer Crescent or Beaver Bank Cross Road. It might be a good idea to arrange a meeting spot with your child if you are coming to pick them up. Please help us to keep your children safe by adhering to the school parking lot rules.

There have been a few changes on staff since last year. We have 15 classrooms and approximately 360 students. We want to welcome Mrs. Knickle (Grade 1), Mrs. MacIntyre (Grade 2), Mrs. McNeil (guidance), Mrs. Copeman (Library Tech) and Mrs. Lavigne (EPA) to our staff. We look forward to working together to provide positive learning opportunities that meet the needs of our students.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Dorrington, Principal

Millwood Pedestrian Bridge Replacement Project

HRM has been working on two projects over the summer months which may impact Millwood Elementary School and Millwood High School. HRM is in the process of replacing two pedestrian trail bridges, one connects Highrigger Crescent to Millwood Elementary and the other bridge connects Sawyer Crescent to Millwood High School. These trail bridges were identified as in need of work during a routine bridge inspection. Although both bridges are being replaced, one bridge will remain open to pedestrians at all times. The Contractor was working over the summer while children were out of school, but the new bridges will be fabricated and then shipped to site as each bridge is custom built. This process typically takes 8 weeks but could take longer than expected. The work will extend into September 2018, however one of the two bridges will be open at all times. The tender was recently awarded to Harbour Construction.

Attention Primary Parents/Guardians

We were recently advised by the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) that all students entering grade Primary will be able to use our playground equipment starting on the first day of school. There had been a concern raised in the spring regarding students who had not yet reached the age of five. This has been clarified. All students can use the equipment and they will be covered under the school insurance program. As always, we will continue to provide close supervision of all students when they are at school. We can assure you the safety of your child is our top priority and we look forward to welcoming all students back to school.



Stand Up Against Bullying Day



The second Thursday of the school year is now known as Pink Day - Stand Up Against Bullying Day. All students and staff are requested to wear pink on **September 13, 2018** in support of our anti-bullying initiatives. We will engage in various activities and discussions to promote awareness and positive interactions at Millwood Elementary throughout the school day. At Millwood we are working together to create and maintain a school environment that is positive and inclusive for all students and staff.

The *Nourish Your Roots* Healthy School Fundraiser is coming to our School Once Again!

Please support our school's Grab and Go Breakfast Program and local farmers by selling boxes filled with vegetables and fruit fresh from the farm.



Once again our School is taking part in the *Nourish Your Roots* healthy school fundraiser. This fundraiser will promote local food and healthy eating as well as raise funds to support the breakfast program. Educational tools and resources will be included with every package to help with food preparation, storage, recipes and "kids in the kitchen" ideas.



Stay tuned for more information.

An initiative of Nourish Nova Scotia
nourishns.ca/nourish-your-roots

Professional Development/Assessment and Evaluation

During the course of the school year Halifax Regional Centre For Education and EECD have designated days for professional development. PD days are an important part of ongoing development and training. There are also days for assessment and evaluation.

Please note there is no school for students on the following days.

- September 28, 2018 - Professional Development Day P-12
- October 17, 2018 - Professional Development Day for Unit 1&2 Schools
- October 26, 2018 - Provincial Conference Day P-12
- November 21, 2018 - Assessment & Evaluation
- December 6, 2018 - Professional Development and Parent Teacher Interviews
- March 8, 2019 - Assessment & Evaluation
- April 11, 2019 - Professional Development and Parent Teacher Interviews
- May 17, 2019 - Professional Development Day P-12
- June 27, 2019 - Assessment & Evaluation



PRIDE ASSEMBLIES



PRIDE Assemblies are held once per month to promote school spirit, celebrate student success, promote cultural awareness, educate students, and reinforce respectful behavior and a positive school climate. Each month various grade levels/classes are tasked with performing and educating the rest of the student population. We are not able to send out a communication inviting all parents as we must adhere to the occupancy load as per fire regulations.

We do however try to honor requests from parents to attend when they contact the school.

Millwood Elementary School

Bell Schedule for 2018-19

Morning Bell	8:25
O Canada & Announcements	8:30
P - 2 Recess	9:45 - 10:00
3 - 6 Recess	10:00 - 10:15
Lunch	11:30 - 12:30
Afternoon Bell	12:30
P - 5 Dismissal	2:30

Safe Arrival

In order to ensure the safety of our students, we run a **Safe Arrival** program. Therefore when students are absent, their homes are called. It is very important that parents notify us in the event their child/children will be absent. The phone number is **902-864-6774**. Volunteers are needed to help with the safe arrival program. If you are available please contact the main office at 902-864-7510. **Please do not leave messages on the school voicemail regarding a change in plans for your child's dismissal as there is no guarantee the message will be retrieved prior to the end of the school day. If a change is necessary, please send a note to your child's teacher. Thanks for your cooperation as we work together to keep our student's safe.**

Provincial School Code of Conduct Policy

Acceptable Standards of Behaviour

All students and school members will

- show respect for the rights, property, and safety of themselves and others
- accept personal responsibility for their behaviour
- demonstrate socially appropriate behaviour
- respect and appreciate diversity of all school members regardless of their race, culture, ethnicity, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical disability or mental disability, mental illness, age, national or aboriginal origin, socio-economic status, or appearance
- treat school property and the property of others with a reasonable standard of respect
- attend regularly and punctually as required under section 24 of the Education Act
- show respect for the roles and responsibilities of students, principals, teachers, parents, and volunteers,
- demonstrate respect for the learning environment of the school and the classroom and school activities and events
- demonstrate and promote positive behaviour through the avoidance of all types of violence
- use information and communications technology, including the Internet, digital resources, and e-communication, and all forms of social media in a responsible and acceptable manner consistent with the Nova Scotia Public School Network Access and Use Policy and the Cyber-safety Act (2013)
- refrain from all forms of bullying and cyberbullying, intimidation, racism, and discrimination
- refrain from the possession of any weapons
- refrain from the use of items as weapons intended to harm another person or themselves
- refrain from the possession of, or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs, and all other forms of toxicants on school property



Safety Corner!!!!

The Halifax Regional Centre for Education Student Protection Policy requires all parents, visitors, and volunteers to sign in at the main office and get an identification/access badge upon entering the school. This badge is to be returned to the office before leaving. The front doors at Millwood remain locked. Please buzz and the secretary will unlock the door. These procedures have been implemented in an effort to maintain a safe environment for students and staff.

Kiss and Go Lane - The parking lot is a very busy spot in the morning. Please respect the parking lot signage. There is no parking in the Kiss and Go Lane. Remember it is safest to stop at the curb and have your child exit the vehicle from the passenger side. Do not allow children to exit into the path of oncoming traffic. The parking lot is closed for dismissal from 1:00-3:00pm.

Fall is soon to arrive and the cooler weather is approaching. Remember to dress accordingly. We ask that all students bring indoor and outdoor shoes for those rainy days, so we can all

do our part to keep the school clean. Thanks for your support and cooperation as we strive to maintain a safe and healthy environment for our students.

Millwood Elementary continues to be a Nut Aware Site and Scent Aware Site. We currently have a number of students who have **life threatening allergies** within the school. We are asking that all staff, students, and visitors be mindful and respect these alerts. Please refrain from sending nut products to school with your children and wearing scented products to school. Thanks for your cooperation.

BE AWARE TAKE CARE



