

# Ian Forsyth Elementary School Newsletter



*Where Everyone Is A Star!*

**December 2022**

## Ian Forsyth Elementary School

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## Important Dates to Note

### December

4 – Professional Learning – No school for students

5 - Holiday concert 6pm (doors open 5:30)

5 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Milk orders opens on-line

7 – 50/50 Raffle draw

11 - January on-line pizza order opens

12 - Virtual SAC meeting 5:30

12 – Virtual H&S – 6:30

12 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Milk order closes

13 - Last day of 1<sup>st</sup> milk order

14 - 2<sup>nd</sup> milk order begins

19 - January on-line pizza order closes

19 - Christmas Bazaar set up 2:45

20 - Christmas Bazaar - all day

20 - Last day of school before Christmas

20 - Pancake Breakfast for students

20 - January R&B order opens

30 - January R&B order closes

### January

2 - School reopens

2 - 1<sup>st</sup> day of January pizza order

4 - 1<sup>st</sup> day of January R&B order

30 – Virtual SAC 5:30; H&S 6:30

### February

Registration month for new primaries for 2024

IPP Review meetings - date TBA

Feb 20 - Heritage Day - no school

## Message from Principal

As the winter season approaches, we want to ensure the well-being and comfort of our elementary school students during their time at school. With colder temperatures expected, we kindly request that you

dress your child in layers to help them stay warm and cozy throughout the day.

Layering is essential to adapt to varying temperatures both indoors and outdoors. Please ensure your child wears a warm base layer, such as a long-sleeved shirt, along with a sweater or fleece for added insulation. Don't forget a weather-appropriate jacket or coat for outdoor activities. Encouraging your child to wear layers provides them the flexibility to adjust their clothing throughout the day as the temperature fluctuates.

Additionally, we recommend including a hat and gloves to protect against chilly winds during outdoor recess. By working together, we can create a comfortable and safe environment for our students to thrive academically and socially. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our little ones snug during the colder months.

HRCE guidelines state that student safety is a priority and when deciding to take students outside, we need to consider several factors such as: are students dressed in warm clothing, how long they will be outdoors, will they be standing or playing, is there sunshine... At IFES, we feel that students should, generally, enjoy outdoor play when temperatures are above - 10°C. If the **wind-chill** is at -20°C or colder, students will remain indoors.

We do check the temperature on local weather sites during the winter months. Please help us keep your kids safe by monitoring your child's clothing so that they will be adequately dressed to go outside during the cold weather. For student's safety and supervision purposes, please remind your child that it is expected that they are outside during all outside recess times.

Angela Yerxa-Weeks - Principal

## Holiday Wishes

As we embrace the festive spirit of December, we are excited to share the various multicultural celebrations taking place at our school. Our diverse community is coming together to honor traditions from around the world, fostering a rich tapestry of cultural exchange.

From Diwali and Hanukkah to Christmas and Kwanzaa, our students are engaging in activities that reflect the beautiful diversity within our school. This month

provides a unique opportunity for our community to learn about and appreciate the customs and celebrations that make each family special.

As we approach the holiday season, we extend warm wishes to all our families for a peaceful and joyous time with friends and loved ones. May this season be filled with love, laughter, and moments of connection that transcend cultural boundaries. Let's celebrate the richness of our community and create lasting memories together.

Wishing you a December filled with warmth and unity,



## Holiday Concert

**When:** Tuesday December 5<sup>th</sup>

**When:** Doors will open at 5:30pm. The concert will begin at 6:00pm.

**Where:** Woodlawn High School

**Dress:** Students are encouraged to wear their choice of festive wear, no themed/specific clothing is required

All are welcome to attend. There is no limit on the number of guests. We will have a silver collection at the door to help cover the costs of renting the auditorium and the audio-visual equipment for the concert.

Students may be dropped off at 5:30 in a designated classroom at the high school. Guardians **must** remain on site while their children are present. Please **do not** drop your child off and leave Woodlawn High. Please find your child's classroom below.

### First floor rooms

**[theatre entrance is also on the first floor]:**

**110:** 1 Hawkins

**111:** 1 Marriott (Simms)

**112:** 1/ 2 Greene

**113/114:** Primary Owens and Primary

**115:** Band/Strings

**116:** 2 Oakey

**117:** 2 Rogers

**118:** 3 Smith

**119:** 3 Hiltz

**120:** 4 Doyle

### Second floor rooms:

**212:** 4 Beaton

**213:** 4/5 MacIsaac

**214:** 5 Stratton

**215:** 5/6 Rhodenizer

**216:** 6 Banfield

**217:** 6 Sneath

### Report Cards

Report cards were emailed to families on Nov 21st, 2023, to the email address we have on file. If you require a paper copy, please contact Ms. Hannaby at the main office to request one. If you have difficulty accessing your child's report, please contact Ms. Yerxa. [ayerxa@hrce.ca](mailto:ayerxa@hrce.ca)

### Home & School 2023 - 50/50 Fundraiser

(Ticket Lottery Permit Number: AGD-32613-23)

Funds raised through the 50/50 draw will be split 50/50 between the lucky winner and the school. The proceeds will be used to purchase new technology and new student reading materials. The draw will be taking place at 3pm on Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup> and winner will be contacted by phone or email. **The class with the most sales wins a pizza party!** Be sure to select a class to support.

If you have questions, please email Krista at [kristamack24@gmail.com](mailto:kristamack24@gmail.com) Thanks for your support and good luck!

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| <b>Ticket Prices:</b><br>25 for \$50<br>8 for \$20<br>3 for \$10<br>1 for \$5 | <b>Purchase Tickets Online at Rafflebox:</b><br><a href="https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ifes/1">https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ifes/1</a><br><br><b>Draw Date: Thursday, Dec 7, 2023</b> |
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**SCAN ME**

## Holiday Bazaar

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**Holiday Bazaar 2023!** The Home and School will be organizing the traditional student shopping event known as the Bazaar for Tuesday, December 19. They need donations of new and gently used gift items and supplies to wrap the gifts. Some donation ideas include: Anything suitable for men, (these tend to be in short supply), jewelry, toys, books, trinkets, kitchenware, accessories, etc.

Gift bags, wrapping paper, bows, tags, tape, gift boxes, ordinary cereal/cracker boxes for oddly-shaped items, plastic bags to carry gifts home are also needed.

Please be reminded that they accept **NO cloth items** (e.g., towels, clothes, stuffed toys, etc.) unless **NEW** and in package.

If you are able to volunteer your time, we require additional help for set-up at 2:45 on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Please join us!

Thank you in advance for your support of a fun-filled event that our students look forward to every year.

## Spirit week info and detailed days

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During the last 5 days of school before the holidays we will be engaging in themed Spirit Days.

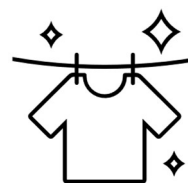
Thurs Dec 14 **Holiday Headgear** - Wear your best festive hats, headbands, or hairdos.

Fri Dec 15 **Peppermint Party** - Dress in green, red, white or stripes just like the favourite holiday treat.

Mon Dec 18 **Holiday PJ Day**: Dress in your favourite festive pjs or comfy clothes for the last day before the holiday break.

Tues Dec 19 **Channel your Flannel** - Wear your best lumberjack attire. You can wear your flannel shirts, sweaters, jackets, or pants.

Wed Dec 20 **Festive Sweaters** - Dress in your best festive shirt, sweaters, or outfit.



## Lost and Found

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We kindly request that you remind your child to check the lost and found for any misplaced belongings. Our lost and found collection has accumulated various items, and we want to ensure that everything finds its way back to its owner. Please encourage your child to reclaim any missing items before the month's end, as unclaimed belongings will be donated to charity to benefit those in need. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining an organized and thoughtful school community.

## January Lunch Orders

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On-line pizza orders for January 2023 open on December 11 and close on December 19, 2023. These order dates will allow us to process the orders in time for students return to school on January 2. January 2 will be the first day of the January pizza order. January's order will be a 5-week order.

On-line R&B Kitchen orders for January 2023 open on December 20 and close on December 28, 2023. These order dates will allow us to process the orders in time for students return to school in January. January 4 will be the first day of the January R&B order.

No late orders can be accepted for either lunch option.



## School and Bus Cancellation

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The Halifax Regional Centre for Education takes great care when making the decision to alter the normal operations of schools in the event of severe or inclement weather. Decisions on school closures and/or bus cancellations are posted on the board's website at <https://www.hrce.ca/>, on Twitter at

[www.twitter.com/HRSB\\_Official](https://www.twitter.com/HRSB_Official), recorded on 464-INFO (4636) and communicated to all local radio stations. You can also receive notice of school and bus cancellations **by e-mail or text** message by following the link on the front page (left side) of the HRCE website.

We are in the **Woodlawn High School** *Family of Schools*. Please listen and or look for either the *Family* name or the individual name of the school in all announcements.

### **Delayed Opening of Schools**

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On school days when conditions exist that it is not safe to open schools at regularly scheduled time but it is predicted that conditions will improve, a **2 hour delayed** opening may be considered. Delayed openings would be considered when a severe weather event has concluded, but snow clearing or other operations require additional time. Delayed opening may also be considered when the building is experiencing an issue (power, water) and additional time is required to prepare the facility for opening. In the event of a delayed opening the following will apply:

- School opening will be delayed 2 hours
- Ian Forsyth Elementary would open at 10:35 am
- School bus pick up times will be delayed 2 hours
- At schools that have Excel, the program will be delayed opening by 2 hours
- Each school will alter morning schedules to best address their timetables
- Lunch times will not change
- Afternoon class schedules will not change
- Dismissal time will not change

### **Mid-Day School Closure**

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In the event of mid-day closure due to deteriorating weather, you will be informed on local radio stations as close to 11:00 a.m. as possible. Staff will contact parents (or the person you have previously indicated) via the phone number recorded on in PowerSchool. It is essential that we are able to reach you in the event of a school closure during the day. If your child is transported on a Stock Transportation school bus, those busses will be departing from school two hours earlier than normal on mid-day closure days. Therefore, Stock busses will depart Ian Forsyth at 12:35 in the case of a mid-day closure. Due to changing weather conditions some busses may be delayed.

Please note that at the elementary level we need to contact parents directly before we dismiss students to walk or take a bus. If the classroom teacher is unable to reach a parent or designate of a particular child, that child will remain at school until contact with a parent or guardian is made.

### **Allergy Alerts / Medication**

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Please keep in mind we have numerous students and staff with severe allergies to food and scents. Please refrain from wearing scents when in our school and be diligent about the food items your child brings to school. Nut products cannot be sent to school.

If your child requires medication at school, an Administration of Medicine form must be filled out. All medicine is kept secured and distributed from our main office. Medications are required to be in the original container and clearly labelled by the pharmacy for your child.