

Atlantic Memorial Terence Bay Elementary

December
2025

Principal: Carrie McBay

Vice Principal: Nancy Smith

Administrative Assistant: Genna McDonald

Main: 902-852-2166

Safe Arrival: 1-833-582-6940

www.amc.hrce.ca



Message to Atlantic Memorial Terence Bay Families:

We had a wonderful first term and are so proud to celebrate the achievements of all of our students.

Great job to all of our students for your hard work and dedication throughout the term! It has been a fun and rewarding few months watching the effort you put in each day to succeed in all areas of school life.

A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Smith for taking the lead in organizing such a thoughtful and meaningful Remembrance Day ceremony. We were fortunate to have members of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 153, along with parents and guardians, take time out of their day to join us. The respect and contributions of our staff, community, and students reassure us that we will always remember.

Carrie McBay Nancy Smith
Principal Vice Principal

Holiday Concerts:

We will be having three Holiday Concerts this year. The dates are: Tuesday, December 9th at 1:20pm and Wednesday, December 10th at 9:30am and 1:20pm. Doors will open at 9:15am after our morning entry and 1:10pm after our lunch period. Please bring your ticket and if you would like to [bring a donation for the local Food Bank](#). Thank you!



AMTB Holiday Market and Fair:

We could not have done it without our fabulous staff, who generously volunteered their time and energy. Thank you to all the parents, guardians, and community members who supported our event—whether by volunteering, purchasing tickets, attending, or donating time, prizes, basket items, or auction contributions. Your generosity is truly appreciated.

We look forward to sharing the total amount raised in the near future—it was another successful event!



Upcoming Dates

December 3

Report Cards sent home

December 4

Professional Practice Day (morning) and Progress Conferences
1pm-3pm and 5:30pm-7:30pm (no classes)

December 9

Holiday Concert 1:20pm
(Bring your ticket)

December 10

Holiday Concert 9:30am and 1:20pm
(Bring your ticket)

December 15-19

Holiday Spirit Days

December 22-January 4

Holiday Break (no classes)

January 5

First day back for students

January 12

SAC Meeting at 7pm
(Virtual)

Happy New Year!

School Hours P-5

8:40 Playground
Supervision Begins
8:55 Students enter
9:00 Classes Begin
10:35-10:50 Recess
12:00-12:55 Lunch
3:00 Dismissal

Holiday Spirit Days:

We will be having themed days to get into the holiday spirit from December 15-19. Here are our themes for each day.

Monday -Holiday Colors Day: Red, green, gold, and silver/sparkle attire to celebrate the season.

Tuesday- Festive Sock Day: Wear bright, patterned, or holiday-themed socks.

Wednesday-Holiday Party Clothes Day: Wear your funniest holiday top or sweater attire.

Thursday- Holiday Hat Day: Wear Santa hats, elf hats, or any festive headwear.

Friday- Pajama/Comfy Clothes Party Day: Let's wear our pajamas to school for a cozy day of learning.



Winter Clothing:

With December, comes colder weather, and the need to bundle up. We remind all students to dress for winter. Some students may need an extra set of mitts or other clothing just in case. We have some winter coats that have been donated to the school. If we can be of any assistance in this regard, we would be happy to do so. Please email amtib@hrce.ca or call 902-852-2166.



Reporting a Student Absence:

To report your student absent there are three ways. 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.

Toll-Free Number

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

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.

Planning for Inclement Weather:

Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school buses in the event of severe or inclement weather.

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible. A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours and bus pickups are delayed by two hours; or
- All schools are open, but some or all busses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.



If weather deteriorates, or is forecasted to worsen throughout the morning, an 11:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- Bussed students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Walking students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.

How will I find out?

- By email to the addresses in PowerSchool
- By text message, if you have opted-in. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: 978338
- On the HRCE website
- On Instagram

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation. Please remember: As a parent or guardian you always have the choice of whether or not to send your child to school.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

SchoolsPlus:

SchoolsPlus is a confidential, free service available in every school in Nova Scotia. Our goal is to build positive relationships between families, schools, and communities.

Parents, guardians and students (12+) can self-refer to SchoolsPlus 12 months a year! Just contact the SchoolsPlus Facilitator at your school.

Call 902-464-2000, ext. 2331 or email schoolsplus@hrce.ca.

Learn more about SchoolsPlus [here](#).



New educational technology resource for families:

We're excited to share a new online resource designed to help families understand how technology supports student learning in HRCE. This page provides an overview of how tools like Chromebooks and Google for Education are used in classrooms, what provincially approved online platforms students may access, and how student privacy is protected. You'll also find information about Nova Scotia's guidance on the provincial cell phone expectations, tips for supporting online safety and digital citizenship at home, and an introduction to how students are learning about artificial intelligence in a thoughtful and responsible way. It also includes answers to common questions about screen time, passwords, communication during the school day, and more.

You can find the webpage [here](#).



Resources for Parents from Unplugged Canada

If you're concerned about your kids' screen time, smartphone use, or social media pressure, there are some wonderful resources below to help parents and caregivers navigate the challenges of raising kids in a digital world.

For parents: **The Anxious Generation** by **Jonathan Haidt** highlights the research and evidence behind how early smartphone and social media exposure have shaped a generation over the last 10-15 years. **Ten Rules for Raising Kids in a High-Tech World** by **Jean Twenge** offers practical, actionable guidance to help parents set healthy boundaries and support their kids' digital wellbeing.

For kids: **The Amazing Generation**, written for pre-teens and teens and co-authored by **Jonathan Haidt**, will be released on December 30. It explains the impact of today's digital environment in an engaging, age-appropriate way.

All of these books are available at your local library or bookstore.

Unplugged Canada is a parent-led, national movement advocating for healthier childhoods by delaying smartphones and social media until kids are more developmentally ready. Join thousands of Canadian families choosing to delay by taking the Unplugged Canada Pledge at unpluggedcanada.com/sign-pledge.

Lunch Monitors:

We are looking for a few people who love spending time with children who have an hour a day (12pm-1pm Atlantic Memorial Site) to join our Lunch Monitor Team. This is a paid position which is excellent for someone looking for a part-time job. If you would like more information on how to apply please reach out to us at email: amtbc@hrce.ca.

