



Grosvenor-Wentworth News Update

Dates to Remember

April 9	Report Cards go home
April 10	Parent Teacher evening – 5-7 pm
April 11	PD Day AM and Parent -Teacher afternoon 1-3:30 pm (no classes for students) Pre-Primary Open House – for new and current families
April 18	PTG Bingo 6 pm to 8 pm (See inside the newsletter)
April 19	Good Friday (no classes)
April 22	Easter Monday (no classes)
April 25	New Primary Parent Meeting – 6:30 pm
April 26	Primary Orientation – 1:30 pm
May 7	PTG – 6:30
May 17	PD Day- No classes
May 20	Victoria Day – No classes
May 25	Spring Fair

Parent –Teacher interviews on April 10th and 11th

This is a change from previous communication. Parent-Teacher is scheduled for April 10th in the evening from 5-7 pm and April 11th from 1- 3:30 pm. The link to book online is <https://secure.parentinterviews.com/egwps> and the online booking link is posted on the school website under daily announcements. If you have any difficulties you can call the school at 902 457-8422 and speak with Dawn Townshend for support. A link to Optis can be found on our website home page. A support can be found at the back of the newsletter.

Excel Registration Information 2019-2020



The EXCEL program will be using a new registration and payment system for the 2019-20 school year. The software offers a secure, convenient, web-based platform on which clients can register their child(ren) **online** for the EXCEL program.

To ensure that the new system is fully operational for the registration period, the designated registration dates of April 29th, 2019 for current participants and May 6th, 2019 for new participants will be **postponed** until late Spring 2019. Despite the delay in the registration dates, it is anticipated that clients will be informed of their acceptance to the EXCEL program no later than June 28th, 2019.

Please visit <https://www.hrc.ca/about-our-schools/parents/excel-child-care/registration> in the coming weeks to receive the latest information on the 2019-20 EXCEL registration process and dates for early and general registration.

Substitute Teachers

Grosvenor-Wentworth school is fortunate to have a fairly healthy group of regular substitute teachers. This includes retired former staff. This is great as they typically know our building and have a growing knowledge of our students. We do our best to make sure classes have the same teacher for extended absences but this isn't always possible. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Parent Navigators

Do you have questions about supports available for your child? Are you wondering where to turn?

HRCE's Parent Navigators can help guide you!

We know that navigating the many supports available to you and your family during the school years can be overwhelming. That's why PN positions were created in 2018, as part of the 51 additional inclusive education specialists allocated from the Commission on Inclusive Education. The role of the PN is to help parents and guardians of HRCE students find and access services available in education, justice, health, community services and more.

As part of HRCE's Student Services Team, Stephen Somers and Tressa Moore have built strong relationships with community agencies throughout the region and developed deep understandings of the tools and resources out there for families.

Our PNs are available to help you find the support that you or your child may need to achieve success, inside and outside of school. They'll meet you in a comfortable setting in your community to have a conversation about what your child may need. They'll help guide and connect you with the most appropriate services and resources. They'll attend school meetings with you. They'll be your co-pilot.

Stephen Somers is the contact for families with children attending EGWPS.
ssomers@hrce.ca 902-464-2000 x4361

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Reach out anytime!
Contact info & more:
www.hrce.ca/PN



Halifax

Regional Centre for Education

A Friendly Reminder.....



The rainy, wet spring days are here. Please ensure that your children come to school with indoor shoes for the classroom. It is particularly important on gym days that children come with indoor sneakers, gym pants, and a t-shirt. Proper gym clothing and footwear will allow the children to move safely and comfortably. Please ensure students are properly dressed for outdoor play in the morning, at recess, and at lunch. It would be helpful to pack extra socks, underwear, pants and shirt for the spring.

Challenger Baseball



Challenger Baseball is a program that provides an opportunity for children and youth with cognitive and/or physical disabilities to enjoy the full benefits of participating in baseball at a level structured to their abilities. Buddies are assigned to each player to help provide a safe and enjoyable experience and to assist players with all aspects of the game.

The program aims to teach children and youth the core life skills inherent to baseball, including teamwork, communication, determination, resiliency, inclusion, independence, confidence, self-esteem, social skills and courage. The program also aims to provide experiences that enhance the lives of children and youth with special needs and their families.

Challenger Baseball is free! The local club is located in Hammonds Plains.

<https://hpba.ca/leagues/challenger/>

Bell Times and Teacher Supervision

Teacher outside supervision begins at 8:40 AM and students enter the building at 8:50 AM. We ask that walking students do not arrive prior to 8:40 AM. Students arriving after 8:50 AM must go to the front doors and check in at the office.

Delayed Opening due to Inclement Weather

If weather conditions warrant, the Halifax Regional Centre for Education could implement a delayed opening. Delayed openings would be considered when a severe weather event has concluded but snow clearing or other operations require additional time. Delayed openings may also be considered when the physical plant is experiencing an issue such as a power outage or loss of water and additional time is required to prepare the school to open. **If this was to occur, school would be delayed by two hours. At Grosvenor-Wentworth, this means school would start at 11:00am.** If Stock Transportation is operating, the expectation will be that students are picked up two hours later than their regularly assigned time pending any weather-related delays. Our lunch, afternoon schedule and dismissal times will remain at their regularly scheduled times. The Excel program will be cancelled for the morning only. **There will be no recess on a delayed opening as lunch would follow just an hour after classes commence.** Please be sure to listen carefully to the Halifax West Family of Schools or individual school name for delayed opening information, as there may be days when not all schools have a delayed start. You are encouraged to subscribe to notifications from the HRCE at www.hrce.ca at your earliest convenience, to receive text or email messages on school closures, delayed openings and early closure dismissals.

Lunch Changes

Now that winter appears to be behind us, EGWPS will be piloting a new lunch time process. Beginning April 8th, students will be dismissed to play at 12:00 noon and return to the classroom after playing to eat their lunch. The anticipated benefit for students is increased outdoor time, building a healthy appetite through play, and being settled back into the building and ready for instruction by 1:10 pm. Homerooms with specialist classes right after lunch, will not have to be delayed by outdoor clothing/footwear change and should be able to arrive to their class on time.

Changes to End of Day Routines

Please do not leave phone messages with changes for the end of day routines. If you are changing the regular arrangement for your child, please make sure that you speak directly with Mrs. Townshend before 1:00 PM. If you know a change in advance you can communicate this to your child's teacher. Please note that students are not permitted to take an alternate bus to go to a friend's house after school. All busses have manifests and only students on the manifest can ride on each bus. Students are to ride on their assigned bus.

Safe Arrival



If your child will not be attending school or will be late, it is imperative that you call the school's safe arrival line 902-457-8427 and press 1. Please leave a message indicating your child's name, class, the date and reason for the absence. If your child becomes ill during the day, we will call you or the person designated by you. For this reason, it is important that we have up-to-date telephone numbers on record. ALL students that arrive late or leave mid-day must check in with the office.

Life Threatening Allergies



Please note that we are a nut free and scent aware school. Please do not send in food with nuts or that may contain traces of nuts. We thank you for carefully checking labels.

Breakfast Program

We are fortunate and happy to offer a breakfast snack at Grosvenor-Wentworth. It is a grab-and-go style breakfast snack that happens mostly on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and some Fridays. This program is open to all students. Our breakfast team is active in our school. They have written grant applications, held special events to promote healthy choices and nutrition, explored foods that may be new to students, taught students how to prepare some of their own breakfasts, and helped grow appreciation of cultural cuisine from many of the home countries of our students. Thanks!

SAC



Parents wishing to serve on our SAC are encouraged to send their names to gwp@hrce.ca We have two open positions for 2019-20. Our SAC have recently been working to process teacher proposals to support student learning from a provincially mandated fund. EGWPS was allocated approximately \$5400.

Visitors



For the safety of all children and staff it is imperative to know who is in the building at all times. The front door will be locked during school hours. There is a video intercom located on the wall to the left of the doors. Please press the button to be let inside. All visitors must enter the building by the main office and you must check into the office after entering the school. To minimize disruption to learning time and for safety reasons, if you want to speak to your child we ask that you remain at the office and we will have your child come and meet you at the office. We also ask that lunches and items you want to pass along to your child be dropped off at the office and we will deliver them.

Medical Plans and Medic Alert Bracelets



If your child has a medical condition (example: asthma, epilepsy, anaphylaxis) there are required forms to fill out and have on file with the school which helps in the event of a medical urgency. Please contact the office regarding if you have questions. In addition, the Canadian Medical Alert Foundation provides medic alert bracelets to any student who has an identified medical condition. Call the office for the information or visit this website <http://nochildwithout.ca>

Criminal Record Check



To volunteer you need to have a criminal record check and a child abuse check. These checks need to be renewed every three years. More information can be found by following this link.

https://www.hrce.ca/sites/default/files/hrsb/volunteer_handbook-jan2015.pdf

Office Notices



Most office notices are sent home electronically to the contact e-mail you have provided on your child's registration form. If you do not have an e-mail please inform the school and we will provide you a paper copy.

Electronics

Electronics are best kept at home as the school is not responsible for lost or misplaced electronic devices. Should you need to contact your child during the day you can call the school. If your child needs to get in contact with you they can use the school phone to call home.

Pre-Primary Open House

When: Thursday, April 11, 2019
Where: École Grosvenor Wentworth Park Elementary School
Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm
Go to: PP1- Ms. Johnson or PP2 – Mrs. Mayer

Come see our learning environment and find out what we do in Pre-Primary.



SPRING BINGO 2019

April 18th

6pm - Pizza / 6:30pm - Bingo

GRAND PRIZE!!!!



- Limited spots available.
- Pizza is PRE-ORDER only - order forms to be sent out April 8th, due back April 15th.
- Bingo Sheets will be pre-order & purchase at the door - no limit to amount of sheets played.
- BYOD - Bring your own dabber.
- 50/50
- 10 Games (providing enough prize donations are received.)
- Pizza to start at 6pm, game playing to start at 6:30pm.

Prize Donations

Each class will donate items for specific gift baskets, information to follow.

Also looking for drink & canteen donations. See below link or email grosvenorptg@gmail.com to donate.

Sign Up

Volunteers needed. Please visit below link or email grosvenorptg@gmail.com.

<https://signup.com/go/Dcfrte>

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OPTIS APPOINTMENT SCHEDULER

How do I register a new account so I can start making appointments?

- Open <http://www.parentinterviews.com/EGWPS> in your web browser
 - At the User Login screen (the first page you see). Click the link which reads **New Parents:Start By Clicking Here**
 - You should now see a registration form. Fill in the required information and click the **Continue** link located at the bottom of the form.
- *Note:** Ensure to enter your correct e-mail address as information you need to activate your account will be e-mailed to that address.
- Please check your email and follow the instructions to confirm your e-mail address and activate your account.

How do I schedule appointments?

- Click the **Make Appointments** link from the menu.
- Next you will need to enter some information about your children, when done click the **Continue** link.
- * If you have more than 1 child attending this school check the I want to add another child checkbox to add another child.
- When you are done adding your children you will see a list of the students you have added to your account. Select which children you would like to make appointments for and click the **Continue** link.
- On the next screen you will see a list of available dates. Select the date on which to schedule appointments.
- Now select from the list of teachers which teachers to make appointments with. Click the **Continue** link.
- On the next screen each teacher will have a drop-down box with a list of their available times listed. Select a time to reserve for each teacher, then click the **Continue** link.

How do I add my children to my account?

- Locate the **My Account** link from the Menu.
- A drop-down menu will appear. Click the **My Children** link.
- Enter your child's first and last name into the form.
- Click the **Continue** link at the bottom of the form.

How do change the time and/or date of an appointment I have already scheduled?

- Click the **My Schedule** link from the menu.
- You should now see a list of appointments you have made.
- Click the **Edit Appointment** link next to an appointment.
- Choose a new time and/or date from the options available and then click the **Continue** link below.

How do cancel an appointment that I have scheduled?

- Click the **My Schedule** link from the menu.
- You should now see a list of appointments you have made.
- Click the **Cancel Appointment** icon next to an appointment.

How do I print my interview schedule?

- Click the **My Schedule** link from the menu.
- You should now see a list of appointments you have made.
- You will now see a list of the appointments you have scheduled. Click the **Printer-Friendly Schedule** link
- Your browser's print dialog will open. Select a printer and click the **Print or OK** button.