

# Atlantic Memorial Terence Bay Elementary

**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**



January  
2026

## Upcoming Dates

### January 5

First day back for students

### January 12

SAC Meeting at 6 pm  
(Virtual)

### January 27

Family Literacy Day

### February 2

SAC Meeting at 6pm  
(Virtual)

### February 16

Heritage Day (no classes)

### 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

## Message to Atlantic Memorial Terence Bay Families:

Happy New Year and Welcome back!

We hope everyone had an amazing break and got to spend quality time with family and friends! Before the break, we had a blast here at AMTB. The students loved Andy the Elf's daily antics (he sure got up to some mischief!), P-5 School Trip to Bella Rose Arts Centre, rocking out during our Monthly Assembly sing-along, and dressing up for our festive Holiday Spirit Theme days. We hope you enjoyed the Holiday Concerts as much as our students did— showing off their musical talents! We're also thrilled to announce that the Holiday Market and Fair raised an incredible \$10,827! A huge thank you to everyone who supported this event and made it such a success.

As we look ahead, we're excited to make 2026 even more memorable, filled with fun, learning, and wonderful moments with all our students and their families!

Carrie McBay      Nancy Smith  
Principal          Vice Principal

### Family Literacy Day

Did you know? January 27 is Family Literacy Day! This special day is meant to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. This year's theme is "**Make mealtime family learning time**," encouraging families to use cooking, shopping, and eating together as opportunities for learning through recipes, lists, and storytelling.

### Lost and Found Items:

We have lots of items that have lost their way and need to find their homes again. Please drop by the main office and we can provide you access to search through them. We will be donating the remaining items by mid January to a charity.

### Kiss and Go Loop:

A few reminders about the Kiss and Go Loop. This is a drop off spot only. Your child should be able to exit the car quickly on the sidewalk side with all their belongings without assistance. Then you drive away and your child enters the building or their play area. It is important to not pass other cars in the Kiss and Go and to not park in the Kiss and Go. If you have to walk your child to the front door, you must park your car in the parking lot and not use the Kiss and Go loop. This helps to keep everyone safe and move traffic along.

### **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](https://hrce.ca/families/cancellations).

### **Power Outage Information for Families:**

As we move into the winter months, we want to share how decisions are made when a school experiences a power outage.

Our priority is always to keep schools open safely when possible. A power outage does **not** automatically mean classes are cancelled – even if it happens during the school day. The decision depends on when power is expected to be restored.

#### **Here's what happens:**

- When a school loses power, HRCE's Operations Team contacts Nova Scotia Power to gather available details on the cause and an estimated restoration time.
- Once we have this information, we consider:
- **Before school starts:** Have buses begun their routes? If so, we wait until students arrive before making a decision. If classes are cancelled, elementary families will be contacted before dismissal.
- **During the school day:** How close is dismissal? What is the temperature in the building? Does the school rely on power for water or septic systems? These factors, among others, help us decide whether to stay open or close. Often, power returns faster than we could safely send students home.

#### **If classes are cancelled:**

- HRCE will notify families by email and text.
- Families of elementary students will also receive a phone call before dismissal.

Deciding to close schools during a power outage is never simple, but safety is always our top priority. We understand that cancellations can be inconvenient, and our goal is to keep students learning in class whenever possible.

More information about school cancellations for any reason can be found [here](#).



**Lunch Monitors:**

We are looking for a few people who love spending time with children who have a few hours a day (12pm-1pm Atlantic Memorial Site) to join our Lunch Monitor Team. We are looking for people to work every day and we are also looking for a few casuals who would be available to fill vacancies when needed. 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: [amtb@hrce.ca](mailto:amtb@hrce.ca).

**Online Platform Risks From Unplugged Canada:**

*Sharing on behalf of Unplugged Canada*

Many digital platforms today, including social media, online gaming and AI chat tools, are designed to keep kids scrolling and engaged, often exposing them to addictive features, adult content, and interactions they may not be developmentally ready to handle.

Below is a resource that outlines some of the most common social media, gaming, and AI chat platforms, helping families better understand the risks, start meaningful conversations at home, and consider delaying smartphones and access to these apps until kids are more developmentally ready.

You can access the full resource [here](#).

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](https://unpluggedcanada.com/sign-pledge).

**Learn About the Influenza Vaccine:**

*Shared on behalf of the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness.*

**Fast Facts about the Flu Vaccine**

- Influenza (the flu) is virus that peaks in transmission in the fall and winter months
- Most people are mildly ill when they contract the flu but sometimes the flu can be serious and require admission to the hospital
- Children under 6 years are at the highest risk of serious complications from the flu
- The flu and RSV can occur at the same time making children more at risk of needing hospitalization
- The flu vaccine is recommended yearly for children 6 months and older to protect against serious complications of the flu

For more information, [click here](#).