

December 2025

# SYCAMORE LANE

## NEWSLETTER



69 Sycamore Lane, Lower Sackville, NS, B4C 1E8

Website: [sle.hrce.ca](http://sle.hrce.ca)

Safe Arrival: 1-833-582-6940

## Progress Conferences

### Progress Conferences:

Will be on Thursday, December 4th between 1-3PM and 4-6PM.

Please use the direct link below to book an interview with your children's teacher(s): <https://schoolinterviews.ca/code/d5d3v>

Bookings will close Thursday, December 4th, at 11:00 AM.

Our schools code is: d5d3v

### Holiday Concert Wednesday, December 17th:

We are looking forward to this year's holiday concert. There will be two shows on the evening of December 17th. Tickets will be sent home with students. There will be two tickets per family, in the case of siblings with the same show time, the oldest sibling will bring home the tickets. **Show 1 will be 5:30-6:30 PM and Show 2 will be 7-8PM.**

Students are asked to arrive 30 minutes before their show time and head to their classrooms and showgoers will head to the gym. After the show ends, students can be picked up in their classroom. (Some families will have students in both shows, those students will stay in their classrooms during the second show.)

There will be a dress rehearsal performance for extended family and those who may work evening shifts. This is not a ticketed event, but we ask families to keep to 2 guests for these shows as well. Show 1 will be 9-10 AM & Show 2 10:30-11:30 AM.

**Stay tuned for upcoming email communication with a breakdown of which classes perform at which time as well as details for a chance to win front row seats!**



## SLE Holiday Shop- December 11th

Each year we host a holiday shop for students to 'shop' for gifts for the holidays for their family members! All students will have the opportunity to 'shop' with their class, choose gifts for their family members and even have those gifts wrapped! 'Shopping' is free.

Donation Collection: Dec 1st-10th

We are asking for donations of gently used items suitable for gifting and wrapping paper. (no gift bags please) Think about small items for all ages and genders as every household's family is unique and we're hoping all students will be able to find something for everyone! You can drop off items at arrival and/or dismissal on any school day in the lobby. We greatly appreciate all donations and thank you for your support!

Volunteers to help wrap:

If you are available to help wrap gifts on Dec 11th please email [sles@hrce.ca](mailto:sles@hrce.ca) to let us know and we will send you details. Thank you!



Sycamore Lane Elementary Home & School

## PIZZA KIT FUNDRAISER



### RANDY'S PIZZA KITS

CHOICE OF PEPPERONI, CHEESE OR GARLIC FINGERS

PICK-UP ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH BETWEEN 3-5 PM  
SYCAMORE LANE ELEMENTARY LOBBY

Let's raise some "dough"!

All proceeds will benefit Sycamore Lane Elementary Home & School

## Sycamore Lane H.S.A. Pizza Kit Fundraiser

On Sale on SchoolCash Online, available to the school community and public! You can share [THIS LINK](#) with others to purchase from now until **Dec 10th**.

Randy's Pizza Sackville has partnered with SLE H.S.A. once again to offer this excellent fundraiser.

Pick up at SLE Sunday, Dec 14th from 3-5 PM ONLY!

All proceeds from go to SLE H.S.A.  
Thank you for your support!

## We are HIRING!

Did you know that HRCE posts new job opportunities at noon every Wednesday?  
Learn more at [www.myhrce.ca/jobs](http://www.myhrce.ca/jobs)



Did you know that HRCE has more than 10,000 employees serving more than 60,000 students?

Our job postings are updated every Wednesday at noon and feature a wide variety of career opportunities!

As HRCE grows, so does our staff. Check out new opportunities weekly at [www.myhrce.ca/jobs](http://www.myhrce.ca/jobs).

## **Reminders**

### **Healthy Food Policy**

HRCE has a Healthy Food Policy in place to support healthy food choices. This policy allows a predetermined number of times a school can distribute treats to students. Therefore there are no other times that treats can be distributed either school wide or in individual classrooms. During the school year we often are contacted by parents/guardians requesting permission to send in things like cupcakes, candy or other treats to their child's classroom. Due to the Healthy Food Policy these requests will not be accommodated. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Birthday Celebrations**

Students look forward celebrating their birthdays with friends they have made at school. We would like to remind families that these social events are separate from the school and are to be coordinated outside of school time. We ask that if parents /guardians plan to distribute invitations at school to please coordinate with their teacher to do so discreetly. Additionally we do not allow the distribution of treat bags or party favors here at school. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Student Early Pick Up**

When you are picking up a student early, please come to the main entrance and use the intercom to be let in. Please proceed to the main office to request the student you are picking up. At this time we will call the student being picked up out of class and you can sign them out on the sign out sheet. Please arrive with enough time to allow students to be called from class and get ready. Please do not phone ahead of time. Thank you.

### **Water Bottles & Cutlery**

Please remember to pack forks, spoons and a full water bottle daily. Thank you.

### **Dress for the Weather**

This time of year weather can be unpredictable. Students go outside multiple times a day, even when the ground is wet. Please ensure student have splash/snow pants to stay dry. We recommend that student have a change of clothes in a large zipper seal bag in their backpack incase they are needed.

### **Safe Arrival**

When a student is going to be absent or arrive late please update them as AWN in Safe Arrival. When arriving late students sign in at the office and we update their attendance. Safe Arrival Line: **1-833-582-6940** for more information click here [SAFE ARRIVAL](#).



# December 2025 CALENDAR

Thank you to our Teachers and Staff who are volunteering their lunch time to provide great clubs for our students.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>1</b> Recess: Open Library  <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Games 2's -Bots	<b>2</b> Open Gym R1: 4/5B & 4/5C R2: 1L & 2 B <b>Intramurals: 3's</b> <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Pokemon	<b>3</b> Open Gym R1: 2/3D R2: 3P & 4M <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Wind Down Wed -Lego 3's -Primary Coloring	<b>4</b> <b>Lunch: Glee</b>  <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Basketball L2 4/5B & 4/5C -Multicultural	<b>5</b> Recess: Open Library Open Gym R1: 4/5B & 4/5C R2: 3P & 4M <b>Intramurals: 2's</b> <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Open Lunch 4's
<b>8</b> Recess: Open Library  <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Games 3's -Bots	<b>9</b> Open Gym R1: 2/3D R2: 1L & 1/2B <b>Intramurals: 4's</b> <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Pokemon	<b>10</b> <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Wind Down Wed -Lego 4's -Primary Coloring -Skipping 2B	<b>11</b> <b>Lunch: Glee</b>  <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Basketball L1 3P& 4M -Multicultural	<b>12</b> Recess: Open Library Open Gym R1: PTh & PTu R2: 1/2B & 2B <b>Intramurals: 5's</b> <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Open Lunch 5's
<b>15</b> Recess: Open Library  <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Games 4/5 -Bots	<b>16</b> Chair Delivery <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Pokemon	<b>17</b> Holiday Concert <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Wind Down Wed -Lego 5's -Primary Coloring	<b>18</b> Chair Pick Up <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Basketball L2 4/5B & 4/5C -Multicultural	<b>19</b> Recess: Open Library Open Gym R1: 4/5B & 4/5C R2: 3P & 4M <b>Intramurals: 2's</b> <b>Lunch Clubs</b> -Open Lunch 2/3

## Spirit Week Dec 15-19

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>15</b> <b>HOLIDAY COLORS DAY</b> Wear holiday colours!	<b>16</b> <b>PLAID or HOODIE DAY</b> Wear plaid or a hoodie!	<b>17</b> <b>FANCY DAY</b> Dress up and look your best!	<b>18</b> <b>SPORTS DAY</b> Wear a team shirt, jersey, your teams jersey or athletic wear!	<b>19</b> <b>PJ &amp; PANCAKE DAY</b> Wear your PJ's a enjoy a pancakes breakfast

# IMPORTANT DATES

December 2 -SLE Report Card Day

December 2-5 - Book Fair (Parents/Guardians can shop Dec 4th during Progress Conference times)

December 3 -International Day of Persons with Disabilities

December 4 - PD Day & Progress Conferences NO SCHOOL (PP-12)

December 10: International Human Rights Day

December 14 - Hanukkah begins at sundown

December 17 - Holiday Concert (Snow Date Dec 18)

December 18 - Popcorn Day (Snow Date Dec 19)

December 19 - Last day of classes before winter break

**December 22- January 2 - Holiday Break NO SCHOOL (PP-12)**

DECEMBER 25 - Christmas

December 26 - Kwanzaa

January 1 - New Year's Day

January 5 - First Day of classes after winter break

## 2025-26 CALENDAR NOVA SCOTIA REGIONAL CENTRES FOR EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 2025	OCTOBER 2025	NOVEMBER 2025	DECEMBER 2025
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4	1	1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30	26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	28 29 30 31
		30	
JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY 2026	MARCH 2026	APRIL 2026
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
25 26 27 28 29 30 31		29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30
MAY 2026	JUNE 2026	<b>LEGEND</b>	
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	ELEM/NTARY/MIDDLE/JUNIOR	
1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6	• Term 1: Sept. 4 to Nov. 21, 2025	
3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	• Term 2: Nov. 24 to Mar. 13, 2026	
10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	• Term 3: Mar. 23 to Jun. 30, 2026	
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	HIGH SCHOOL	
24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30	• Semester 1: Sept. 1, 2025 to Jan. 30, 2026	
31		• Semester 2: Feb. 2 to Jun. 30, 2026	
		Progress Conference meetings formerly known as Parent/Teacher Meetings will be held on the dates marked on the calendar.	
		No School ALL STUDENTS	
		First Day of School/Last Day of School	
		No School High School Only	
		No School Elem/Middle/Jr Only	
		Culturally Significant Day (Schools Open)	

Sept 2 School Organization Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Dec 19 Last Day for Students Before Holiday Break	Apr 6 Easter Monday (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)
Sept 3 Professional Development Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Dec 22 Teacher Professional Practice Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Apr 21-Apr 28 Report Cards High School
Sept 4 First Day of School for Students	Jan 5 First Day Back After Break	Apr 29 Elem/Middle/Jr Professional Development & High School Progress Conferences/Teacher Professional Practice Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)
Sept 29 Professional Development Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Jan 27 NS Examination English 10	May 11 Mi'kmaq Language Day (Culturally Significant Day Schools OPEN)
Sept 30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Jan 28-29 High School Summative Assessments	May 15 Black Excellence Day (Culturally Significant Day Schools OPEN)
Oct 1 Treaty Day (Culturally Significant Day Schools OPEN)	Jan 30 High School Assessment & Evaluation Day/Semester 1 Ends (No Classes HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)	May 18 Victoria Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)
Oct 13 Thanksgiving Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Feb 2 Semester 2 Begins (High School)	Jun 21 National Indigenous Peoples Day (Culturally Significant Day)
Oct 24 NSTU Conference Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Feb 3-13 Semester 1 Report Cards (High School)	Jun 22 NS Examination English 10
Nov 11 Remembrance Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Feb 16 Nova Scotia Heritage Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Jun 23 NS Examination Mathematics 10
Nov 21 Elem/Middle/Jr Evaluation Day (No Classes ELEM/MIDDLE/JR ONLY)	Mar 13 Elem/Middle/Jr Assessment & Evaluation Day (No Classes ELEM/MIDDLE/JR ONLY)	Jun 23-25 High School Summative Assessments
Nov 17-20 Report Cards High School	Term 2 Ends (Elementary)	Jun 26 High School Assessment & Evaluation Day (No Classes HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)
Nov 24-Dec 3 Report Cards Elem/Middle/Jr	Mar 16-20 Spring Break (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Jun 29 Elementary and High School Assessment & Evaluation Day (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)
Dec 4 Progress Conferences/Teacher Professional Practice (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	Mar 23-Apr 2 Report Cards Elem/Middle/Jr	Jun 30 Last Day of School
	Apr 2 Elem/Middle/Jr Progress Conferences/Teacher Professional Practice Day & High School Professional Development (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	
	Apr 3 Good Friday (No Classes ALL SCHOOLS)	

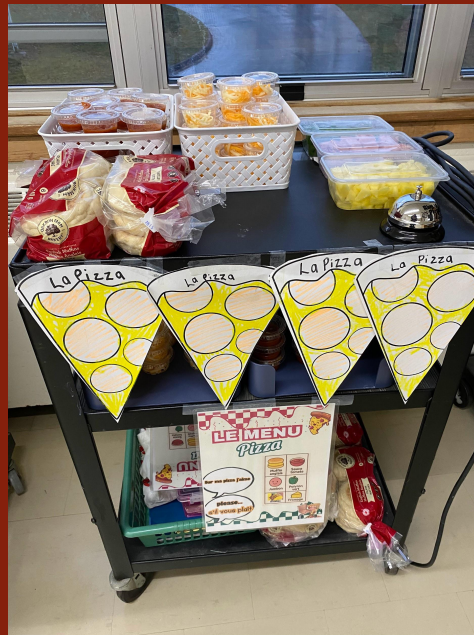
2025-2026 Full Year

HRCE Calendar

[CLICK HERE](#) to Download the

Calendar and follow the instructions to sync it to your electronic calendar!

# November Snapshots



**Mme. Buffet**  
**Making Pizza!**



## We Remember



**Paving is done! Painting coming soon!**





## 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;
- 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).



**Connect with us!**

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. We can help families navigate complicated situations when they are involved with many different services.

**SchoolsPlus**  
NOVA SCOTIA / NOUVELLE-ÉCOSSE

**Phone:** 902-464-2041  
**Email:** schoolsplus@hrce.ca

## SchoolsPlus is here to support you:

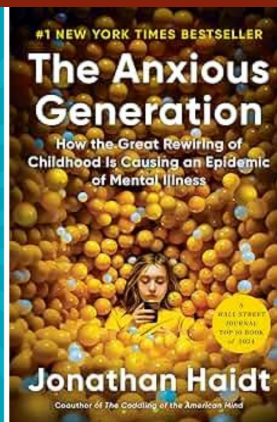
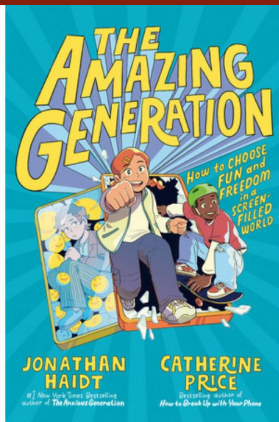
SchoolsPlus is a confidential, free service available in every school in Nova Scotia. Our goal is to build positive relationships between families, schools, and communities.

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