

## PROSPECT ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2199 Prospect Road, Hatchet Lake, NS  
Phone 902-852-2441: Main Office  
Email [pres@hrce.ca](mailto:pres@hrce.ca)

Principal: Kim Michaud-Wheatley      Vice Principal: Malena Matthews  
Administrative Assistants: Louise Marriott and Margaret Berringer

### Allergies

An important reminder to check that school snacks/meals are **peanut AND tree nut free**.

### Safe Arrival

To report an absence, parents and guardians can call 1-833-582-6940. This number is available 24/7. Absences can be reported in advance, up to 9 AM on the morning of the absence.

### **December Dates**

**December 4:** Progress Conferences/Teacher Professional Practice Day (no classes - PP-12)  
**December 10:** International Human Rights Day  
**December 14:** First day of Hanukkah  
**December 19:** Last day of school for students before holiday break  
**December 22:** Teacher Professional Practice Day (no classes - PP-12)  
**December 25:** Christmas Day  
**December 26:** Kwanzaa

### Holiday Concert

It's that time of year again! Our concert is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> (snow date Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>).

Tickets will be sent home with students to keep in line with restrictions in place for seating capacity.

Concert times are below. Food bank items will be accepted, but are not required.

#### Grades Primary-2

1:20 PM (Doors open at 1:05 PM)

6:00 PM (Doors open at 5:45 PM)

#### Grades 3-5

2:05 PM (Doors open at 1:50)

6:45 PM (Door open at 6:30 PM)

### Indigenous Athlete of the month



Brigette Lacquette

Born in 1992 and of Métis heritage from Cote First Nation in Saskatchewan, Brigette is a trailblazing Canadian hockey player. She won silver and gold at the 2009 and 2010 IIHF U18 Women's World Championships and was drafted by Calgary in the 2015 Canadian Women's Hockey League (CWHL) Draft, later winning the 2015–16 Clarkson Cup with the team. In 2018, she became the first Indigenous athlete

to compete on Canada's women's Olympic hockey team, earning a silver medal at the Pyeongchang Games. Her leadership on the ice was further recognized when she was named the 2019 CWHL All-Star Captain.

~Mr. Comar

### Winter is coming ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

Have you signed up to be notified about school cancellations due to inclement weather by text message and/or email?

If you signed up last year, you do not need to sign up again.

#### **Text Notification**

Parents/guardians in HRCE whose contact information is up to date in PowerSchool will automatically be subscribed to these messages. Anyone else who wishes to receive school cancellations due to inclement weather by text message, must opt-in (according to Canadian Anti-Spam laws, we can't automatically include you) via the HRCE website. This may include staff members, community members, grandparents, partners, daycare operators, etc. If you know someone who would like to receive cancellation text notifications, please let them know how to opt-in.

If you are a parent/guardian in HRCE, and your cell phone number(s) are in PowerSchool, you do not need to opt-in through our website. If you aren't sure if you've already opted-in, text Y to the following number: 978338

If you are NOT a parent/guardian in HRCE and you wish to receive school cancellation notifications due to inclement weather, you must opt-in through our website in an easy two-step process, outlined [here](#). Why? Our text message feature is connected to contacts in PowerSchool.

### SchoolsPlus

SchoolsPlus is a confidential, free service available in every school in Nova Scotia. Our goal is to build positive relationships between families, schools, and communities.

Parents, guardians and students (12+) can self-refer to SchoolsPlus 12 months a year! Just contact the SchoolsPlus Facilitator at your school.

Call 902-464-2000, ext. 2331 or email [schoolsplus@hrce.ca](mailto:schoolsplus@hrce.ca).

Learn more about SchoolsPlus [here](#).

### Resources for Parents from Unplugged Canada

If you're concerned about your kids' screen time, smartphone use, or social media pressure, there are some wonderful resources below to help parents and caregivers navigate the challenges of raising kids in a digital world.

**For parents:** **The Anxious Generation** by **Jonathan Haidt** highlights the research and evidence behind how early smartphone and social media exposure have shaped a generation over the last 10–15 years. **Ten Rules for Raising Kids in a High-Tech World** by **Jean Twenge** offers practical, actionable guidance to help parents set healthy boundaries and support their kids' digital wellbeing.

**For kids:** **The Amazing Generation**, written for pre-teens and teens and co-authored by **Jonathan Haidt**, will be released on December 30. It explains the impact of today's digital environment in an engaging, age-appropriate way.

All of these books are available at your local library or bookstore.

*Unplugged Canada is a parent-led, national movement advocating for healthier childhoods by delaying smartphones and social media until kids are more developmentally ready. Join thousands of Canadian*

families choosing to delay by taking the Unplugged Canada Pledge at [unpluggedcanada.com/sign-pledge](http://unpluggedcanada.com/sign-pledge).



#### New educational technology resource for families

We're excited to share a new online resource designed to help families understand how technology supports student learning in HRCE. This page provides an overview of how tools like Chromebooks and Google for Education are used in classrooms, what provincially approved online platforms students may access, and how student privacy is protected. You'll also find information about Nova Scotia's guidance on the provincial cell phone expectations, tips for supporting online safety and digital citizenship at home, and an introduction to how students are learning about artificial intelligence in a thoughtful and responsible way. It also includes answers to common questions about screen time, passwords, communication during the school day, and more.

You can find the webpage [here](#).

#### We're ALWAYS hiring!

Did you know that HRCE has more than 10,000 employees serving more than 60,000 students?

Our job postings are updated every Wednesday at noon and feature a wide variety of career opportunities!

As HRCE grows, so does our staff. Check out new opportunities weekly at [www.myhrce.ca/jobs](http://www.myhrce.ca/jobs).

