



March Newsletter



St. Stephen's Elementary School

3669 Highland Ave., Halifax, NS B3K 4J9

PRINCIPAL: David Madgett **VICE-PRINCIPAL:** Nicole Gerrard

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Heather Cosgrove-Smith

Principal's Message

If January felt like it went on forever, February proved to be the complete opposite! Even though this is the shortest month of the year, we always seem to be able to pack in a fair bit!

We started the month with a series of "twonie treat" Fridays to raise money for our Coins for Books campaign. We raised just over \$1000.00 to support our classroom libraries! We had a Valentine's Day dance planned that was (for the 2nd year in a row) pushed to the following week due school being cancelled because of poor weather. We eventually danced a week later, and it was a blast! Our PTA evening skate at the Oval was a huge success and took place on a night that was quite warm with no wind. We then ended February with our wonderful PTA volunteers serving ice-cream to all students and we celebrated the end of African Heritage month with an uplifting assembly focusing on celebrating Black Brilliance and honoring the achievements and resilience of Black Nova Scotians.

March is a time of growth and renewal, and we are excited to see our students continue to thrive. As we move into the final months of the school year, our focus remains on literacy and math fluency, ensuring all students build strong foundational skills. We appreciate the hard work of our staff, students, and families in creating a positive and engaging learning environment. With spring around the corner and term 3 about to begin, we look forward to more opportunities for outdoor learning and activities. Please stay connected with us for updates on upcoming events and initiatives.

Thank you for all your continued support and have a wonderful March Break. Wishing our Muslim staff, students, and families a blessed and peaceful Ramadan filled with joy, reflection, and togetherness. Ramadan Mubarak!

Yours in Learning,

Dave Madgett, Principal and Nicole Gerrard, Vice-Principal

Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 1st

- Ramadan Begins

Monday, March 3rd

- Grade 6 at Ski Martock

Wednesday, March 5th

- Ash Wednesday

Friday, March 7th

- **Assessment and Evaluation Day**

March 10th-14th

- **March break (school closed)**

Monday, March 17th

- St. Patrick's Day

Wednesday, March 20th

- P-2 Mad Science 1st Session, last day

Thursday, March 27th

- Reports go home
- 3-6 Mad Science 1st Session, last day

Saturday, March 29th

- Ramadan ends
- Eid al-Fitr Begins

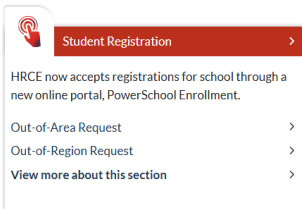
Thursday, April 3rd

- AM PD Day/PM Student-Led Conferences (no classes)



What's New

PrePrimary & Primary Registration is Ongoing



Registration for the 2025-26 school year is now open. Children are guaranteed a space in their designated school based on their address. Schools will be in touch with families closer to the start of the new school year with relevant details.

All registrations and updates for school are completed through the online portal, PowerSchool Enrollment.

Children born in 2020 are eligible for Pre-primary or Primary and children born in 2021 are eligible for Pre-Primary in September 2025.

For more information on registering for school, please visit: <https://www.hrce.ca/families/student-registration-updates>

What's Pre-Primary all about?

Check out our [Welcome to Pre-Primary](#) site.

What does Grade Primary look like?

Visit our [Welcome to Primary](#) site.

We Are Planning for September 2025...Do you know if you are moving?



As you know, we begin planning for the 2025-26 school year beginning in February. If you know that you will be moving, could you please let us know at your earliest convenience? The most accurate enrollment projections ensures that our school is properly staffed for the upcoming year.

Lost & Found

Your stuff misses YOU too.



Over the next week, we will be displaying clothing and encouraging students to come and claim what belongs to them. If families have a moment to drop by the school and peruse the lost and found over the next week, we would be grateful. The remaining clothing will be bagged up and sent to the food bank over March Break. Please see the last page of the Newsletter for labelling options for clothing through Mabel's Labels.

Lunch Monitors Needed!



We're looking for reliable lunch monitors to help supervise students during lunchtime. If you're interested or know someone who is, please contact Ms. Heather in the office at hcosgrove-smith@hrce.ca.

Student Led Conferences



On April 3rd we will be holding Student-Led Conferences. In place of the traditional parent-teacher conferences, your child will lead the conference to reflect on their progress, show you their work, and receive feedback. You, your child, and your child's teacher, will participate in the conference. Student-led conferences are a great way to engage children in understanding and taking ownership of their learning. Of course, anyone who feels they need a private meeting with a teacher will still be able to arrange one with their child's teacher. More information on booking a time will be provided after March break.

It is warming up but...winter is not over!



As we approach the start of spring later this month, there are still many cold days ahead and we will be heading outside daily. It can be a varying combination of cold, windy, wet or snowing throughout the month of March, but with proper clothing we will be able to stay comfortable outdoors!

Please ensure your child(ren) come to school dressed for the weather.

Mabel's Labels PTA Fundraising Campaign



One of the ways we reduce the size of our lost and found is being able to identify who the piece of clothing belongs to. Mabel's Labels personalized labels and stamps can help you and our school staff keep track of your child's things (i.e. black or navy-blue snow pants)! The labels are laundry, dishwasher and microwave safe, and easy to apply. Visit Mabel's Labels at www.mabelslabels.com, click "Support a Fundraiser" and type "St. Stephens Elementary School PTA (Halifax)" into the search bar. Place your order, and it will be shipped directly to your home. The PTA receives a 20% commission on orders placed through this fundraiser.