

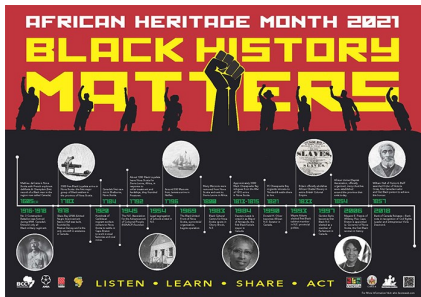


PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Just a reminder once again that winter has arrived! We want to remind all students to dress appropriately for the temperature and weather conditions. We encourage all students to wear or bring their snow pants in the event they wish to play in the snow (field and hill). Decisions whether to go outside or stay inside during recess and lunch time are made with consideration given to temperature, wind chill and weather conditions. The HRCE Wind Chill Safety Protocol is available on the school’s website will be used as a guide when deciding if students will go outdoors for recess or lunch.

We would also like to recommend when possible students should have a spare pair of clothes in their backpacks in case of accidental spills or getting wet outside.

FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH



The 2021 African Heritage Month theme, Black History Matters: Listen, Learn, Share and Act, recognizes the important legacy of people of African descent and the long-standing history in the development of Canada.

The theme brings focus and increased awareness of racialized issues of a community that has overcome great adversity for inclusion. It further calls on us to listen, learn, share and act to make society a better place.

Nova Scotia has over 50 historic African Nova Scotian communities with a long, deep, and complex history dating back over 400 years. African Heritage Month provides us with another opportunity to celebrate our culture, legacy, achievements, and contributions of people of African Descent – past and present. (<https://ansa.novascotia.ca/african-heritage-month>)

LUNAR NEW YEAR

The Lunar New Year, most commonly associated with the Chinese New Year or Spring Festival, typically falls sometime between January 21 and February 20 annually. **Lunar New Year 2021 is on February 12**, and it's the Year of the Ox. It's called the Lunar New Year because it marks the first new moon of the lunisolar calendars traditional to many east Asian countries. Many of our Korean, Vietnamese and Chinese will be celebrating it with their families.

PUNJABI AND HINDU: BASANT PANCHAMI

Basant/Vasant Panchami will be celebrated on February 16th. In both Punjabi and Hindu communities’ celebrations are focussed on the arrival of Spring. The color of *Basant* (Spring) is yellow, also known as the '*Basanti*' colour. It symbolizes prosperity, light, energy and optimism.

Important dates:

Primary Registration	Feb. 1st - March 1st
SAC Mtg.	Feb. 1st
Chinese New Year	Feb. 12th
Valentine’s Day	Feb. 14th
National Flag Day	Feb. 15th
Edward Francis Arab Heritage Day (No School)	Feb. 15th
Basant/Vasant	Feb. 16th

If you have any questions or comments about any detail in this newsletter, please don’t hesitate to contact the school

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EARLY REGISTRATION: FEBRUARY 1st - March 1st

Primary Registration for the 2021-2022 school year began Monday, February 1st and will continue to Friday February 26th. All new pre-primary and primary students (**English Program**) in the Basinview Drive Community School catchment area will register at Basinview Drive Community School. However, as schools this year have been asked to **limit non-essential visitors to schools, families are encouraged to register online**.

To register for Primary, your child must **turn five years of age on or before December 31st, 2021**. Proof of address, a birth certificate, your child's health card number and expiry date are all required upon registration. Parents are invited to call the school office (832-8450) or HRCE at 902-464-2000 for further information. **Information regarding the registration process is also available on the following link: <http://www.hrsb.ns.ca/content/id/615.html>**

French Immersion Registration for New Primaries: New primary students registering in French Immersion will register directly at the French Immersion school site - Sunnyside Elementary/Fort Sackville. Feel free to contact the school at 832-8983 for more information.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC) 2020-2021

The next SAC meeting will take place on Feb. 1st at 6:30 through Zoom: Submission of agenda items must be made in writing to the co-chairs Arlene Williams (a_pino@hotmail.com) or Carla Ball (carlaball2015@gmail.com) **one month prior** to a scheduled meeting.

Thank you to both our SAC and PTP for their continued support of our classrooms during this unprecedented school year.

FAMILY LITERACY DAY

Family Literacy Day did not like it has in the past due to the school being unable to invite our families in to read. However, students still took part in Literacy activities at the school and participated in a school wide STOP, DROP, Read session

**NATIONAL FLAG DAY - FEBRUARY 15TH**

February 15 is National Flag of Canada Day. Visit Canada.ca/FlagDay <canada.ca/flagday> to learn more!

MS. COUTTS WEBSITE!

Our music teacher Ms. Couotts welcomes visitors to her website at <https://sites.google.com/view/carolcouttsmusicclass/home>

HERITAGE DAY FEBRUARY 15th, 2021!

Heritage day in 2021 will honour Edward Francis Arab. Edward was the grandson of some of the first Lebanese immigrants to Halifax. He graduated from Dalhousie University law school and practised until he enlisted in the army. The students **DO NOT HAVE SCHOOL** on this day.



VALENTINE'S DAY

To align with the Public Health Guidelines during the pandemic, students will not be permitted to exchange valentines at school. Individual classes may organize Valentine's Day activities that align with Public Health guidelines.

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 opening 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 and pre-Primary would be delayed by two hours. In our school, this means school would start at 10:40AM. 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.

SUBSTITUTE (SPARE) LUNCH MONITORS NEEDED

The school is currently looking for substitute lunch monitors to work over the lunch hour to help supervise our students while they eat and are at play. If you have an hour to spare each day or the odd day and wish to be a spare monitor, we would love to hear from you. Please call the school at 902-832-8450 and we can explain what the requirements are to complete an application.

LOST AND FOUND - FULL!

Our Lost and Found bins are full. We encourage students to check the bins regularly for lost items. As we are asked to limit non-essential visitors to the school, parents are asked to reach out to the teacher with descriptions of lost items and the student will be given time to go and search. Any unclaimed items remaining prior to March Break will be bagged and donated to Beacon House.

Over the next few weeks, the school will send home another round of pictures of lost and found items to help owners and clothing items to once again be reunited.



SCHOOL SPIRIT FRIDAYS

We will continue to have school spirit Fridays at Basinview.

- Feb 5– Wear Black, Yellow, and /or Green in recognition of African Heritage Month (Nova Scotia's African Flag colours)_
- Feb 12– Wear Red in recognition of Valentine's and Lunar New Year
- Feb 19– Hat Day (the wilder the better—have fun with it)
- Feb 26– Inside Out