*École Shannon Park School*

# Mid October Update

75 Iroquois Drive ● Dartmouth, NS ● B3A 4M5
Tel # (902) 464-2084 ● Email: spes@hrce.ca
Website: https://spk.hrce.ca

**October 2026**

## Upcoming Dates:

## Click here for HRCE Calendar & here for Shannon Park Calendar

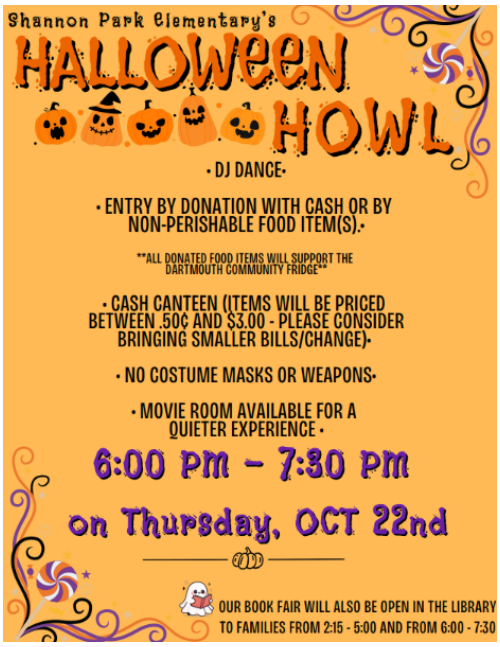
- October 20,21,27,28- Grade 6 Provincial Assessments
- October 19-23: School Bus Safety Week
- October 22: Halloween Howl 6-7:30pm
- October 23: NSTU Conference Day - No School for Students
- October 26: Bus Evacuation Drills
- November 10: Remembrance Day Assembly
- November 11: Remembrance Day (No School)
- November 12: Home & School meeting 6pm / SAC meeting 7pm
- November 20: Assessment & Evaluation Day (No School)

## Book Fair

Our school library will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair soon from October 16th-22nd. On October 22nd, stop by earlier in the afternoon to avoid the long line ups that can happen during Halloween Howl! Information went home with students this week. Students may have a viewing and/or buying time scheduled at the book fair if their teacher so chooses, and they will be communicating that information to families. Book fair information has also gone home with students this week. Thank you in advance for all purchases made at the book fair, all money raised goes to support our school library!

## Halloween Howl

Our Home & School is planning a Halloween Howl Family Event for October 22th at Shannon Park School for all our families. All children attending must be supervised by a parent or guardian. Please see the flyer for more information.




## Halloween

As students prepare their costumes on Friday, October 30th, we ask that families consider a few things. With safety as a priority, we ask that: costumes are culturally appropriate, and costume masks and weapons are not allowed. Students need to be able to put on/take off their costumes themselves in a timely manner, move easily on the stairs, and be able to attend gym. **Please see any messaging from your child's teacher regarding events/costumes for the day.**

## Lunch Monitors

We are reaching out in search of lunch monitors. If you have or are willing to have a criminal record check/vulnerable sector and child abuse registry done and are able to help, please phone 902-464-2084 or email spes@hrce.ca and we can begin the process. Even if you are only available certain days of the week your time is appreciated. Thank you!




## Medication at School

Students requiring medication at school—including over-the-counter drugs—must have updated documentation on file annually in the office; please email spes@hrce.ca to request these forms. Families should make every effort to administer medications at home, but when

necessary, school-administered doses are stored securely and given by designated staff. All prescribed medication must arrive in its original pharmacy-labeled container specifying the student's name, drug name, dosage, administration schedule and route, expiry date, and storage instructions.

## October 19-23 is School Bus Safety Week

Every school day, thousands of HRCE students rely on the bus to get to and from school safely. School Bus Safety Week is a chance to highlight the simple habits that help keep everyone safe — from waiting well back from the road, to following the driver's instructions, to staying alert around stopped school buses.

With more than 33,000 HRCE students travelling on more than 400 buses each day, safety depends on all of us: students, families, drivers, schools and motorists.

This week is a good opportunity to review a few everyday reminders and help reinforce safe routines on the bus, at the stop and on the road.

Bus Stop Safety

- Be on time for the bus and please don't run to/from the bus.
- Stand back off the road and don't push or shove when waiting at a stop.
- Always cross in front of the bus. Walk three metres (10 feet) in front of the bus to a point where you can see the driver and wait for the driver's signal to cross. Proceed to the centre of the road, STOP, LOOK & LISTEN and cross the road when it is safe.
- Never crawl under a school bus or cross the road behind the bus.
- Know the danger zones around the bus.

School Bus Safety

- Please respect and listen to the driver and avoid distracting them.
- Please keep noise levels to a minimum.
- Do not stand or move seats while the bus is in motion.
- Never put your hands, arms, feet or head out of the bus window.
- Ask the driver for permission before you open the bus windows.
- Do not throw anything inside the bus or out of the windows.
- Keep the aisle clear at all times when the bus is in motion.

Remember: In Nova Scotia, it's illegal to pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended. You can find out more information about riding the school bus in HRCE here.

## Volunteers

We would love to welcome volunteers into our school this year! Volunteers can also help to chaperone on class trips which happen all year long. If you are interested, please reach out to the school spes@hrce.ca We can provide you with a letter that states you are volunteering with us which reduces the cost of the checks. If the cost of completing these checks is a financial challenge, we may be able to assist. Please contact the Principal, Anne Gourlay AGourlay@hrce.ca

Prior to volunteering with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education, all volunteers will provide:

1. A completed Child Abuse Register search, which can be found here. As of June 2025, digital confirmations are available for Child Abuse Register checks. For more information, click here.

2. A certified and true copy of a Criminal Records Check with Vulnerable Sector Check available here, from your local Police or RCMP detachment or through online organizations endorsed by Nova Scotia law enforcement agencies

Please note: the Child Abuse Register Search and Criminal Records Check must submitted to the school within three months of the issue date before you can volunteer and updated every three years.

## Reminders

- Please, do not send nut or peanut products to school (this includes Nutella products).
- Please note that teachers are on morning duty as of 7:50am. Please do not drop off students before this time. Thank you!
- It is helpful to have a complete change of clothes in your child's backpack just in case of mud, puddles, or spills and it may save you a trip to school in the middle of your day.
- Please do not bring dogs onto school grounds.
- Please do not drive or park on school property. There is absolutely no driving/parking on school property for unauthorized vehicles without prior arrangements during the day. Please drive slowly and watch for crosswalks. *When buses arrive, do not drive, or walk around them.* This protects all of us and especially our students.
- Please request proper forms for the administration of any medications. These need to be completed each school year. Medications can be administered to students by school staff during school hours when we have completed forms on file at school. This includes over the counter medications.
- Please ensure that your child has indoor shoes for school and wears outdoor shoes/boots to help keep our school clean.