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WEST BEDFORD



ELEMENTARY

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50 Broad Street  
Bedford, NS B4A 0T4  
902-405-0337, [wbs@hrce.ca](mailto:wbs@hrce.ca)

Principal: Susan Casey

Vice Principals: Courtney Smith  
: Joanne Treen

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Monday, May 5, 2025

Hello WBS Families,

We would like to extend our gratitude to those families who came out to support the school in our Earth Day campus clean up. The weather was not great, but the turn out sure was!

Warm regards,  
Susan Casey

1. **WBS Parking Update:** This is a gentle reminder to our families that we have parking procedures in place at WBS to ensure our students remain safe when they are on the school grounds.
  - a. **The Emergency Vehicle Loop- outside the blue doors-** this loop is for Excel drop off and pick up and after-school child care vans only- please do not use this loop to drop off or pick up your student.
  - b. **Accessible Parking-** We have designated spots for those with an accessible parking pass. These spots are in the center of the emergency vehicle loop. Accessible Parking Passes must be clearly displayed.
  - c. **Parking out back-** Please do not go around the back of our school. Our special transportation buses go around back to drop off and pick up students from our learning center. We have had a number of cars back there pull around the buses to enter or leave while students are getting on and off the buses. This area is for staff parking only and the special transportation buses.
  - d. **Parking the Pre-Primary Zone:** Only families with a purple parking pass for Pre-Primary should be parking alongside the curb by our playground.
  - e. **Family/Visitor Parking:** Parking for vehicles is in the lower parking lot. There is visitor parking along the perimeter of this lot. The WBS and WBH Staff park in the middle spots of this parking lot. In the morning, there is a

student drop off loop in the lower parking lot. This is the only parking lot open to families.

- f. **Upper Staff Parking Lot-** The upper parking lot is for staff vehicles only. Please enter this area.

When everyone respects these parking procedures it allows our students and staff to be safe while on the school grounds. Please support our school community by following these rules.

2. **Want to communicate with WBS?** We work hard to establish positive relationships with families. We recognize that communication is the foundation for this. If you have questions about your child's school experience, please follow the following communication plan:

- First, reach out via email or phone call to your child's teacher- Your child's teacher will often have the information you are seeking.
- If your concerns were not addressed by the teacher, please reach out via email to your child's Vice Principal- Courtney Smith supports students and families in Primary to Grade 3; Joanne Treen supports students and families in Grades 4 to 6.
- If your concerns were not addressed, please reach out through email to the School Principal, Susan Casey.

Given the number of students and families we support, we are not able to have unscheduled meetings. Please reach out to WBS staff members via email to schedule a meeting date and time. Email addresses can be found on our school's website under staff directory. [www.wbs.hrce.ca](http://www.wbs.hrce.ca)

3. **Home & School Association:** The next Home and School meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 20, 2025**, at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria. We have a few Home and School Events coming up:



4. **SAC:** The next SAC meeting will be on **Thursday, May 22, 2025 from 6:30-8:00 pm** in the WBS seminar room. We are joining with WBH SAC for the first hour.

Did you know that you can read the SAC summary minutes posted on our website? Visit [wbs.hrce.ca](http://wbs.hrce.ca) – heading “For Students and Families”- SAC (the current minutes posted are September to November 2024).

5. **Moving? Or have moved?:** Please ensure that you have completed the Student Change of Address Form. This is the expected practice to ensure that students are attending the correct catchment area school.

**The 2024 – 25 HRCE Current Student Change of Address Form- This form needs to be completed if:**

- you are moving within the 24-25 school year and will need to register for a different school within HRCE: or
- you are moving within the 24-25 school year, but the address is still within the catchment of the current school.

Click [here](#) to complete the Current Student Change of Address form.

6. **Safe Arrival Number:** If your child is going to be absent for the any part of the school day or arrive late, please call **Safe Arrival: 1-833-582-6940**. Please note if your child will be late arriving to school you must select that they will be absent for the day. When they arrive our admin team will update their attendance.

7. **May 15 is Black Excellence Day**

What is Black Excellence Day? In essence Black Excellence Day is about acknowledging, celebrating, and uplifting Black contributions while fostering a more inclusive and equitable environment. The following are ways you celebrate the fourth annual Black Excellence Day:

8. **2025-26 EXCEL registration**

The EXCEL Before and After Program is a recreation based, fee-for-service before and after school program run by Halifax Regional Centre for Education. At each school site where EXCEL is offered, the dedicated staffing teams plan games and activities that suit the needs and interests of all registered students. Since EXCEL began more than 25 years ago, staff have continually enhanced the program based on experiences and feedback. Today, with more than 4,000 participating students, EXCEL is one of the largest programs of its kind in the Maritimes, providing inclusive and engaging programming for participants.

For more information about registration, fees and programing, please [click here](#).

If you have additional questions, please contact the EXCEL Before and After Program

Registrar's Office: Kimberly Lozon at 902-464-2000 ext. 2787 or [excelregistrar@hrce.ca](mailto:excelregistrar@hrce.ca) and Gail Hartling at 902-464-2000 ext. 2236 or [excel@hrce.ca](mailto:excel@hrce.ca).

9. Here are some dates you may wish to know and acknowledge in May”

- May is Asian Heritage Month
- May is Canadian Jewish Heritage Month
- May is Polish Heritage Month
- May is Speech and Hearing Month
- May 5 is Red Dress Day
- May 15 is Black Excellence Day
- May 11-17 is Education Week
- May 17 is International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia
- May 25 to 31 is Nova Scotia Access Awareness Week

#### **Upcoming Dates for April 2025**

April 30<sup>th</sup>- Professional Learning Day – No students

#### **Upcoming Dates for May 2025**

May 5-9<sup>th</sup>- Home & School Staff Appreciation Week

May 6- Primary Orientation Meeting for our new 2025-2026 Primary families 6-7 pm

May 19<sup>th</sup>- Victoria Day- School is Closed

May 20<sup>th</sup>- Home & School meeting 6-7 pm/ SAC meeting 7-8 pm

May 30<sup>th</sup>- Set up for the Spring Fling 6:00-9:00 pm

May 31<sup>st</sup>- WBS Spring Fling 11:00-2:00 pm

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#### **Upcoming Dates for June 2025**

June 25<sup>th</sup>- Grade 6 Closing Ceremony (morning)

June 27<sup>th</sup>- Assessment & Evaluation Day- No school for students

June 30<sup>th</sup>- Last Day of School