

**Musquodoboit Valley Education Centre**

**12046 Highway 224**

**Middle Musquodoboit, NS B0N 1X0**

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

**Principal’s Message: November Update**

We continue to turn the calendar forward! It is hard to believe that we are heading into November very shortly! It has been a busy two months here at MVEC with getting to know the students and families. I would like to thank everyone for their warm welcome and support over the past couple of months, and I look forward to continuing to work together to move student learning forward.

As we move into November, please ensure that students are dressed for our ever-changing weather as the Fall season hits full stride. You may want to think about ensuring that the sweaters, coats, hats and maybe mittens or gloves are at the ready and in the backpacks to wear if needed.

Parents and guardians are reminded that staff are not on duty until 8:40 in the morning, so please do not drop off students prior to that time as there is no supervision.

We are working as a staff to have dismissal run as smoothly as possible and to do so, if there is a change to the end of the day routine, we are asking that these changes be made no later than 2:00 PM. We do realize that life happens and while we do plan, plans sometimes have to change. However, if we strive for this target, it should help make dismissal more efficient.

Currently, we are looking for a community member to serve on our School Advisory Council. The SAC meets six times a school year, afterschool for approximately one hour and provides input on policies from the EECD and HRCE along with supporting school initiatives in literacy, math, and student well being. The community member on the SAC cannot be a parent or guardian of a student in the school, or an employee within HRCE, and resides or works in the school catchment area. If you know of someone who may be interested, please have them contact the school.

**Quick Notes:**

* Our grade 6 students have recently finished their writing of their Grade 6 Provincial Assessment in reading writing, and math.
* We have a math coach from HRCE working in our school over the next few weeks. Ms. Paine is working directly with three teachers in the area of fact fluency, however she is supporting all teachers in their professional growth around teaching math.
* Thank you to all who came out and supported our Monster Mash and Scholastic Book Fair. The evening was a huge success!
* Picture Orders – While there is no deadline to order, if you are looking to have them before Christmas, you should order them as soon as possible.
* Parent / Teacher Conferences – Please call or email the school to book you appointment times. Appointments can be booked anytime from now until the end of the school day on November 22nd.
* Parents and Guardians are reminded that the HRCE has moved to an electronic update of the student registration form this year. An email was sent in late September to all parents and guardians regarding this. The email address to which you receive student report cards is the one that was used for this purpose. This update will ensure that the school has the most up to date information for your child/children. The deadline for this was October 20th, however, this has been extended so it is not too late.

***Below are some tips from HRCE to support you with the registration update:***

***How do I get started?***

*Visit the PowerSchool Parent Portal at*[*https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/*](https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/)*.*

*From inside the Parent Portal:*

1. *Select the student you wish to register along the top*
2. *Select the "HRCE Demographic Updates" icon from the Navigation menu on the left side*
3. *Enter the Date of Birth*
4. *Complete the form*

***I can’t remember my login for the PowerSchool Parent Portal.****If you aren’t able to retrieve your login credentials using the “Having trouble signing in?” link on the Sign In page, please contact your school directly for assistance logging in to the Parent Portal.*

***Do I have to answer all the questions?****No, but some questions are marked "Required" and must be answered before you can submit your form.*

***What if I make a mistake?****If you would like to make a change prior to submitting the form, you can either navigate back to the page using the “Previous” and “Next” buttons or if you are on the Review page select the underlined field.  If you have already submitted the form you will need to contact your student’s school so they can make the changes for you.*

***I’ve completed the form, now what?****Once you have finished entering your information select “Submit.” This will send all of the information you’ve entered to the school. If you cannot select this button you will need to make sure that you have answered all required questions.*

***What if I have more than one student in the district? Do I need to do this for each child?****Yes you will need to provide information that is specific to each child.  We recommend that you complete and submit one form and then start another. This will allow you to “snap” (or share) selected family information, which saves you time.*

**School Calendar**

A few dates to keep in mind are:

* November 3 – Picture Re-takes – if required please email Mrs. Logan at logand@hrce.ca
* November 9 – Remembrance Day service - @ 1:00 – Parents and Guardians are invited to attend
* November 15 – SAC Meeting @ 3:15
* November 17 – Assessment and Evaluation Day – No classes
* November 22 – Parent / Teacher Conferences - 5:30 – 7:30 PM
* November 23 – AM – Professional Development and PM - Parent / Teacher Conferences - 1:00 – 3:00 PM
* December 4 – Professional Development – No classes
* December 14 - Concert – Dress Rehearsal at 1:00 and concert performance at 6:30. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend.
* December 15 – Turkey dinner for all students – 12:00PM
* December 20 – Last day of classes before Christmas Break.
* January 2 – Classes resume in 2024

**Safe Arrival**

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.

**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. 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”, 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>

As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to the school.

Thank you.

Troy Smith – Principal

Andrea MacAulay – Vice Principal