

Principal: Mr. Troy Smith VP: Andrea MacAulay Admin Assist: Ms. Denise Logan

**Welcome back!!**

Welcome to another school year. It is an exciting time for all to be back in school. It was wonderful to see all of the smiling faces and feel the excitement as students entered the school these past few days. This year the administration team is excited to have the opportunity to work at both MVEC and UMCS. This will provide opportunities for the schools to work together when possible and provide additional learning experiences for all students and staff. This year we will be sending home some paper copies of some notices and regular calendars along with alerts through School Messenger. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working alongside parents and guardians to move student learning forward for all.

Troy Smith - Principal

Andrea MacAulay - Vice Principal

**School Calendar**

A school calendar for MVEC will be sent home in the next few days and posted to our school website. The calendar will contain dates of events that are upcoming, theme days, and lunch opportunities as they become available. Also, don't forget to check the [HRCE calendar](https://www.hrce.ca/calendars) for important dates that are system wide.

A few dates to keep in mind are:

* September 14 - Anti Bullying Day - wear pink
* September 22- Terry Fox Run
* September 28 - Open House/Curriculum Night
* September 29 - Orange Shirt Day - Wear orange in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation Day

**Student Safety** - **Fire Drill/Lockdowns/Hold and Secure** - We had our first fire drill this week and it was well done! We will hold five more before the end of the school year. We will be holding our first Lockdown drill next week and our first Hold and Secure the following week. Please discuss with your children and reinforce the fact that we practice these drills to ensure that schools remain safe. Please read [this letter](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tWYbvV9d-nga-9eJ_Yww6PUJ7Q4vwRdu/edit) to learn about *Lockdown* and *Hold and Secure* drills.

**Safe Arrival**

SchoolMessenger Safe Arrival is now available to parents/guardians for reporting student absences using one of the three methods below.

For all methods, parents will have two choices.

1. Full Day absence with a reason for Absent with Notification.
2. Multiple Day absence with a reason for Absent with Notification. Up to five consecutive absences can be entered at a time.

If your student will be arriving late or if your student will only be absent for part of the day, please report a Full Day Absence, and when the student arrives the absence will be adjusted by the school.

If your student is absent and the absence has not been reported in advance, you will receive notifications via email, text, and phone calls from SchoolMessenger. If SchoolMessenger cannot reach you, office staff will follow up.

To report your student absent, you can use any of the following methods:

PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal - Parents/guardians can log in to <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to access the SchoolMessenger website to report future absences.

SchoolMessenger App - Parents/guardians can download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices and use their username and password for the PowerSchool Portal.

Toll-Free Number - Parents/guardians can call 1-833-582-6940 to report future absences using an automated system.

All three methods are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Absences can be reported at any time before the start of school on the day the student will be absent. Up to five consecutive absences can be recorded at once.

If you have students attending other schools, please continue to report absences using the existing procedures for those schools.

For more detailed information and Frequently Asked Questions, please visit <https://www.hrce.ca/SafeArrival>.

**Head Lice Prevention**

Not only can colds and flu bugs be spread at school, so can head lice. Head lice are tiny insects that live on the head. They lay eggs (called nits) close to the scalp. Head lice spread through direct contact among children (head-to-head), or indirectly on items such as hats, combs, hairbrushes, headbands, helmets, or toques. Head lice do not jump, fly, or hop but they crawl very quickly. We encourage you to remind your children not to share anything that could cause a transfer of head lice. Check your child’s head regularly for either live lice or nits (eggs), once a week as part of your routine and after every sleepover. Keep long hair tied back or braided. Head lice spread easily, so if one person in the household has lice, others may have it too. Check everyone in the household on the same day.

If your child has contracted head lice, we ask that you contact the school and treat your child with a medicated lice treatment such as Nix. Once your child has been treated, he/she may return to school if there are no live lice. It is important to carefully follow the directions on the treatment package so that re-infestation does not occur. All family members should be checked and treated as required. For more information, please click the link below to read the pamphlet “How to Prevent, Find & Treat Head Lice”. This pamphlet was written and reviewed by Public Health Services, Nova Scotia Health Authority

<http://www.novascotia.ca/dhw/publications/public-health-education/07135-head-lice-pamphlet-en.pdf>

School Cash Online

Paying school-related fees is easy!

We’re excited to let you know that HRCE is launching a new system that will allow you to make payments electronically, with the click of a button. From lunch orders to yearbook fees, you will be able to make all payments safely, securely and quickly through SchoolCash Online.

Our school will post items for purchase and assign school fees relevant to your child. You can make all purchases and payments from your phone, tablet or computer.
We would like families to register as soon as possible.

To get started, please register for SchoolCash Online. It’s free and takes less than two minutes. You will receive an email once items are posted for purchase.
Visit <https://hrce.schoolcashonline.com/> and click Register to get started.

Need support? Connect with the SchoolCash Online help desk at schoolcashonline.com/Home/Support

We hope that SchoolCash Online makes paying school-related fees more convenient!