

September News



Dear families,

All the staff at BLT Senior would like to take a moment to welcome all of our families as we begin another school year. The start of a new year brings a renewed sense of excitement from students, parents, and staff as we embark on this year of learning together.

We are committed to creating an environment where every child feels safe, supported, and challenged to reach their full potential. We look forward to working with all of you to ensure this is a successful and rewarding year for everyone at BLT Sr.

BLT Sr. Staff

Pink Day: September 11th

Students are invited to wear pink on Thursday September 11th to acknowledge Stand Up Against Bullying Day. This day supports the importance of building healthy, safe and positive environments. The inspiration for the day came from the actions of Central Kings Rural High School Grade 12 students Travis Price and David Shepherd who rallied behind a new student to the school who was being bullied simply for wearing pink.



School Bell Schedule

- 8:15 AM: Soft Start, Students Come into Building and go to Class
- 8:35 AM: Morning Announcements and Attendance
- 10:05 - 10:20 AM: Recess
- 12:05-1:05 PM: Lunch (ALL CLASSES)
- 2:35 PM: Dismissal



Bus Planner



Please be reminded to check for your child's bus stop information, which can be found at <https://hrcetransportation.mybusplanner.ca/>. The HRCE



September 11

Pink Shirt Day

September 8-12

Fire Drill

September 15-19

Lockdown Drill

September 22-26

Hold and Secure

September 26

Orange Shirt Day

September 29

Professional Development

September 30

Truth and Reconciliation Day

Transportation Team can support your family with all of your busing needs; please contact them to get any busing situations figured out 902-431-4723 or transportation@hrce.ca. The bussing system sends messages if a bus will be more than 15 minutes late.

Morning Arrival Procedure

The safety of our students is our highest priority. Going forward, the bus loop will remain closed to all non-designated vehicles as a **permanent procedure** for morning arrival. With our growing student population and students arriving from both buildings, this measure is essential to maintain a safe and orderly arrival and dismissal for everyone.

To help keep arrival running smoothly, we ask that you:

- Park only in designated areas on neighborhood streets.
- Avoid stopping or parking in front of the school driveway, as this can block or delay buses and designated vehicles.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us keep our students safe. Your support ensures arrival remain safe and efficient for all.

Nut-Aware School

We have a number of students at BLT Sr. who are allergic to specific foods, especially nuts. As all students eat together in designated areas, BLT Sr. remains a nut-aware school, similar to many other elementary schools in HRCE. We kindly ask that you send only nut-free products for recess snacks and lunches.



Scent-Aware School

Strongly scented products can cause breathing difficulties, dizziness, and headaches for some children and adults. BLT Sr. is a scent-aware school. Please refrain from wearing strongly scented products when visiting the school.

Telephone Messages

- Please note that teachers are unable to return telephone messages until after students have been dismissed. All messages will be returned within 48 hours.
- Additionally, our school is unable to deliver last-minute messages regarding changes to student dismissal procedures.
- Students are not to use cell phones while at school or even have them visible. We can always make arrangements to convey a student's message to their family during the day.

Office Hours

- Our administrative assistants are available in the school office from **8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** and **12:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

- All parents and visitors need to check in with the office once they are buzzed into the building.

Volunteering: Volunteer Background Check Procedures

We recognize our responsibility to ensure that all students attending our schools are protected by taking reasonable precautions to screen volunteers who may be working with students without direct supervision of staff. In accordance with Nova Scotia's Provincial [Volunteer Background Check Policy](#), prior to volunteering with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education, all volunteers will provide:

1. A completed Child Abuse Register search, which can be found [here](#). As of June 2025, digital confirmations are available for Child Abuse Register checks. For more information, click [here](#).
2. A certified and true copy of a Criminal Records Check with Vulnerable Sector Check available [here](#), from your local Police or RCMP detachment or through online organizations endorsed by Nova Scotia law enforcement agencies

Please note: the Child Abuse Register Search and Criminal Records Check must be issued in the three months preceding volunteering and updated every three years. If you request a volunteer note for the discounted criminal record check, please contact the school.

Safe Arrival

One of our top priorities is ensuring that all students arrive at school safely each day. Parents and guardians now have the option to report their child's absence in advance using **a toll-free number, the PowerSchool Parent Portal, or an app.**

School Messenger Safe Arrival is an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for families to notify the school when their child will be absent. If your child will be absent, please use one of the following methods to report it:

- **Toll-Free Number:** Call **1-833-582-6940** to report an absence using the automated system.
- **PowerSchool Parent Portal:** Log into [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and access the SchoolMessenger website to report an absence.
- **SchoolMessenger App:** Download the SchoolMessenger app for Android or iOS, and sign up using your PowerSchool username (your full email address).

For more information on how to report absences and to find answers to frequently asked questions, visit: <https://www.hrce.ca/safearrival>. **Please do not email teachers regarding late or absent students.**

School Closures

You can receive updates on any school closures through the following methods:

- **Email:** Sent to the addresses listed in PowerSchool.
- **Text Message:** If you've opted in. Not sure if you have? Simply text **Y** to **978338** to confirm.
- **Website:** Visit www.hrce.ca for updates.
- **Instagram:** Follow us at www.instagram.com/hrce_ns for updates

Lunch

All students have the opportunity to stay for lunch, but they must bring their own food. Please note that microwaves are not available for heating meals.

Nova Scotia School Lunch Program: This provincial program offers public school students across Nova Scotia a nutritious lunch each school day. If you would like to order from the program, please visit <https://nslunch.ca/> for details.



Lost and Found

Please remember to label your child's belongings, including jackets, lunch bags, and water bottles. Clearly labeled items make it much easier to return lost items to their owners and help reduce number of items in our Lost and Found.