

September 2025

Duc d'Anville Elementary School

12 Clayton Park Drive
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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ddes@hrsb.ns.ca



Dear Families of Duc d'Anville Elementary School!

We are a safe, inclusive, and caring community where every student is empowered to learn, lead, and grow. Rooted in strong relationships, shared responsibility, and high expectations, we foster resilience, embrace diversity, and nurture kind, confident, and capable life-long learners.

Welcome to the 2025-2026 School Year!

We are very excited about the upcoming school year! Sadly, we are losing Ms. Roy our amazing vice principal. She has accepted a principalship at another school and we are very proud of her accomplishment. As soon as a replacement has been hired, I will communicate with families. Best of luck Ms. Roy!

We have some new staff and are excited with our new additions!

As a reminder to everyone that while we are a community school and want everyone to feel welcome it is important and required that all visitors check in and wait to be buzzed in by the office. Upon entry, please sign in at the office. At all times we need to know who is in the building. If your child is late, please sign them in at the main office. We will make sure they get to class from there.

We are still getting new registrations and our current enrollment is increasing! The HRCE is monitoring our numbers (class sizes). We will keep you apprised if balancing class sizes is required and will be communicated specifically to those families if needed.

Important Dates

September 9

Fire Drill

September 11

Stand up against
Bullying

September 15

Lunch Program Starts

September 22&23

School Picture Days

September 25

Terry Fox Run

September 26

Observe Truth and
Reconciliation Day

Wear Orange

September 29

Professional Learning
No School for
Students

September 30

National Day for Truth
and Reconciliation –

Provincial Code of Conduct

On September 3, staff across the province engaged in professional learning about the new Provincial Code of Conduct. We will be sharing more information with you in the following weeks.

School Photos

Our school photographer will be on site on September 22 and the 23. We will send out a list of which classes are going on which day later in the month.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Each year on **September 30**, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation honours the children who didn't return from residential schools, as well as survivors, their families, and communities.

Orange Shirt Day, led by Indigenous communities, aims to raise awareness about the inter-generational impacts of residential schools and allows us all to show our support for the Every Child Matters movement.

As there are no classes on Monday, September 29 and Tuesday, September 30, we welcome staff and students to wear orange on Friday, September 26.

Cell Phone Use

As a reminder student cell phone use in school is **not** permitted in school.

Demographic Form Updates

On September 9, the Demographic Updates Form will be available to families in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. This form should be updated by every family to ensure all information about your child is current, including contacts, medical information, consents and demographics. Even if there are no anticipated changes, please still review this information and submit the form. This information will then be reviewed by the school before updates are finalized. This deadline to submit the form is October 6, 2025.

SchoolCash Setup

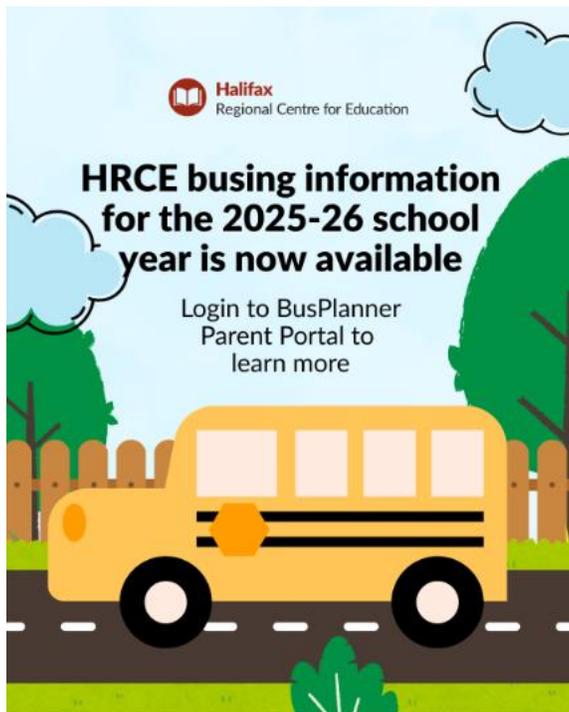
SchoolCash Online is an easy-to-use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. You can pay for your child's yearbook, class trips and so much more, quickly and conveniently. Simply register an account to be able to pay in several different payment forms. [Click here](#) for more information.

Using BusPlanner

Everything you need to know about student transportation including eligibility, stop times and stop locations can be found on BusPlanner. Once you register and subscribe, you can choose to receive email and/or text message notifications on changes to routes, bus delays or cancellations.

To sign up, go to BusPlanner at hrce.mybusplanner.ca and click on Parent Portal. Follow the instructions to create an account.

Don't have a BusPlanner Parent Portal account? Need help logging in? Please contact the HRCE Student Transportation Team at transportation@hrce.ca or call 902-431-4723.



Volunteers make a difference!

Volunteers perform many different tasks in our schools.

Student safety is paramount

We recognize our responsibility to ensure that all students attending our schools are protected by taking reasonable precautions to screen volunteers who may be working with students without direct supervision of staff. In accordance with Nova

Scotia's Provincial [Volunteer Background Check Policy](#), 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](#)
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 be issued in the three months preceding volunteering and updated every three years.

Interested in helping out? We would love to have you!

Please connect with our admin assistant Ms. Deepali duppta@hrce.ca for related questions.

Medications

The school does not provide or dispense any over-the-counter medication such as Tylenol or Gravol. Parent/Guardians of students with allergies or other health related concerns are required to complete forms at the beginning of each school year to ensure that the proper treatment may be administered if necessary. If you require these forms, please contact the main office. If your child has dietary concerns or an allergy (that we need to know about – such as “nut”) please communicate this to their classroom teacher and office right away.

Water Bottles

Water bottles! Please make sure you send your child with a refillable water bottle. We do not have water bottles or cups to distribute.

Breakfast Program

Breakfast Program has begun! We have a dedicated team who fills “grab and go” baskets the students can access in their classrooms.

Parking Lot

The school parking lot is for staff only and we ask that parents do not drop off or pick up in that area. This is a consistent message that all schools give. On occasion we have given parents/students with mobility concerns a parking pass and that is at the discretion of administration.

PTA

Please see attached information about our Parent Teacher Association. Lots of information about our school and how to get involved!

Terry Fox Run

Our annual Terry Fox Run will be on Thursday, September 25th from 12:50-2:40pm and will involve the whole school outside on the field. Classes will be divided up, and options for both walking and running will be available to students. Our school will not be collecting money for fundraising in hand but rather will be accepting donations electronically at the link below. Thank you and let's have a great day in honouring Terry.

<https://schools.terryfox.ca/102078>

Important dates to remember in September:

- **Thurs., Sept. 4:** First day of school for students!
- **Thurs., Sept. 11:** Stand Up Against Bullying Day
- **Fourth week of September:** [Gender Equality Week](#)
- **Friday, Sept. 26:** Observe orange shirt day
- **Monday, Sept. 29:** Professional Development Day – No classes PP-12
- **Tuesday., Sept. 30:** National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

YMCA School Settlement Staff

We would like to welcome Hasan Alnajjar our new school settlement staff worker. He can be reached during school hours at (902) 471-5144 or at hasan.alnajjar@halifax.ymca.ca

We are having a Lockdown and Hold and Secure Drill this Month!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety and security of our students and staff is a top priority for **Duc d'Anville Elementary School and the Halifax Regional Center for Education**. We have been implementing a number of measures as part of a comprehensive plan aimed at ensuring our school remains a safe place for our students to learn.

One of the procedures our school will be practicing is a lockdown drill. During a lockdown drill, classroom doors are secured and the students remain inside the room until instructed by the teacher to resume their activities. All exterior doors are locked and no one is permitted to enter or leave the building. Students remain inside the school and classrooms when circumstances make it safer to stay in the classroom rather than evacuate. Just as we prepare our students to properly respond to a fire drill, they also need to be aware of the proper response during a lockdown drill. These drills should be treated with the same level of importance as fire drills.

Please be assured that staff at our school will spend time discussing the importance of this procedure with students prior to running a drill. We will also take time after the drill to remind them that it was only a practice and there was no danger. When possible, our School Liaison Officer may assist us in conducting the lockdown drills just as the Fire Department assists with evacuation drills. We practice these drills to ensure our school remains a safe place for teaching and learning.

Please contact administration if you have any questions about lockdown drills.

Have a great September!

Administration

Amy Weedon (Principal)