

Caudle Park Elementary

January
2026

Principal: Martha Walsh

Vice Principal: Eleanor Sperry

Administrative Assistant: Sarah Morris



Main: 902-864-6864

Safe Arrival: 1-833-582-6940

www.cap.hrce.ca

Principal's Message:

Happy New Year and welcome back!

We hope that everyone had a lovely break. December was a busy month at Caudle Park. Our special events including the Caudle Co-op and Holiday Concerts were a huge success! Thank you for all of your generosity in sending items in for the co-op. The children were very excited to go shopping for their families and it was wonderful to see them carefully select the perfect gift! Our students did a fantastic job at the Holiday Concert and brought some festive cheer with their performances.

Thank you to the Caudle Park staff, students and families for welcoming me into your school community. It has been so nice getting to know everyone and I look forward to working with you in the New Year!

We wish all of our students and families a very healthy, happy and successful year. Please keep reading our newsletters and checking your emails for information from the school about all of the special events, important dates and reminders that you need to know about.

Martha & Eleanor

Caring Schools:

Our theme for the month of January is *Belonging*. At Caudle Park, our goal is to create safe spaces in the classroom and around the school so that ALL students and staff feel accepted and valued.

Safe Schools Strategy:

Establishing and maintaining safe and inclusive learning and work environments at school is a priority. It is important that students know and understand what is expected of them in the classroom, in the hallways, outside etc. In order to deepen their understanding, we have updated the Behavior Matrix. The matrix will be reviewed with students daily and will be posted throughout the building. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the Matrix so you are familiar with what we are teaching them at school.

Upcoming Dates

Happy New Year!

January 1: New Year's Day

January 5 Classes Resume

January 7

SAC Meeting @ 5:30

PTA Meeting @ 6:30

January 27: International
Holocaust Remembrance Day

January 27: Family Literacy Day

School Hours P-5

First Bell: 8:25 am

Classes Begin: 8:30 am

Recess: 10:00 - 10:15 am

Lunch: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Dismissal: 2:30 pm

Winter Clothing:

The weather in Nova Scotia can be cold and it's important for students to bundle up. We remind all students to dress for the weather and wear boots, snow pants, hats and mittens. It would also be a good idea to send an extra set of socks, mittens or other clothing to school in your child's backpack. If you need any assistance with winter clothing we would be happy to help. Please email cap@hrce.ca or call 902-864-6864.



Lunch Monitors Needed:

We are looking for a few people who love spending time with children who have an hour a day (11:30– 12:30) to join our Lunch Monitor Team either daily or as a casual. This is a paid position which is excellent for someone looking for a part-time job. If you would like more information on how to apply please reach out to us at cap@hrce.ca.

Power Outage Information for Families

As we move into the winter months, we want to share how decisions are made when a school experiences a power outage.

Our priority is always to keep schools open safely when possible. A power outage does **not** automatically mean classes are cancelled – even if it happens during the school day. The decision depends on when power is expected to be restored.

Here's what happens:

- When a school loses power, HRCE's Operations Team contacts Nova Scotia Power to gather available details on the cause and an estimated restoration time.
- Once we have this information, we consider:
- **Before school starts:** Have buses begun their routes? If so, we wait until students arrive before making a decision. If classes are cancelled, families will be contacted before dismissal.
- **During the school day:** How close is dismissal? What is the temperature in the building? Does the school rely on power for water or septic systems? These factors, among others, help us decide whether to stay open or close. Often, power returns faster than we could safely send students home.

If classes are cancelled:

- HRCE will notify families by email and text.
- Families will also receive a phone call before dismissal. To keep our phone lines available to call families, we ask you to not call the school and wait for us to contact you.

Deciding to close schools during a power outage is never simple, but safety is always our top priority. We understand that cancellations can be inconvenient, and our goal is to keep students learning in class whenever possible.

More information about school cancellations for any reason can be found [here](#).

Reporting a Student Absence:

To report your student absent there are three ways. All three methods are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Absences can be reported at any time before the start of school on the day the student will be absent. Up to five consecutive absences can be recorded at once.



Toll-Free Number

- Call 1-833-582-6940 to report future absences using an automated system.

PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal

- Log in to <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to access the SchoolMessenger website to report future absences.

SchoolMessenger App

- Download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices and use their username and password for the PowerSchool Portal.

Learn About the Influenza Vaccine

Sharing with you on behalf of the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness.

Fast Facts about the Flu Vaccine

- Influenza (the flu) is virus that peaks in transmission in the fall and winter months
- Most people are mildly ill when they contract the flu but sometimes the flu can be serious and require admission to the hospital
- Children under 6 years are at the highest risk of serious complications from the flu
- The flu and RSV can occur at the same time making children more at risk of needing hospitalization
- The flu vaccine is recommended yearly for children 6 months and older to protect against serious complications of the flu

For more information, [click here](#).

Planning for Inclement Weather

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.
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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](#)
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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.