

Beechville-Lakeside-Timberlea Senior Elementary School September News 2020

902-876-3230 – phone
902-876-3240 – Safe Arrival
blt@hrce.ca

WELCOME TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR 2020 – 2021

Welcome

We are very excited to welcome back our students and families to what has been the great start to a very unusual year. Our school is very proud of how hard our students and families have worked to support the school's plan to remain as healthy as possible.

Bussing

Please be reminded to check for your child's bus stop information, which can be found at <https://hrce.mybusplanner.ca/>. (Please register your child if you have not yet done so.) Please be reminded that at this time of the year the pick-up and drop off times will be a bit slower until everyone gets into the swing of school. Please be reminded that the HRCE Transportation Team can support your family with all of your busing needs; please contact them to get any busing situation figured out 902-431-4723 or transportation@hrce.ca.

Internet Information (Curriculum & Policies)

Please be reminded that our school web site is our primary means of electronic information and is currently up to date. The school site and newsletters are very useful resources regarding our school <https://tjh.hrce.ca/>. Additionally our school uses Twitter extensively to convey a multitude of items related to school. Please follow us @bltsenior. Our Twitter activity can also be found on our school's web site. We will continue to add content to our school web site through the year so please check back frequently. Also be reminded that all curriculum documents, school improvement plans, HRCE initiatives, policies and procedures can be found on the regional centre web site <http://www.hrce.ca> As well you may want to consult the N.S. Department of Education (EECD) web site for provincial initiatives, policies and procedures <http://www.ednet.ns.ca>.

Parent Concern Process

Our school takes pride in being a caring and supportive place for our students and their families. The welfare of each student (academic, social, behavioural) is our foremost thought. As partners, **working together for the benefit of your child**, we are more than happy to answer any questions, which may arise. It is our goal to not let a question become a concern. From time to time, our school may have to undertake a difficult conversation with a parent(s) regarding their child. We do not take these conversations lightly. They are entered into as a means of conveying what we see at school, which in turn is intended to support the student.

With that said, all questions should start with your child's teacher. If for some reason your conversation with the teacher has not resolved the situation, a parent may contact the school vice principal, and thereafter the school principal. If the same situation is still not resolved, the parent may contact the principal's supervisor, Crystal Pelly. As a last course of action, if the supervisor has not assisted in resolving the situation, the parent may enter into the Parent Concern Protocol, which involves senior administrative staff of the regional centre.

We are all working, parents and school alike, exceptionally hard on behalf of the students and must enter all conversations with this in mind.

Safe Arrival

If your child will not be in school for the regular entry time of 8:30 am., due to illness or appointment, please call the school Safe Arrival number 902-876-3240, to let the school know where your child is. If a child is not in school, and we do not have previous communication as to an absence or appointment, we are required to call.

Head Lice

Please check your child's head on a regular basis for head lice and nits. Nits are the eggs of head lice. They are very small, pearl-coloured, and teardrop shaped which attach themselves to the hair follicle. A nit will only come off the follicle if it is scratched off with a fingernail. It will not blow off like dried skin. Head lice are very apparent, as they are live crawling bugs, about the size of a pencil lead, which look like a crab. Lice and nits will happen in our school, and they can happen to anyone. If your child has nits or lice you must notify the school and begin treatment immediately. Your child must continue to have their head checked daily and any lice/nits removed. A second treatment is recommended 10 days after the first.

Nut Aware/Scent Free

Please be reminded that all schools in the HRCE are nut aware schools, meaning you are asked to not knowingly send any food which contains nuts of any sort. Our schools are also scent free due to environmental sensitivities.

Allergies/Medical Concerns

If your child has a life threatening allergy or medical concern, please notify the school immediately.

Birthday Party Plans

Please be aware that our school does not facilitate student birthday plans. We ask families to make those plans and invitation outside of school.

Close proximity/Media Release Form

Families are asked to complete and email the form back to your child's teacher. If this is not possible please inform the teacher and we will send a paper copy home.

Telephone Messages

Please be reminded that teachers will not be able to return any telephone messages until after the students have left, returning all messages within 48 hours. Also, our school is not able to give students last minute messages about any changes to their dismissal procedures for that day. Students are not use cellular telephones or even have them visible at our school. We can always make arrangements to convey a student's message to their family during the day.

Curriculum Night

Teachers are in the final stages of preparing their curriculum materials for our families. They will be reaching out soon to talk about what will be happening in their classroom this year.

School Cancellation

For the latest information about a school cancellation please consult the local radio stations such as CBC Radio or C100. The HRCE web site and signing up for the HRCE text alerts are also great options. Also if the buses are cancelled in the morning they will also be cancelled for the afternoon, similarly for school.

Mountain Maple Drive Area

It has been brought to the school's attention that traffic congestion and, all working together to benefit the students and school, in the Mountain Maple Drive area, at the back of the school, is quite challenging. We would ask all of our families to please be careful as possible for the sake of all people in that area.

Temperature

Students will be outside at recess and lunch in temperatures as cold as -20C. The Environment Canada Weather Office (Airport) will be our source for temperatures. From time to time, temperature depending, EC Weather Offices in Lunenburg and Shearwater may be consulted to create a fuller picture. With students coming to school appropriately dressed for outdoor conditions, -20C is not a problem. There is no medical or scientific evidence to suggest harm comes to reasonably dressed people who are outside in -20C temperatures for the amount of time which would be a recess or lunch. Almost all schools in HRCE have students outside in cold weather without ever having an issue. In fact the schools remained healthier through the cold and flu season than other schools who keep their students in when it is -5 or -10C, and we improved student achievement! It is amazing what physical activity and sunshine can do for health and achievement during the winter.

Office Hours

The hours in which our school will have personnel in our office area is 8:00-12:00 and 12:15-3:00.

Lunch Monitors

Our school is often in need of substitute lunch monitors. If you would like to help, and get paid, please contact the school to find out more.

Educational Program Assistants

The HRCE is often in need of substitute educational program assistants. If you are interested in this paid position please contact the school and we can provide support.

Orange Shirt Day

Orange Shirt Day (September 30th) is a day when we honour the Indigenous children who were sent away to residential schools in Canada and learn more about the history of those schools.

Annual Influenza Vaccine

Our school is working hard, and will continue to work hard with hand sanitizing, masking, distancing, not touching our faces and coughing/sneezing into our elbows plus increased cleaning. With the flu season is fast approaching we hope that your family will consider getting an annual flu shot to further support the well-being of our school.

School Photos

Photos will be taken on Sept. 23 with retakes on Oct.19. Enhanced safety and sanitizing precautions in place. Class photos will not happen but a composite will be available.

Important Dates

September 10	Provincial Anti-bullying day
September 23	School photos (Re-takes Oct. 19)
September 25	Professional development day-no classes for students
September 30	Orange Shirt Day
October 12	Thanksgiving, no school

