

AJ Families,

Please find below some information for our school community:

After school sports games

Sports games that are played at AJ after school are only accessible to students who have a parent/guardian with them for supervision. No students are permitted to stay and watch unsupervised.

Fresh Food Cart

Reminder that the Fresh Food Cart is Monday and Wednesdays at AJ! As mentioned previously, there is a **flexible payment option** that enables families to choose the amount they pay anywhere from **\$0 - \$5**. Ordering can be done via School Cash online (done biweekly) or by cash payment on FFC days. This has been very popular with students so far and we are so happy to see our students eating such healthy meals!!

Fire Drill

We will have our final fire drill for the fall this week. Our students have been doing a fantastic job exiting the building in a safe manner!

Student drop off and pick up

It is our top priority to ensure student safety, especially during the daily drop off and pick up. Please do not try to enter the school parking lot before school, after school or when students are present outside. When dropping students off, please ensure you are mindful of buses and do not turn your car around in the road in areas where students and buses are present. We appreciate your care in keeping students safe as they arrive and leave school property!

Inclement Weather



Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school buses in the event of severe or inclement weather. It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible. **A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:**

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours and bus pickups are delayed by two hours; or
- All schools are open, but some or all busses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.

If weather deteriorates, or is forecasted to worsen throughout the morning, **an 11:00 a.m.**

announcement could be:

- Bussed students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and walking students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.

How will I find out?

By email to the addresses in PowerSchool

By text message, **if you have opted-in**. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: **978338**

[On the HRCE website](#)

[On X \(formerly Twitter\)](#)

[On Instagram](#)

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/weather.

Indigenous Veterans Day



Indigenous Veterans Day, observed on November 8, acknowledges the unique contributions and sacrifices made by Indigenous soldiers. This day highlights the bravery and commitment of Indigenous veterans, who have served with distinction despite facing historical and ongoing challenges.

Remembrance Day



Every year on November 11, we observe Remembrance Day to commemorate the sacrifices of the armed forces during World War I, World War II, and other conflicts. This solemn day is marked by ceremonies, moments of silence, and the wearing of poppies in honour of those who have served and fallen. Together, these days remind us of the courage and resilience of all who have served.

AJ Smeltzer will have a Remembrance Day Ceremony on Friday, November 8th at 10am. If you are interested in attending, please contact the main office to let them know by Wednesday, November 6th.

We are looking for pictures of students' family members who are in or have served in the military. Please send digital copies to mhalliday@hrce.ca and include students name and homeroom and relationship to service person. All submissions must be sent in by November 5th to be included in the presentation.

Transgender Awareness Week



Transgender Awareness Week, observed in the second week of November, focuses on raising awareness about the issues facing transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. The week highlights the challenges transgender people face, such as discrimination and lack of healthcare access, and promotes acceptance and inclusivity by encouraging supportive policies and practices.

The week helps to foster solidarity within the transgender community and with allies, providing emotional support and strengthening the transgender movement. It culminates in the Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20, a day to honour those lost to anti-transgender violence, emphasizing the need for continued protection and support.

Be an ally

An ally is someone who actively and consistently supports, stands with and advocates for the 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. The best way to be an ally is to listen with an open mind. It is our responsibility to treat all people with dignity and kindness.

Upcoming dates:

November 8 - Indigenous Veterans Day

November 8 - AJ Remembrance Day ceremony

November 11 - Remembrance Day (no classes)

November 18 - Picture retakes

November 20 - Transgender Day of Remembrance

November 22 - Assessment and Evaluation Day (no classes)

November 28 - Progress conferences (formerly Parent Teacher interviews) in the evening

December 5 - Progress conferences/Professional Practice Day (no classes)

December 11 - Band concert

Dec 20 - Last day before Holiday Break

Please reach out with any questions.

Best,

Andrea Doucette

Principal AJ Smeltzer JH