

# Ash Lee Jefferson Newsletter

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December 2017  
Newsletter #4

Principal: Andrew McNeil  
Vice-Principal: Kelly Clarke  
Secretary: Helen Eisenhauer



## Upcoming Events

Dec 5 – Report Cards go home  
Dec 4-12 – Scholastic Book Fair  
Dec 7 – PD morning (no classes)  
Parent Teacher (1-3 pm) (no classes)  
Dec 11 - Holiday Concert #1  
Dec 12 - Holiday Concert #2  
Dec 13 - Holiday Concert #3  
Dec 21 - Last Day of Classes – Christmas Break  
Jan 3 - First Day back to school

## Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is now open through to December 12th.

Students will have an opportunity to visit the Book Fair to make a Wish List and purchase throughout the week.

## Afternoon Rehearsal Concert

Our afternoon rehearsals begin at 12:45pm. We encourage grandparents and family to attend the afternoon rehearsal, as seating will be limited in the evening.

## Evening Christmas Concerts - 7:00pm

We will be sending home 2 tickets per family, they will be going home the day before your students concert.

If you are seeking additional tickets, please email us at [aljs@hrsb.ca](mailto:aljs@hrsb.ca).

**Dec 11** - P Walsh, P vanWageningen, P Hilton/Hanrahan, P/1 Smith-Philips

**Dec 12** - 1 Ayres, 1 Payne, 2 MacFarlane, 1/2 Amirault, 2 Elson, 2/3 Kikuchi, 3 Arsenault, 3 Reed/McMillan

**Dec 13** - 3/4 Jolley, 3/4 Ross/Miller, 4 Auld, 4 Hobbs/Rafuse, 5 Dunn, 5 Burgess, 5 Pyke, 6 O'Hearn, 6 Donelan, 6 McMaster

Student supervision will start at 6:30pm. If you arrive earlier, students are asked to wait with their parents/guardian until then. The evening concerts will begin at **7:00pm**. The gym doors will open at 6:30pm, seats will be made available on a first come/first serve basis.



## Employment Opportunity – Lunch Monitors

We are currently in need of more lunch monitors at our school on a full-time and part-time basis. This is a paid position with hours from 11:10am to 12:40pm. If you would like to become a lunch monitor, or know of anyone who would like to become one, please contact the school at **902-860-4163** or email us at [aljs@hrsb.ca](mailto:aljs@hrsb.ca).

## Parking Lot Safety

The safety of students is our #1 priority. With this in mind, vehicles are not permitted on the school grounds between 7:30 am and 8:20 am and between 1:30 pm and 2:20 pm. The parking lot is not a drop off or pick-up zone. The only **exceptions** are for parents picking up sick students or in emergency situations. Thank you for your cooperation regarding these expectations. We also request that all parents who are meeting students at the end of the day remain outside the front doors when picking up children.

Due to the large number of students in our building, it is very congested in the hallway if students are leaving the building while others are entering.

### Changes to Students' Dismissal

If there is a change to a student's dismissal, please ensure you send in a note for the teacher. We understand that emergencies occur, however we are a very busy school and cannot always guarantee that messages are passed onto the teacher in time.

### Guidelines for School and/or Bus Cancellation Due to Inclement Weather

Student safety is the first priority of the *Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB)* when making school cancellation decisions. HRSB staff begins to gather information from various sources beginning at 4:30 am. Staff consults with Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) staff on road conditions, local weather services, and Stock Transportation. By 5:30 am, staff makes a recommendation to the Superintendent based on the information gathered. If it is safe to have students on the roads and sidewalks, then schools will be open. If not, all or some schools may be closed depending on the weather and road conditions in different areas of the board.

Parents/ guardians; winter is coming; do you have a childcare plan in place in the event of a school closure? Do you know what *Family of Schools* your child's school belongs to? Parents/ guardians always have the right to keep their child home from school if they believe that the travelling conditions are unsuitable.

For **full day closures** of all or some schools, the decision will be announced as close to 6:00 am as possible. Announcements will be:

- Posted on the HRSB's website ([www.hrsb.ca](http://www.hrsb.ca));
- Posted on the HRSB's Twitter account (HRSB\_Official);
- Recorded on the HRSB's School Cancellation Information Line 464-INFO (4636);
- Shared with subscribers to the board's email and text notification system; and
- Communicated to local media outlets.

If conditions deteriorate throughout the day, the Superintendent may **close schools early** when weather or road conditions are considered to be a threat to the safety of students. In the event of an **early school closure**, the announcement will be made by 11 am. School busses will be dispatched to schools **two hours** earlier than their normal regularly scheduled pick-up for the afternoon dismissal, **walking students** will be dismissed at the start of their regular lunch time.

**NEW!** On school days when weather conditions exist that it is not safe to open schools at the regularly scheduled time, but it is predicted that conditions will improve, a **2 hour delayed opening** may be considered. Delayed openings would be considered when a severe weather event has concluded but snow clearing or other operations require additional time. Delayed opening may also be considered when the physical plant is experiencing an issue (power, water) and additional time is required to prepare the facility for opening.

In the event of a delayed opening the following will apply:

- School opening will be delayed 2 hours
- School bus pick up times will be delayed 2 hours
- Excel child care will be cancelled for the morning only
- Pre-Primary opening will be delayed 2 hours
- Each school will alter morning schedules to best address their timetables.
- Lunch times will not change
- Afternoon class schedules will not change
- Dismissal time will not change.

### Safe Arrival & Late Students

If your child is absent or going to be late, please call the safe arrival line (902) 860-4375. Leave your child's name, teacher's name, and reason for absence. Please do not leave voicemails for administration or the school secretary, as these messages are only for the information of the safe arrival volunteers.

A number of students are arriving to school late. If your child is a walker, please ensure that they give themselves enough time in the morning to arrive to school on time. Being late is very disruptive to your child's learning and his/her classmates. It is also very distracting to the teacher when classes are interrupted with students arriving late. Students are considered **late** for school if they are not here by 8:10 am. Thank you for your attention to this very important matter

### Life Threatening Allergies

The school asks that all parents continue to respect that we are a Fish & Nut Aware School. Please be aware that there are a number of students and staff who have allergies of various types. For this reason, we are asking all visitors, parents/guardians, babysitters, and friends who are visiting the school, to keep in mind that we are a nut and scent aware school. We appreciate your support, as it enables us to provide a safer environment for all.

### Visitors to the School

Visitors to the school are reminded to stop at the office to sign our visitor/guest book and obtain a pass before proceeding throughout the school. Please remember that you may be a parent to your own child, but in many instances a stranger to others. Thank you, your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

