

Bedford South School: March Family Newsletter

♥ A Message from Ms. Foster

Celebrating Culture and Community

Happy March, Bedford South Families! While the winter weather continues to keep us on our toes, the warmth inside our school is palpable. This month, our focus remains on kindness, inclusion, and heritage.

February was a truly special month at Bedford South. We enjoyed a beautiful **African Heritage Assembly** hosted by our Grade One classes, and our hallways came alive with a magnificent **Dragon Dance** to celebrate the Lunar New Year. It was wonderful to see our students honoring the history and many contributions of People of African Descent.

We also recognize that many of our students and families are currently participating in **Ramadan**. We wish a peaceful month to all who are observing. As we head toward the spring, let's continue to make this a year of growth and connection!

Warmly,

Ms. Foster Principal, Bedford South School

Report Cards & Parent-Teacher Conferences

As we approach the end of the second term, please note the following important dates regarding your child's progress:

- **March 31:** Term 2 Report Cards will be sent to families via email.
- **April 1:** Parent-Teacher or Student-Led Conferences will be held from **4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**
- **April 2 (Morning):** Parent-Teacher or Student-Led Conferences continue from **9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

Important Dates to Remember

March

- **March 1–31:** Ramadan Continues
- **March 13: Assessment and Evaluation Day (No School)**

- **March 16–20: March Break (No School)**
 - **March 21:** International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
 - **March 21:** World Down Syndrome Day (Wear mismatched socks!)
 - **March 31:** Report Cards sent via email
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March Highlights & Awareness

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (March 21)

Today we recognize this day to build awareness, empathy, and respect among students of all backgrounds. By learning about the impacts of discrimination and celebrating diversity, children gain social skills to be inclusive both at school and in the community. Families are our students' first educators; through your continuous conversations valuing equity, we move closer to a society where racism no longer exists.

World Down Syndrome Day (March 21)

This day recognizes the awesome contributions individuals with Down syndrome make to our school. We encourage students and staff to **wear mismatched socks** as a colorful symbol of diversity and solidarity. Classroom activities will highlight abilities and foster empathy and friendship.

Nutrition Month: Nova Scotia School Lunch Program

March is Nutrition Month in Canada! It is a perfect time to focus on healthy eating habits and food literacy. We encourage families to take advantage of the **Nova Scotia School Lunch Program**, which provides nutritious, balanced meals designed to give students the energy they need to succeed.

Safer Internet Day 2026

As emerging technologies like AI become part of our children's digital world, it is important to guide and empower them to navigate safely. Explore tools from Google designed to help families protect young people online.

Open Your Home to an International Student!

HRCE's International Services is looking for warm and caring families to host students from around the world. Hosting is an enriching experience that allows your family to "bring the world home."

- **Host Monthly Stipend:** \$875 (tax-free)
 - **Duration:** 3 to 10 months
 - **Contact:** (902) 464-2000 ext. 2548 or hostastudent@hrce.ca
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Safety First: Dismissal & Parking

- **Front Door Dismissal:** To ensure a safe dismissal, families are asked **not to crowd the front door area**. Teachers need a clear line of sight to identify parents before releasing students. Please stay back by the sidewalk.
 - **Upper Parking Lot:** This is a **Drop-Off Only Zone**. Do **not** park or leave your vehicle unattended.
 - **No Parking in the Circle:** You cannot park in the circle. Please follow these rules for the safety of our students!
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School Spirit & Culture

- **Multilingual Fridays:** Every Friday, students continue to share their home languages over the morning announcements!
 - **Cultural Diversity:** We celebrate the role of languages in building inclusive societies.
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Healthy Habits & Safety

- **Scent Sensitive:** Please refrain from wearing strong perfumes or scented sprays when visiting.
- **Spring Weather:** As winter turns to spring puddles, please ensure your child has waterproof boots and **extra socks**.

- **Change of Clothes:** All students should have a **change of clothing** in their backpacks for the March slush.
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 Reminders: Weather & Power

- **Inclement Weather:** HRCE communicates closures or 2-hour delays by **6:00 a.m.** Check the HRCE website or @HRCE_NS on X (Twitter).
- **Power Outages:** A power outage does not automatically mean classes are cancelled. The decision depends on restoration times. If classes are cancelled during the day, elementary families will receive a phone call before dismissal.
- **Stay Informed:** Ensure your contact information is up to date in **PowerSchool** to receive text and email alerts.