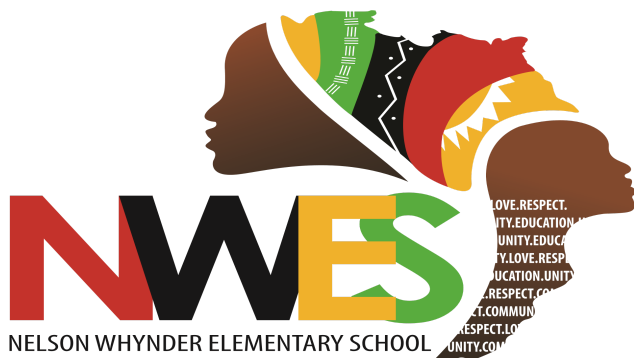




Nelson Whynder Elementary November Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Sat., Nov. 8: Indigenous Veterans Day
- Tues., Nov. 11: Remembrance Day - No classes PP-12
- Nov. 13-19: Transgender Awareness Week
- Fri., Nov. 21: Assessment & Evaluation Day - No classes
Elementary/Middle/Junior High only
- Nov. 24-Dec. 3: Report cards (Elementary/Middle/Junior High)
- Nov 26: Picture Retake Day

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear NWES Families,

As the crisp days of November arrive, I want to take a moment to celebrate the wonderful work happening at Nelson Whynder Elementary. Our students continue to develop resilience, curiosity, and kindness in everything they do. It has been wonderful to see them grow both academically and socially this fall.

This month, we are also taking time to honor the men and women of our community who have served. In classrooms, students are learning about the No. 2 Construction Battalion (the Black Battalion)—exploring their courage, dedication, and the vital role they played in our history. These lessons help us reflect on the values of courage, commitment, and community, and provide meaningful opportunities for students to connect with our shared heritage.

We are excited to announce that our partnership with Imhotep's Legacy Academy has officially begun! Programming is now underway, bringing engaging, hands-on learning experiences in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to our students. We look forward to seeing the creativity and curiosity this program inspires within our school community.

We also want to extend a big thank-you to Constable Riley and Constable Ben from the North Preston RCMP Detachment for visiting and presenting on Halloween safety. The students enjoyed learning valuable tips for staying safe—and the treats were a big hit!

A special thank-you as well to our community organizations for bringing treats for our students. Your kindness and generosity are deeply appreciated.

Finally, a heartfelt thank-you to our staff, families, and volunteers who help make Nelson Whynder Elementary a safe, welcoming, and supportive place for all. Your partnership is essential to our students' success, and we are truly grateful for all the ways you contribute to our school community.

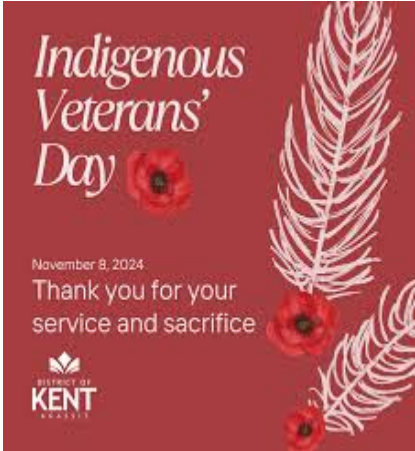
As we move through November, let us continue to celebrate kindness, learning, and the incredible contributions of our community members. Wishing everyone a month filled with reflection, connection, and joy.

Warm regards,

April Desmond

Principal, Nelson Whynder Elementary School

November 8 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.

November 11 is Remembrance Day



-Place Picture Here-

Name of Veteran: _____

Service: _____

Relationship: _____

Student and Class: _____

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.

We will be honoring remembrance day at NWES with our students on 10th November with a whole school assembly with guest speakers. We would love to create a ‘Wall of honour’ for our Remembrance day ceremony. Students have been sent home with the above form to complete where they can add a photo or draw a picture of a veteran in their family or community. This is a wonderful way to honour people who served and for our students to have a family or friend connection.

November 13-19 is Transgender Awareness Week



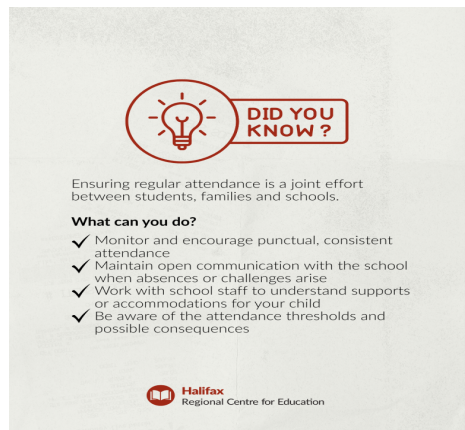
Transgender Awareness Week provides an important opportunity to strengthen understanding and respect for the transgender community, to encourage inclusivity in our schools and to promote safe environments where all students feel valued and supported. Learn more [here](#).

School Pictures

Adams Photography will be back on the **26th November 2025** for retakes.



Learning more about the Student Attendance and Engagement Policy



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.

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.

School Mission and Matrix of Expectation of School Wide Behaviours

We invite families to explore our school's mission with their child(ren) and talk together about the positive behaviors we celebrate, as highlighted in our school matrix. Your support in reinforcing these expectations helps make our school a safe and welcoming place for everyone!



Our School Vision

At Netson Whynder Elementary School, we work together to make our school a safe, kind, and welcoming space for everyone. We believe every student has a voice and can make choices to help them learn and grow. We strive for academic excellence by working hard, believing in ourselves (Kujichagulia), and showing unity and care for one another (Umoja). We celebrate what makes each of us unique—our stories, strengths, and who we are. With Ujima and Ujamaa, we take care of our community, share responsibilities, and lift each other up. We use our creativity (Kuumba) to solve problems, set goals with purpose (Nia), and believe in ourselves, our families, and our future

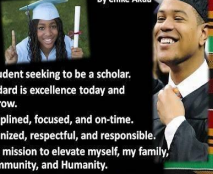
	Respect (Umoja)	Responsibility & Safety (Kujichagulia)	Community (Ujima & Ujamaa)	Striving for Excellence (Nia, Kuumba, Imani)
Classroom	Use kind words and listen to others. Whole body listening.	Focus on your work and follow directions.	Help your classmates and keep your space clean. Take care of your own belongings and school property.	Try your best, be creative, and believe in yourself.
Hallway	Walk quietly and give others space.	Stay in line and go where you're supposed to.	Respect displays, keep belongings tidy, and keep hands to yourself.	Stay focused on where you're going.
Bathrooms	Respect everyone's privacy.	Use time wisely and return quickly.	Keep it clean.	Make healthy choices and do what's right.
Playground	Include others and play fair.	Follow rules and use equipment safely.	Share and help others.	Try new games and show a positive attitude.
Library	Use quiet voices and listen closely.	Choose books and return them on time.	Take care of books and library materials.	Read, explore, and grow your thinking.
Assembly	Listen to the speaker and clap kindly.	Sit still and stay with your class.	Show respect to guests and performers.	Think about what you learn and how it helps you grow.
Bus	Use polite words and voices.	Stay seated and follow directions.	Keep the bus clean and safe for all.	Be patient and responsible on your way to and from school.

Positive Participation Awards

Classroom Awards	Music	Phys.Ed	French
Pre- Primary Sincere Cain Primary Santiya Johnson Grade 1 KehlaniGlasgow-Beals Grade 2/3 Antonio Leaman Grade 4 /5 Freddy Conrod Grade 6 Ro’Jhaiah Beals	Primary Chyzier Willis Grade 1 Zakai Sparks Grade 2/3 Natanyah Rodriques Grade 4/5 Noah Grant Grade 6 Zy’Zayian Provo	Primary Marolyn Joyce Grade 1 Zuri Smith Grade 2/ 3 Nova Cain Grade 4 /5 Urijah McNab-Wright Grade 6 Trey Bruhm	Grade 4/5 Elayce Clayton Grade 6 Arielle White

STUDENT CREED

By Chike Akus



I am a student seeking to be a scholar.
The standard is excellence today and tomorrow.
I am disciplined, focused, and on-time.
I am organized, respectful, and responsible.
I am on a mission to elevate myself, my family, my community, and Humanity.

Lunch Monitors

We are currently recruiting for Lunch monitors. Lunch monitors provide support and assistance to students during lunch time activities under the direction of the School Principal. The lunch monitor will oversee students in a variety of settings in the classroom, lunch area, and outside play. Please contact the school office at 902-462-6030 if you or someone you know may be interested in a position. This is a paid position.



Safe Arrival

Safe Arrival If your child will not be attending school or will be late, it is imperative that you call the school's safe arrival line at 1-833-582-6940 or visit <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to record them as absent. The automated system will call out for all unaccounted absences. If your child will be arriving late, please record them as absent, and the office will mark them present once they have arrived at school. The automated system is not set up to account for half day absences. Daily attendance and prompt arrival at school ensure your child(ren) and all other students in the class a successful start to their day. Missing even 10 minutes of a morning routine can interrupt student learning. We encourage parents to call the safe arrival line rather than calling the school.



Supporting Students and Families: Unplugged Canada Resources!

UPCOMING FREE EVENT!

Unplugged Together:
Raising Connected Kids in a Digital World





Learn about the latest research, safer alternatives to consider and tools to navigate the digital world with kids

When: Sunday, November 2nd @ 6:30pm ADT
Where: Hammonds Plains Community Centre
(Virtual Zoom option available)

Register: UnpluggedTogether.eventbrite.ca
Connect with other parents!



Please note: this includes an event taking place Nov. 2.

Unplugged Canada is a parent-led, national movement advocating for healthier childhoods by delaying smartphones and social media until kids are developmentally ready. Parents and caregivers are invited to explore resources, take the [pledge](#) to delay, and join upcoming parent events at unpluggedcanada.com.

The local Nova Scotia chapter is hosting a free community event for parents, caregivers and educators.

Unplugged Together: Raising Connected Kids in a Digital World

Learn about the latest research on how smartphones are impacting kids, safer alternatives to consider and tools to navigate the digital world with your family.

Hammonds Plains Community Centre (virtual/zoom option available)

Sunday, November 2, 2025

6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Register: <https://UnpluggedTogether.eventbrite.ca>



**Cook up your favourite
school meals at home**

with Nourish Nova Scotia's new cookbook!

Within its pages, you'll find easy recipes, meet
inspiring lunch heroes, explore local ingredients,
and enjoy bite-sized food facts.



Get your copy of
What's for Lunch? here:



nourishns.ca/nsc
school-lunch-cookbook

All proceeds from the sale of this cookbook will
support food programs in Nova Scotia schools.



Hungry for something fun? Get cooking with the new cookbook What’s for Lunch? Nova Scotia Recipes to Cook and Enjoy Together, a joyful collection of most-loved recipes from school food programs.

Proceeds from the sale of this book go directly to supporting school healthy eating programs in Nova Scotia, such as breakfast and snack, cooking clubs and school gardens. Learn more and order yours [here](#).

Whether you’re a new cook, a young chef, or a family learning together in the kitchen, What’s for Lunch? invites you to bake up a handmade pizza, create a picnic plate, make a big batch of breakfast sandwiches, or stir up some butter chicken! Each easy-to-follow recipe comes with tasty ideas for toppings, sides, and simple swaps to make it just right for you and your family.

Within its pages, you will meet some of the inspiring folks behind Nova Scotia’s made-from-scratch school lunches, explore where local food ingredients come from, and discover bite-sized fun facts to spark curiosity. Colourful illustrations by students at Oxford School in Halifax and beloved local illustrator Emma FitzGerald bring it all to life!

SAC News

Thank you to everyone who attended our SAC meeting on the 21st October. These are the dates of our next meetings. Our next meeting is at **6pm Monday 24th November 2025**

Future meetings

- 6pm Monday 26th January 2026
- 6pm Monday 23rd February 2026
- 6pm Monday 30th March 2026
- 6pm Monday 27 April 2026
- 6pm Monday 25th May 2026
- 6pm Monday 29th June 2026

DENTAL CLINIC NEWS

Hi everyone! My name is Jenn, and I’m the dental assistant currently sitting in Juliette’s chair. I sure do miss her, but I’m so happy for her and hope she’s enjoying this exciting new chapter in her life.

*I’m still navigating through some paperwork and will be **making calls home** for those who have not submitted their forms yet - thank you for your patience as we get everything in order!*

*Our **Adult Care Program** is also in full swing - appointments are now available on **Tuesday mornings**, so please don’t hesitate to reach out if you’d like to schedule a visit.*

I’m really looking forward to meeting everyone and continuing to make your dental visits fun, comfortable, and full of smiles.

 **Keep Smiling!**

*Remember: A healthy smile starts with **YOU!***

 Brush

 Floss

 Eat Healthy Snacks

 Visit your dentist regularly!

North Preston Dental Clinic: 902-462-2041

* The clinic will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday!

