



École LeMarchant-St. Thomas School

Les nouvelles de septembre 2025 September 2025 News



Welcome/Bienvenue to the 2025-26 school year!

Our theme for the month of September is **Friendship/Friendliness**. Staff will be discussing the importance of being open to new friendships and the qualities that make a good friend.

The staff at LeMarchant-St. Thomas (LMST) is looking forward to a wonderful year of collaboration and learning. Homeroom teachers will be contacting families via email or phone call between September 2nd and 3rd to introduce themselves and welcome you.

Curriculum Night/Ice Cream social

Please join us (parents/guardians and children) on **September 3** from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm here at the school. You will get a chance to see your child's classroom, meet the teacher and learn about the curriculum and then enjoy a cold treat outdoors compliments of our Home & School association the night before the first day of school.

Communication

Although it is a very busy time of year for parents and teachers alike, returning to school is always an exciting time of year - full of promise and new beginnings. Mme Gallivan and I, along with the teaching staff, believe in keeping the lines of communication open. Please feel free to give us a call if you have any questions, concerns, or compliments. We look forward to working with all of you as partners to provide the best educational opportunities for all our students.

Some of the many ways we will communicate with you this year is through **school newsletters, email, the LMST parent/guardian handbook, email through School Messenger technology, phone calls, student agenda, Instagram (@lmstsnews), and the school [website](#)**. We work diligently to keep our website as up to date as possible. Please check it regularly at

6141 Watt Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 2B7
Ph: (902) 421-6969 Fax: (902) 421-3036

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Kim Gallivan, Vice Principal
Jody Kearney, Administrative Assistant

email: mcavanaugh@hrce.ca
email: kgallivan@hrce.ca
email: jody.kearney@hrce.ca



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<https://lmt.hrce.ca/> If you have not received or had a chance to look at our parent/guardian handbook please do so.

It is very important that we have the most up to date information for you in case of an emergency as well as facilitating ongoing communication. If your contact information needs updating, please refer to hrce.ca and search student updates or click [here](#).

Arrival and Dismissal

****Primary, Grade 1 and Grade 2 teachers have a colour associated with each classroom to help our young students navigate the school.**

Main Entrance doors	Side door (playground side)/ Southwest door/ Watt Street entrance	Side door (playground side) closest to the field/ Northwest door/Field entrance
Primary/1 Rhynold (white)	¾ Barkhouse	1 Boyle (pink)
Primary Lacroix (blue)	3 LeDuc	1 Katelyn Smith (red)
Primary DePalma (green)	4 Beaton	2/3 Drapeau (dark blue)
Primary/1 Bethune (purple)	5 Duguay- Myatt	2 Manderville (black)
Primary Zelios (yellow)	5/6 Corbin	3 Fennell
1 Emily Smith (orange)	5/6 Cunningham	3/4 Collinson
1 Maddigan (gold)	6 Chiasson	4 Trach
2 Jordan (silver)	6 Hagerman	4/5 Michelin
		5 Mouland

2 Englehutt – students proceed to portable via the playground.

Please help us by:

- Dropping off your child from anytime between 8:35 am-8:45 am. Students enter the building upon arrival.
- Pick up- 2:55 pm Students will be dismissed from the same doors they entered in the morning. **There is no supervision after school.**

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School Lunch Program

On **Monday, September 15**, the lunch program is starting in your school. From noon August 29 until next Wednesday, September 3 at noon, you will be able to place your order for the first two weeks of nutritious, delicious school lunches by going to www.NSLunch.ca.

Ordering Lunches

Starting August 29 at noon, you can go to www.NSLunch.ca , click “Order Now” and select [Halifax Regional Centre for Education] to order lunches.

You will be able to log into the system using your My NS Account or a student GNSPES account. If you do not have a My NS Account, the system can guide you in creating one.

You can then create or modify diner profiles. To do this, you will need to select your school and input your child’s name as it appears in this message:

First name: [name]

Last name: [name]

Once the diner profile is complete and ordering opens, you will be able to choose between two daily lunch options, place your order and access the confidential payment system.

Lunch Menu

The full Nova Scotia School Lunch Program menu is available on www.NSLunch.ca. This year’s menu has new and improved kid-approved options like chicken fingers, pizza, and mac and cheese.

Cost of Meals

The Nova Scotia School Lunch Program is pay-what-you-can, letting you decide the amount you want to pay for lunches. The amount you choose to pay through the online ordering system is confidential. Schools and food service providers will only know that a meal has been ordered.

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More Information and Ordering Help

Please visit www.NSLunch.ca to explore the menu and get answers to frequently asked questions. If you experience any issues when ordering, you can also reach out to your child's school or your region's School Food Lead by creating a [Support Request](#) in the ordering system.

Thank you for taking part in the Nova Scotia School Lunch Program!

TECHNOLOGY

While at school students are not permitted to use personal technology devices.

No **cell phones** or **smart watches** are permitted during the school day. Students may have these items in their backpacks but they must be turned off during the school day. Students may use the school phones to call home in case of emergency or illness with the support/ approval of school staff.

PEANUT SMART AND “SCENT”SITIVE SCHOOL



We have several students who have life threatening allergies to peanuts and nut products. Please respect their health and well-being by sending your child with snacks and lunches that are nut-free. Additionally, many of our students have medical conditions that can be triggered by scented products. When visiting the school please refrain from wearing products containing perfumes.

Water Bottles

Reminder: Please Send a Water Bottle 💧

We kindly recommend that all students bring a water bottle to school each day. Bottle-filling stations are available throughout the school, and sending your child with a full water bottle in the morning is greatly appreciated.

In the event a student forgets their water bottle, they will still have access to drinking fountains during the day.

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Volunteers

A strong relationship between home and school is important to student well-being and success. In order to volunteer you must have an up to date a completed [criminal record check](#) **AND** [child abuse registry check](#). When submitting your criminal record check be sure to link and share your application with LMST elementary. The criminal record check (police) and the child abuse registry check (community services) are two separate processes.

Please note- this process can take weeks. To volunteer both checks must be complete and submitted to the office.

School Advisory Council (SAC)

About our School Advisory Council (SAC)

The [School Advisory Council](#) consists of parents, staff, and community members who provide input to the principal, the Regional Centre for Education (HRCE), and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) on a range of issues related to LMST and the school system in general.

Some of the functions we serve are:

- Collaborating to improve student achievement and well-being.
- Providing feedback on provincial policies
- Oversight for SAC grant spending decisions
- Providing feedback on school practices and initiatives

LMST SAC membership Contact: (email hrce-sac-lmt@gnspe.ca)

Administration	Parent/guardian	Community	Staff
Moira Cavanaugh	Kathleen Porta	Pearl Matheson	Damon Cunningham
Kim Gallivan	Karen Masry	Maureen Mitchell	Adele Pellerin
	Hideyo Kawashima	Kim Healy	TBA
	TBA	Jen LeBlanc	TBA

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Parent/Guardian SAC Representative Needed

We are looking for a parent/guardian representative from our ***French Immersion program*** to fill a vacancy. If you are interested in this opportunity- please email Moira Cavanaugh by **September 12** at mcavanaugh@hrce.ca If more than one parent/guardian is interested, we will have an election early in the 25-26 school year. Please click on the link above for more information on the role of our School Advisory Council.

Our first meeting is September 23 at 4:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Home & School -JOIN the FUN!

Greetings from the LMST Home & School Association!

LMST H&S is a society organized by LMST parents and guardians that provides fundraising support for LMST and acts as a vehicle to **promote school spirit and community**.

This year's H&S Team includes:

Co-Chairs: Christine Eisenhauer & Sarah McMullen

Co-Secretaries: Katie McIsaac & Carly Buchwald

Treasurer: Vanessa Bruce Little

Co-Communications: Marcy MacDougall & Lindsay Page

Our list of exciting fundraising and community events this school year include:

Welcome Back! FREE Ice Cream/Popsicle Social- (Sep 3, 5:30pm-6:30pm)	Food Drive (Feb)
LMST Clothing Order (Fall)	Bingo Night (Mar)
Fall Garden Clean-up (Oct)	Morris East Pizza Contest (Spring)
Family Skate & Grade 6 Bake Sale (Nov 11, TBD)	Spring Garden Clean-up (May)
Woozles Shopping Night (Nov)	Spring Fair (May)
Adult Social (Nov)	Year-end Ice Cream/Popsicle Social (June)
Holiday wreath/tree sale (Nov/Dec)	

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*NB: Dates & events subject to change. Consult school website for updates.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! - LMST has amazing parent/guardian volunteers who help make our events a huge success. Some of our regular event leads have or will transition out of their roles within the next couple of years as students move on to junior high. If you are a parent/guardian who may be interested in learning more about leading or volunteering at one of our events (including working with current leads) for one or many years, please contact LMST H&S via email (homeschoollmst@gmail.com) or speak with our Co-Chair, Christine Eisenhauer, at our next H&S meeting (September 23, 6pm @ LMST Cafeteria). Please note, depending on the event, required volunteer time varies widely from one to several hours.

OPTIONAL H&S DONATION

In response to inquiries on how to make direct donations to LMST H&S, the H&S welcomes cash or cheque donations delivered to the school office (cheques made payable to "LMST"). Tax receipts are available upon request. **This is entirely voluntary.**

SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT MEETING, SEPT. 23 @ 6pm!

Please join us at our next H&S meeting, **September 23rd at 6pm** in the school cafeteria, **ALL are welcome!** H&S meetings provide a great opportunity to **learn about the exciting experiences** our students and faculty are having at school, **learn about upcoming events**, **learn how you can possibly get involved** to help enrich our community (and your family), and **participate in our spending decisions.**

Email: homeschoollmst@gmail.com

Facebook: Check out "**LMST Home & School Association**" (announcements) & "**LMST Buy, Sell, Swap, Save!!**" (community marketplace)

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LMST Green Space Committee and Garden Committee

For those who may be new to LMST, the Green Space Committee was created in September 2016 under the authority of the LMST Home and School Association when discussions around the new school design began. The committee is an ad hoc group of parent/guardian volunteers tasked to work with the province and school community to plan and fund the outdoor playground and garden space for the new LMST school. Over the years we have created a Garden Committee that helps facilitate activities within the school and garden. Each year we do a variety of events including LMST Fall Clean Up Day, Harvest Snack, Seed fundraiser, Garden Week, and the school-wide Planting Day.

We are happily in the midst of another growing season at the LMST Garden. Volunteers had fun watching incredible things grow and harvesting delicious veggies this summer. Lots of things are still growing so please take a look next time you are visiting the school. Thank you to all the families who helped plant, water and weed this summer. It truly takes so many people to help make it all work and thank you so much.

We will be having a garden committee meeting in September - stay tuned for details. No garden experience is necessary - we just love having new faces and past volunteers too.

Again, thank you to all the parents, teachers and neighbours who have helped over the years !!!

Upcoming Garden events

- LMST Harvest Snack October TBD
- LMST Fall Clean up October 19 (2-4pm)
- Seed Fundraising Sale February
- LMST Garden Week in April
- LMST Spring Clean-up in May
- School Wide Planting Day in June

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Broadway is Back with *Annie Jr.*

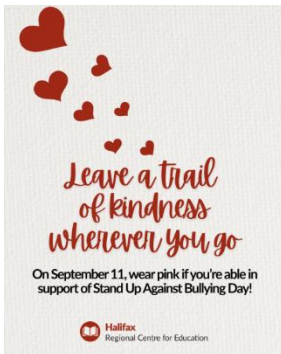
We are excited to announce that this year's school musical on April 22 & 23 will be ***Annie Jr.***!

After the wonderful success of past productions such as *Beauty & the Beast Jr.*, *Frozen Jr.*, and *The Lion King Jr.*, we're thrilled to provide another opportunity for students to shine on stage.

All students in Grades 4, 5, and 6 will be participating in the production under the direction of our music teacher, Mr. Cochrane. As a result of this full participation, please note that students in Grades 4–6 will not be taking part in the December concerts this year with the exception of our grades 4-6 choir.

More information about the ***Annie Jr.*** production will be shared in December/January. We can't wait to showcase our students' talents once again!

Stand Up Against Bullying Day



On the second Thursday of September, we recognize Stand Up Against Bullying Day. This day, happening on September 11 this year, is an opportunity for us to start the school year off right – by celebrating inclusivity, kindness and friendship.

All schools in HRCE are focused on ensuring all students have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and thrive. Please join us and wear pink if you're able on September 11 to take a stand against bullying.

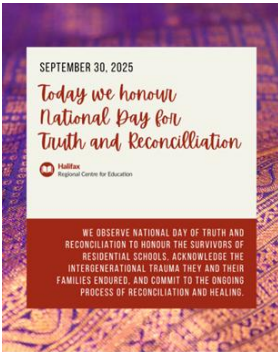
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National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Each year on September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation honours the children who didn't return from residential schools, as well as survivors, their families, and communities.

Orange Shirt Day, led by Indigenous communities, aims to raise awareness about the inter-generational impacts of residential schools and allows us all to show our support for **Every Child Matters** movement.

As there are no classes on Monday, September 29 (professional learning day for staff) and Tuesday, September 30, we welcome staff and students to wear orange on Friday, September 26.

Employment Opportunities at LMST

Outdoor Lunch Monitor

LMST is looking for outdoor lunch monitors for the 2025-26 school year. Please contact Kim Gallivan at kgallivan@hrce.ca

EXCEL Before and After School Program is Hiring!

We are currently recruiting staff for the EXCEL Before- and After-School Program and would greatly appreciate your support in spreading the word within your school community. We've created a short Teams form for individuals who may be interested in working with EXCEL. These roles are a great fit for people with experience or interest in working with children, and include flexible hours, competitive pay, and the added benefit of free program access for the children of EXCEL staff while they are working.

Here is the link to the form: [Working with EXCEL 2025-26](#)

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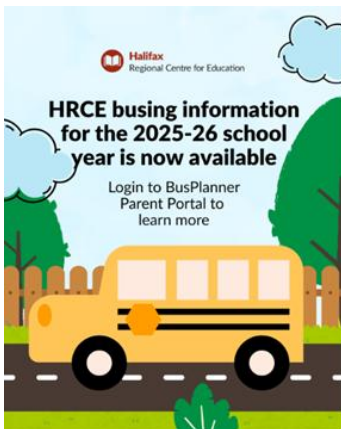


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SchoolCash Setup

SchoolCash Online is an easy-to-use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. You can pay for items sold by school fundraisers, class trips and so much more, quickly and conveniently. Simply register an account to be able to pay in several different payment forms. Click [here](#) for more information.

Bus Planner



Everything you need to know about student transportation, including eligibility, stop times and stop locations can be found on BusPlanner. Once you register and subscribe, you may also receive email notifications on changes to routes, bus delays or cancellations.

To sign up, go to BusPlanner at hrce.mybusplanner.ca and click on Parent Portal. Follow the instructions to create an account.

Don't have a BusPlanner Parent Portal account? Need help logging in? Please contact the HRCE Student Transportation Team at transportation@hrce.ca or call 902-431-4723.

Demographic Form Updates

On September 9, the Demographic Updates Form will be available to families in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. This form should be updated by every family to ensure all information about your child is current, including contacts, medical information, consents and demographics. **Even if there are no anticipated changes, please still review this information and submit the form.** This information will then be reviewed by the school before updates are finalized. This deadline to submit the form is October 6, 2025.

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PARKING

It is important that we work together to ensure student safety in the parking lot of our school. Please remember that the parking lot of the school **is for staff only**. Please take note of the many no parking signs, as parking this year will be closely monitored and tickets will be issued by police or from parking enforcement. If possible, walking your child to school or parking a few blocks away and walking is appreciated.



Important Dates

- September 3- Access for parents/student will be enabled at 3:00pm
- September 3 - Curriculum night/Ice cream/popsicle social 5:30-6:30 pm
- September 4 -First day of school for students
- September 11 - Stand Up Against Bullying Day- students are invited to wear pink or a light-coloured t-shirt to school in support of anti- bullying
- September 15- Nova Scotia hot lunch program begins for those who ordered
- September 15 & 16 – Picture Day (schedule will be sent closer to date)
- September 23- School Advisory Council (SAC) 4:30 pm- All welcome
- September 23- Home & School meeting (H &S) 6:00 pm- All welcome
- September 26- Orange Shirt Day
- September 29- Professional learning day- no school for students
- September 30- Truth and Reconciliation Day – no school

For a complete listing of staff at LMST please check out our website

<https://lmt.hrce.ca/staff-directory>

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