

EPEC EDITOR

HOME OF THE PHOENIX

FROM ADMINISTRATION

Dear EPEC Families,

As we approach the end of the first term, we would like to take a moment to acknowledge the dedication and effort our students have demonstrated in their learning. We are proud of their accomplishments and look forward to a successful and engaging second term.

November is shaping up to be a busy and exciting month. Thanks to the commitment of our staff, we now offer a variety of lunch-hour clubs throughout the week. In addition, many teachers continue to provide extra academic support during lunch breaks. Daily announcements include updates on all activities, and students are encouraged to visit the office if they have any questions.

Our boys' soccer team had an exceptional season, remaining undefeated throughout and advancing to the playoffs. The girls' soccer team also had a remarkable season, bringing home the championship banner. Congratulations to both teams for their outstanding performance, teamwork, and dedication—we are incredibly proud of their achievements! Volleyball season is now underway, and we are thrilled with the enthusiasm and participation from our students.

We will be holding our Remembrance Day Ceremony on Monday, November 10th, to honour the brave individuals who have served our country. We welcome any service members who wish to attend; please contact the school office by Friday morning.

Please note the following important dates:

- Tuesday, November 11th – Remembrance Day (no school)
- Friday, November 21st – Assessment and Evaluation Day (no school for students)
- Wednesday, December 3rd – First Term Report Cards sent home
- Thursday, December 4th – Professional Learning/Parent-Teacher Interviews-No school for students. Parent Teacher Interviews from 1pm-3pm and 4pm-6pm, booking information to follow.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. We appreciate your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

Michelle

EPEC DATES IN NOVEMBER

Sat., Nov. 8:	Indigenous Veterans Day
Tues., Nov. 11:	Remembrance Day - No classes PP-12
Nov. 13-19:	Transgender Awareness Week
Nov. 17-20:	Report Cards (High School)
Fri., Nov. 21:	Assessment & Evaluation Day - No classes
Nov. 24-Dec. 3:	Report cards

You're invited to HRCE's Job Fair!

In an effort to recruit employees and support our ongoing commitment to diversity, HRCE is hosting a Job Fair. Open especially to those of African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry, as part of our strategy to increase under-represented groups in our workforce, we welcome all candidates to attend.

There will be several representatives from Human Resource Services, Excel, Operations, Pre-Primary and our Diversity Team who will host booths and answer questions regarding working with HRCE and the various casual, part-time and full-time roles we have.

The date and location of the event is as follows:
Thursday, November 20 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Zatzman Sportsplex Thistle Room
We hope to see you there!

**PICTURE RETAKES:
NOVEMBER 18TH**





NOVEMBER 8, 2025

Indigenous Veterans Day



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NOVEMBER 8TH IS INDIGENOUS VETERANS DAY

Indigenous Veterans Day is an important occasion to honour the sacrifices and contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples who have served in the Canadian Armed Forces. Recognizing this day in schools is especially significant, as it provides students with the opportunity to learn about the often-overlooked histories and experiences of Indigenous veterans. By commemorating Indigenous Veterans Day in our schools, we ensure that younger generations understand the vital role Indigenous peoples have played in defending Canada, while also promoting respect, reconciliation, and a more inclusive understanding of Canadian history. This recognition helps strengthen empathy, respect for diversity and a greater appreciation for the many ways in which Indigenous peoples have shaped our country.

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lest we forget



NOVEMBER 11TH IS REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day holds an important place in our schools as it provides a meaningful opportunity for our students to learn about the sacrifices made by veterans and all those who have served in times of conflict. Through ceremonies, discussions and creative projects, we demonstrate respect and gratitude for the freedoms Canadians enjoy. Observing Remembrance Day also helps students connect with Canada's history and reinforces the values of peace, tolerance and community responsibility.

Transgender Awareness Week



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NOVEMBER 13-19 IS TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK

Transgender Awareness Week provides an important opportunity to strengthen understanding and respect for the transgender community, to encourage inclusivity in our schools and to promote safe environments where all students feel valued and supported. Learn more [here](#).



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Will school be cancelled?

HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the normal operations of schools and buses due to weather.

Learn more at
hrce.ca/families/cancellations

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?

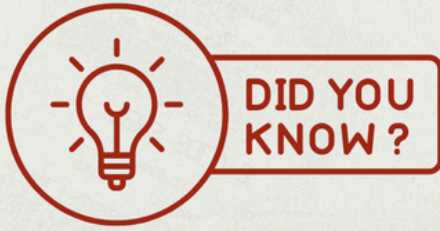
- By email to the addresses in PowerSchool
- By text message, if you have opted-in. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: 978338

[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.



Ensuring regular attendance is a joint effort between students, families and schools.

What can you do?

- ✓ Monitor and encourage punctual, consistent attendance
- ✓ Maintain open communication with the school when absences or challenges arise
- ✓ Work with school staff to understand supports or accommodations for your child
- ✓ Be aware of the attendance thresholds and possible consequences

Did you know? The Student Attendance and Engagement Policy guides our approach to attendance and is in place to support all students.

The policy states that regular, punctual attendance supports academic success, responsibility, and preparation for the future.

Ensuring regular attendance is a joint effort between students, families and schools. As a parent/guardian, you play an important role by monitoring attendance, communicating with the school when your child is absent, and supporting your child's regular attendance.

What Should You Know?

- Communication about absences
 - Schools will monitor attendance and lateness.
 - All absences must be communicated to the school, following the school's procedure.
 - If absenteeism or lateness reaches 10% of class time, the school will begin to engage more actively with the student and family.
 - If it goes beyond 15%, more targeted supports may be used (counselling, referrals, community supports).
- High school credit requirement
 - For Grades 10–12, students must attend at least 80% of class time to earn the credit.
 - If more than 20% of class time is missed, and efforts to improve attendance haven't succeeded, the teacher may recommend "loss of credit." The principal makes the final decision.

What Can You Do?

- Monitor and encourage punctual, consistent attendance
- Maintain open communication with the school when absences or challenges arise
- Work with school staff to understand supports or accommodations for your child
- Be aware of the thresholds (10%, 15%) and possible consequences (intervention, loss of credit in high school)
- Remember: the policy allows flexibility. If your child has a legitimate reason for missing school (health, family issue, etc.), schools are encouraged to take a supportive approach.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AND YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

A QUICK GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND
GUARDIANS IN HRCE



WHAT IS AI?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) means computers that can learn from information and find patterns to help make decisions. AI doesn't think or feel like people—it uses data to make connections that led to informed responses.

HOW IS AI USED IN SCHOOLS?

- Teachers choose if and how AI is used in the classroom.
- Some lessons may include AI tools for learning or creativity.
- Students learn how to use technology safely and responsibly.



HOW AI CAN HELP LEARNING?

AI can:

- Give students quick feedback.
- Help with idea generation when a child is stuck.
- Adjust lessons to fit different learning needs.
- Change reading levels of text so it is more easily accessible.

Remember, teachers will always tell students when they can or cannot use AI for school work.



AI PRIVACY AND SAFETY TIPS:

- Never share personal info with AI tools.
- Only use apps approved by your school or regional centre.
- Look closely at the age restrictions of AI tools.
- Talk with your child about what's real, what's private, and what's fair online.



AT HOME YOU CAN HELP BY:

- Setting screen time limits and tech-free times.
- Talking about what your child does online.
- Reminding your child to check if AI answers make sense.
- Asking teachers about the AI usage guidelines.
- Reviewing classroom/school academic integrity guidelines.



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Scan the QR code for a list of approved learning tools and information about technology in education.



HRCE teachers and staff are introducing students to artificial intelligence (AI) in safe and meaningful ways that build awareness, creativity, and critical thinking.

Together, we can help our learners understand how to use AI responsibly and confidently in their education and everyday lives. This informational sheet provides you with starting points for conversations about AI and learning.

[Click here](#) to download the document.



EPEC SCHOOL CLOTHING – SEE LINK BELOW

<https://pmgsw.com/products/Eastern-Passage-Education-Centre-c168124758>

This is where you will find the EPEC Athletics Calendar.

This will give you information on tryouts, practices and games for all sports at EPEC!

[EPEC Athletics Calendar](#)

[Eastern Passage Education Centre](#)

[Home of the Phoenix!](#)

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