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DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Dec. 02-16 feed NS
- Dec. 05 Reports Home
- Dec. 09 Holiday concert
(see schedule)
1:15 afternoon concert
6:30 pm concert
- Dec. 10 Holiday concert
(see schedule)
1:15 afternoon concert
6:30pm concert
- Dec. 16 Food drive ends
- Dec. 20 Popcorn day
- Dec. 20 Last day of classes
- Dec. 23 Hanukkah Begins
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day
- Dec. 26 Kwanzaa Begins
- Dec. 26 Boxing Day
- Jan. 01 New Years Day
- Jan. 06 Classes resume

Christmas is a holiday that's celebrated on December 25th. For religious Christians, *Christmas* is a celebration of Christ's birth. In the Western world, many people celebrate Christmas, some of them for religious reasons and others in a more secular way. Christians observe rituals at Christmas including church attendance and re-enactments of Bible stories surrounding the birth of Christ. Non-religious observers exchange presents, tell stories about Santa Claus, and usually decorate a lighted Christmas tree. In Old English, it was *Cristes mæsse*, or "Christ mass." It's been written as a single word since the fourteenth century.

Report cards:

Parents/Guardians,
Next week, students in Grades Primary to Six will be receiving their Term 1 report cards. There is always a level of anticipation ahead of report cards because they are an important part of the ongoing communication about your child's progress.

A document which outlines what you can expect to see in your child's report card will be sent home as an alert this week. If your child was in school last year, there will be some changes to the report card from last year. These changes were made in support of recommendations from the provincial [Council to Improve of Classroom Conditions](#). The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has also produced a [video](#) which provides more details.

If you have any questions about your child's progress, please reach out to your child's teacher or school principal.

Report Cards:

Provincial Report cards will be distributed on December 5th to students for their parent/guardian. Please read over your child's report carefully.

HOLIDAY CONCERT: P-2

Our Holiday concert is fast approaching. The dates are December 9th and 10th. Classes perform on different nights so please read the list below to see which evening your child(ren) is performing. Doors open at 6:00 for a 6:30 show time. Concerts are in the cafetorium.

Monday, Dec 09th

- P Christie
- P Burt
- 1 Dillon
- 1 Knox/ MacDonald
- 2 Sampson
- 2 Bembridge
- 2 Haverstock
- Strings- Grade 5/6 students

Tuesday, Dec 10th

- 6 Band Students
- P Sullivan
- P Landry
- 1/2 MacDonald
- 1 Totton
- 2 Green
- 2 Hawley

Two tickets per family only will be issued shortly. Stings and Band families 1 ticket per family. Fire regulations will be strictly adhered to with respect to the number of tickets issued. Audience members, adult or child (babies) must have a ticket to attend. Sitting on a lap still counts as a ticket. Tickets must be presented at the door the night of the performance.

Afternoon concerts will be on both dates @1:15pm. Tickets are not required. We **strongly** encourage grandparents, or other invited guests to take advantage of this time. Food donations will be graciously accepted at each concert.

Driveway Closure

Update:

We want to thank parents and guardians in the community for being respectful of our gate closure. We can appreciate it is a change in habit for people to walk to school but it has made a significant difference to student safety on our school playground and surrounding areas.

With a growing population of 723+ students traffic had become a terrifying safety issue.

We had an ambulance that was easily able to get up the driveway this week and tend to a sick staff member without difficulty.

Last year emergency vehicles could not get through to the front of the school for emergency response.

Again, we all appreciate the communities support.



Bedford South School

2 Oceanview Dr.
Bedford, NS

902-832-5800

H. Healy, Principal
C. Crewe, VP
J. Ashton, Admin A.
S Moore, Admin A.



FOOD, FOOD IT'S NOT EVERYWHERE!

Please help us help those in need. The Home and School is participating once again in Feed Nova Scotia's annual food drive. There is still time to send in your food donations. Dec. 16th is the deadline. We appreciate your support.

Guidelines for School and/or Bus Cancellations due to Inclement Weather

Inclement Weather

The Halifax Regional Centre for Education takes great care when making the decision to cancel schools and/or busses in the event of severe or inclement weather. Decisions on school closures and/or bus cancellations are posted on the board's website at www.hrce.ca, on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/HRCE_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS), recorded at 902-464-INFO (4636) and communicated to all local radio stations. Families 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. The weather in Nova Scotia is unpredictable so it's always a good idea for families to have a back-up plan for child care when school is cancelled. To learn more about the process on how decisions regarding closures and cancellations are made, visit: <https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/inclement-weather>.

Hanukkah also known as the Festival of Lights, is an eight-day Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt of the 2nd century. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days. This year it will be observed from December 2 to December 10th. The festival is observed by illuminating a unique candle holder that has nine branches to hold nine candles. It is known as a **Menorah**. The typical Menorah consists of eight branches with an additional raised branch. The extra light is called a **shamash** and is given a distinct location, usually above or below the rest.

Social Media:

Did you know Bedford South posts on twitter? Sign up to follow us: @Bedfordsouth
Do you check the school website?
<https://bsb.hrce.ca/>

Dressing for the Weather:

Winter is with us so it is important to stay warm and dry. Please remember when you send your children to dress them in layers. They should have snow pants, boots, hats, mitts or gloves. It is also wise to send an extra set of mitts or gloves in case they get wet at recess. Children will be going outside in the morning and at lunch so be prepared. We will not send them out if it is colder than -15C but other than that they will be outside.



Kwanzaa is celebrated from December 26 through January 1st.

Established by Maulana Karenga in 1966, Kwanzaa is a holiday that honors African heritage and celebrates family, community and culture. It takes its name from the phrase "matunda ya kwanza," which in Swahili means "first fruits."

Kwanzaa's origin lies in the 1960s civil rights and Black Freedom movements. Families gather during Kwanzaa to light the kinara, a candle holder with seven candles in the colors of red, black, and green. The black candle is placed in the center and used to light the other flames from left to right. Together, the candles are called the mishuuma saba, and they represent the Seven Principles.