

# Ian Forsyth Elementary School Newsletter



*Where Everyone Is A Star!*

## June Update 2024

### **Ian Forsyth Elementary School**

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Website: <https://ifs.hrce.ca/>

## **Important Dates to Note**

### **June**

28 - last day of school - dismissal at 10:35am

### **September**

3 - 5:30 to 7pm - Curriculum Night/Meet your teacher

5 - First Day of School for students

26 - School photos

## **Message from Principal**

If your child has any medications stored at the school, please make sure you pick them up on or before the last day of school.

Many thanks to our Ian Forsyth families for all your support and dedication to our school this year. On behalf of school staff we wish everyone a safe and happy summer filled with smiles and adventures. We look forward to seeing you again in September!

## **Report Cards Emailed**

Reports will be emailed to the email address we have on file at school. Please direct any questions or issues to me directly. [ayerxa@hrce.ca](mailto:ayerxa@hrce.ca)

## **Staffing Update**

Please join us in saying a fond farewell to the following staff members: Merissa Marriott, Chris Doyle, David Bruce, Jocelyn Humeniuk, Robyn Baker, Lindsey Colbourne, and Danielle DiPietrantonio. We wish them well next year.

Cathy Cook is retiring this year after a long and successful career with HRCE. We wish her all the best and will miss her top-notch literacy instruction at IFES.

Please join us in welcoming new staff members: Brittany Murphy (Three-Four), Taylor Witty (Three), Krista Langille (Learning Centre, maternity leave until January), Andrew Daigle (Music Mon and Wed) and Connor Balcome (Music Tues, Thurs, Fri).

Staffing of unfilled positions will take place over the summer months. In September, we will inform you of any additional staff members.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Rooms</b>
Pre-Primary	TBA	120
	TBA	122
Primary	Joan Deveaux	119
	Heather Johnson	121
One	Evelyn Smith	117
One-Two	Amanda Hiltz	118
	Shauna Owens	115
Two-Three	Susan Oakey	205
	Emma Greene	202
Three	Taylor Witty	130
Three-Four	Brittany Murphy	131
Four	Joe Beaton	201
Four-Five	Leah MacIsaac	203
Five	Sarah Stratton	135
	Corey Banfield	208
Six	Lynann Rhodenizer	207
	Nicole Sneath	133
Music	Andrew Daigle (Mon and Wed) Connor Balcome (Tues, Thurs and Fri)	136
French	Daniel Dickieson	208
Phys Ed.	Joy Griffiths	Gym
Learning Centre	Meghan Conrad Suzanne Briggs	132
Learning Centre	Jeremy Conrad 50% TBA (Krista Langille returning in January)	140
Resource	Andrew McLaren 50% TBA (Krista Langille returning in January)	129

Elementary Literacy Support	Jenna Hawkins Beth Rogers	129
SLP	Hailey Stapleton	144

## Lost and Found

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Our lost and found has lots of things right now. We put them on tables in the lobby this week. Please ask your children to check these tables and take home anything that belongs to them. If things aren't claimed by June 28, we'll donate them to a charity.

## Academic Excellence

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Since February, we've been focusing on different themes each month at IFES to encourage good behavior, positive interactions, and better work habits. Every day, students who demonstrate positive behaviors earn IFES stars, and each month we drew winners from these stars.

To celebrate all our students' efforts, we're planning a school-wide BBQ Picnic on Wednesday, June 26th. We will provide a hot dog (with gluten-free, vegetarian and Halal options), a drink, and a small snack for each student. Condiments ketchup and mustard will be available. Lunch will be provided to pre-primary, however the classes will eat on their own schedule.

Please send your child with a towel, small blanket, or something else to sit on during the picnic. If your child needs extra snacks or another water bottle, feel free to pack those too. The picnic will last about 45 minutes (allowing for outdoor play during lunch recess), so it's important to send hats, sunglasses, and sunscreen for sun protection.

We're excited to celebrate a great school year with this fun event!

## 2024-25 Morning Bell Time

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Please note that bus students will be supervised outside when they arrive. Supervision for all other students will begin in classrooms at 8:35am next year. Doors will open to classrooms at 8:35. **Please do not have your students on the school grounds before 8:35am.**

## Registering for Bus Routes

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In August, families eligible for transportation will be sent an email indicating your child's bus information. **You must activate your Bus Planner Parent Portal account and create a password to review routing information. If you have not already done so, go to the link below and create an account.**

<https://hrcetransportation.mybusplanner.ca/Login?ReturnUrl=%2FSubscriptions%2FChildTransportInfo>

You will require your child's student number (on their report card) and a valid email address to register. If you can't find the email, please contact 902-431-4723 or 902-464-2000 (ext. 1) or transportation@hrce.ca for assistance.

**IMPORTANT** - You will only receive this email if you are eligible for bussing. You will not receive the email if your child needs a courtesy seat on the bus. In that case, you must reach out to HRCE Transport at the above number or request an unassigned seat. If are not granted an unassigned seat, your child is not permitted ride on the bus. Your child must be registered on the bus manifest to be able to ride on the bus. Please use the link below to request an unassigned seat.

<https://www.hrce.ca/families/student-transportation/submissions-unassigned-seat-requests>

HRCE Transportation Team will also be reaching out to new-to-HRCE families and those families who may require special needs transportation for their children this summer.

See here for more information:

<https://www.hrce.ca/families/student-transportation>

## Provincial School Lunch Program

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We are awaiting more information on the rollout of the Provincial School Lunch Program. We can share that the program will not begin before September 30, 2024. Schools will be phased in over the month of October, so that by the end of that month the lunch program will be available to all eligible schools and students. Please wait for more information in September 2024.

## SAC Membership

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We have several vacant spots on our IFES SAC. We will be sending out an all-call early in September. Please

consider putting your name forward in September as a parent or community member of our SAC.

### **Supporting Summer Reading**

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To help kids keep up with reading over the summer, parents can encourage them to read different things besides just books. Magazines, board games, song lyrics, comic books, recipes, graphic novels, audiobooks, web articles, and eBooks (like Epic) are all great options. Talking to your kids about what they're reading and letting them choose books they're interested in will make them more likely to read during the summer.

HRM libraries offer a free summer reading club called the TD Summer Reading Club. It's a fun program that encourages kids (ages 3 and up) to read during their summer break. Registration for the 2023 TD Summer Reading Club starts on June 15 at all Halifax Public Libraries branches and [online](#). You can register until August 31.

And don't forget, reading to your kids is a great way to introduce them to reading early on!

### **Supporting Summer Mathematics**

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Summer break is almost here, and there are many ways you can help your child keep learning math while school is out. Here are some ideas:

- Encourage counting and estimating in different situations. For example, count how many times you pass a ball back and forth at the park, or count flower petals on a hike. You can also create a scavenger hunt where kids find a certain number of leaves, rocks, or sticks.
- Involve your child in everyday activities like shopping, cooking, or doing laundry. Let them help measure ingredients when baking, count socks when folding laundry, or tally items in the grocery cart.
- Play games and puzzles that focus on logic and problem-solving. Sudoku, KenKens, chess, Clue, and Blokus are good choices. For more game ideas using everyday items, visit Kent Haines' website: Games For Young Minds at <https://www.gamesforyoungminds.com/>.
- Bedtime Math offers an 'Summer of Numbers' program online, similar to a library reading program. Find out more at <https://bedtimemath.org/>. They also have a Parents Tips sheet you can download with more summer math suggestions.

- Borrow books from the library that have math themes. Check out Math Through Stories at <https://www.mathsthroughstories.org/> for book recommendations.

Remember, the most important thing in summer math learning is to keep it fun and playful!

### **HRCE Calendar**

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The 2024-2025 school year calendar is finalized, and you can view the calendar on the Halifax Regional Centre for Education website.

[https://www.hrce.ca/sites/default/files/2024-06/Year-at-a-Glance%20Calendar%202024-2025\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.hrce.ca/sites/default/files/2024-06/Year-at-a-Glance%20Calendar%202024-2025_FINAL.pdf)

### **Late Registration**

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This year all student registrations are completed on-line. If you need assistance in registering please contact the parent navigator at HRCE to walk you through the process.

Parent Navigator Contact Information:

#### **Natasha Horne**

902-464-2000 x4361

902-219-0587

#### **Charlene Sparks**

902-464-2000 x4362

902-229-1705

### **Supply Lists**

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Supply lists for the upcoming school year are available on the school website and a copy of all lists is attached to this email. Please consider making donations of items that include Kleenex and Ziploc bags only if you are in a position to do so. Thank you.