

Upper Musquodoboit Consolidated School

PO BOX 42 ~ 8416 - HWY #224 ~ UPPER MUSQUODOBOIT, NS B0N 2M0

Principal: The Grinch

Vice Principal: Max

Administrative Assistant: Cindy Lou Who



December Newsletter



Message from Administration:

As we move into December, staff and students are busy preparing for the busy few weeks ahead. We will be offering opportunities for students to showcase their talents in our annual concert and to do their shopping for the adults in their lives at our bazaar. Along with this we will be engaging in various holiday themed activities throughout the month. We, the staff at UMCS, would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support over the past few months and to send everyone warm wishes for this holiday season. We hope that you are able to relax and enjoy this time with family and friends.

Days are becoming much cooler. Please ensure that students are dressed for the Fall/Winter season. You may want to think about ensuring that the sweaters, coats, hats and maybe mittens or gloves are at the ready and in the backpacks to wear if needed. If snow pants are a basic solid color, consider printing the students name on the inside tag for easy identification.



Quick Notes:

- **Head Lice Prevention:** Not only can colds and flu bugs be spread at school, so can head lice. Head lice are tiny insects that live on the head. They lay eggs (called nits) close to the scalp. Head lice spread through direct contact among children (head-to-head), or indirectly on items such as hats, combs, hairbrushes, headbands, helmets, or toques. Head lice do not jump, fly, or hop but they crawl very quickly. We encourage you to remind your children not to share anything that could cause a transfer of head lice. Check your child's head regularly for either live lice or nits (eggs), once a week as part of your routine and after every sleepover. Keep long hair tied back or braided. Head lice spread easily, so if one person in the household has lice, others may have it too. Check everyone in the household on the same day. Once your child has been treated, he/she may return to school if there are no live lice. It is important to carefully follow the directions on the treatment package so that re-infestation does not occur. All family members should be checked and treated as required. For more information, please click the link below to read the pamphlet "How to Prevent, Find & Treat Head Lice", written and reviewed by Public Health Services, Nova Scotia Health Authority

<http://www.novascotia.ca/dhw/publications/public-health-education/07135-head-lice-pamphlet-en.pdf>

- **Morning Supervision:** Parents and guardians are reminded that staff are not on duty until 7:30 in the morning, so please do not drop off students prior to that time as there is no supervision.
- **Afternoon Arrangements:** If there is a change to the end of the day routine for your child, we are asking that these changes be made no later than 1:00 PM. We do realize that life happens and while we do plan, plans sometimes have to change.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences:** If interested in booking an appointment for the upcoming Parent/Teacher Conference on the afternoon and evening of December 5th, please contact Cindy at 568-2285 for scheduling. Interviews are 1-3 (afternoon) and 5:30-7:30 (evening).
- **Santa Needs Our Help:** UMCS will be supporting our School Plus team with a “Stocking Item” Drive. Families and students are encouraged to send in an assortment of items appropriate for stockings (things Santa might leave when he visits). The Schools Plus team supports families throughout our family of schools. Please have any donations to the school by Friday, December 6th or contact Emma Horne at 902-233-0440 to arrange for pick up.



School Calendar

A few dates to keep in mind are:

- December 5: Professional Development/Parent Teacher Conferences– No classes
- December 16: Concert Date
- December 18: Christmas Bazaar
- December 20: Last day of classes before Christmas Break.
- December 25: Christmas Day
- December 25: First day of Hanukkah
- December 26: Kwanzaa
- January 3: Classes resume in 2024

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.



December 3: International Day of Persons with Disabilities



December 10: International Human Rights Day



Happy Holidays!

To all who celebrate, we wish you a joyful holiday season! Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Blessed Kwanzaa!



We're always hiring!

Did you know that HRCE has roughly 10,000 employees serving nearly 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.



Safe Arrival

PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal - Parents/guardians can log in to <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to access the SchoolMessenger website to report future absences.

SchoolMessenger App - Parents/guardians can download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices and use their username and password for the PowerSchool Portal.

Toll-Free Number - Parents/guardians can call 1-833-582-6940 to report future absences using an automated system.

All three methods are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Absences can be reported at any time before the start of school on the day the student will be absent. Up to five consecutive absences can be recorded at once.



School Lunch Program Ordering Calendar

NOVA SCOTIA SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM 2024 – 2025 Ordering Schedule

Ordering opens on Fridays at midnight and closes on Wednesdays at noon

SEPTEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2024						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY 2025						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY 2025						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH 2025						
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30	31					

APRIL 2025						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MAY 2025						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

LEGEND

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Week 1 & 2 Menu Served Ordering Window for Week 1 & 2 Menu No School <i>Some schools may have additional closure dates. Please check your RCE/CSAP calendar for school-specific closure dates</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Week 3 & 4 Menu Served Ordering Window for Week 3 & 4 Menu
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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!