

### African Heritage Month

February is African Heritage month and I know a lot of our teachers are doing some special activities during this month.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

- Feb 1 Pre-Primary and Primary Registration Month begins online
- Feb 2 Groundhog Day
- Feb 5-10 White Cane week
- Feb 10 Lunar New Year
- Feb 12 International Epilepsy Day
- Feb 13 SAC/HSA
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb 14 Ash Wednesday
- Feb 15 Flag Day
- Feb 16 Popcorn Day
- Feb 19 N.S. Heritage Day Honouree William Hall  
No students
- Feb 22 Valentine PJ Bingo



### Bedford South School

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H. Healy,	Principal
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### Registration:

Effective February 1, 2024, we will be accepting registrations for the 2024-2025 school year through our online portal, PowerSchool Enrollment.!

**Tip:** Before you begin, make sure you have the following documents in electronic form (image, PDF or Word document):

- Proof of identity/age with one of the following: birth certificate, passport, immigration papers, or legal adoption papers) if you are new to the HRCE;
- Proof of home address (utility document with your current address that includes your name and date, such as water bill, power bill. We do not accept leases.
- Nova Scotia Health Card or Canadian Province Health Card or, for non-citizens while in Canada, proof of Medical Insurance Information.

Visit the [HRCE website](https://www.hrbce.ca) for more information and to enrol your child today!

Please note, if your child is in Pre-primary at Basinview they will already be registered to start school at Bedford South. Their information will be transferred to us.

Don't have a child to register? Maybe you know someone who does! Please help us spread the word and pass this information on to friends, neighbours or relatives who will be looking to register for the fall.

### IMMERSION INFORMATION SESSION:

In February, Sunnyside Elementary will be having an information session on French Immersion for interested parents of new primaries for the 2024-25 year.

Families registering their children for primary may consider the Early French Immersion program. French Immersion is offered at Sunnyside Elementary. If you would like more information about the program to help you make this decision, please see the Power Point presentation on the Sunnyside Elementary website.

<https://sss.hrbce.ca/our-school>. They will be holding a drop-in evening on February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 for any families who have additional questions before making their decision. School admin and primary teachers will be available to answer your questions. This evening will be held at our Fort Sackville site: 21 Perth St.

Bedford South students can apply to French Immersion through our Out of Area process once they are registered at Bedford South. Information is available on the HRCE website here:

<https://www.hrbce.ca/families/student-registration/out-area-request>. Please note the Out of Area request form is available now, but we cannot accept any Out of Area requests for the 2024-2025 school year until April 2, 2024. If you apply prior to that date, you will need to reapply. Transportation is not provided for Out of Area students.

### **Driveway Gate Closure:**

Please remember that for the safety of students the gate is closed to vehicular traffic at the following times:

8:15am-9:15am  
2:15pm-3:15pm

We appreciate everyone's support in keeping our children safe.

### **February 19 is Heritage Day**

This year's Heritage Day honours William Hall. This date will mark the 165<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hall being awarded the Victoria Cross. He was the first person of African descent and 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian to be presented this distinguished award.

**Reminder that there are no classes on Monday, February 19 in honour of Heritage Day.**

### **Student Reminders:**

In an effort to help parents from having to bring items their little ones often forget, we offer the following reminders:

- Spoons or forks for lunch-please pack a spare one. We do not have spoons or forks on hand.
- Please pack extra mittens or gloves.
- Please make sure student belongings are labelled.
- Please pack a water bottle.
- Thank you for your support.



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### **The HSA is currently looking for sponsors for our Popcorn for iPads fundraising initiative!**

We would love to have popcorn day costs sponsored so that 100% of popcorn sales can be used to purchase much needed iPads for our classrooms. iPads are a valuable classroom resource to help support children with diverse learning abilities. They are especially helpful to aid our EAL students in the classroom and they are more user-friendly than chrome books for students in younger grades. To sponsor 1 box of popcorn, the cost is \$100, which produces approximately 200 bags of popcorn. To sponsor an entire popcorn day, the cost is \$500, which produces approximately 920 bags of popcorn. If you want to help, please reach out to [bsshsa@hotmail.com](mailto:bsshsa@hotmail.com). Sponsors will be acknowledged on Facebook when promoting Popcorn Day. Thank you so much for your continued

### **Lunar New Year:**

Lunar New Year, which is also commonly called Chinese New Year or Spring Festival, celebrates the beginning of the New Year on the traditional Chinese calendar. It is celebrated in many countries throughout Asia, for example in Vietnam, the holiday is called Tet, the full name is "Tet Nguyen Dan".

According to the Chinese lunar calendar 2024, Chinese New Year 2024 will fall on Sunday, February 10th, 2024. This year is the year of the dragon.



### **Celebrate African Heritage Month 2024:**

The 2024 African Heritage Month theme is **Our Smiles, Our Joy, Our Resilience as African Nova Scotians**. This month is a time to celebrate and recognize the history and culture of people of African descent. The theme aligns with the final year of the United Nations' International Decade for People of African Descent (DPAD) 2015-2024. The goal is to strengthen global cooperation in support of people of African descent, increase awareness and recognize their full and equal participation in all aspects of society.

Nova Scotia has more than 50 historic African Nova Scotian communities with a long, deep and complex history dating back more than 400 years. African Heritage Month provides an opportunity to celebrate and promote the culture, achievements and contributions of people of African descent in Nova Scotia – past and present.

The African Heritage Month 2024: Virtual Provincial Proclamation Launch and Poster Unveiling Ceremony can be viewed on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/nsgov>

### **REMINDER**

There will be no classes on Monday, February 19 for Heritage Day honouring William Hall.

