

Robert Kemp Turner Elementary School

141 Circassion Drive, Dartmouth, NS B2W 4N7

902-464-5205, Safe Arrival 1-833-582-6940

We're Rockets Soaring to Success!

September 2025 Newsletter



Dear Family,

Welcome to a new year at RKT! Thank you for your support and involvement last week. We were pleased to see so many families join us for Curriculum Night and want to thank our Home and School Organization for the cool treats at our social! We had two amazing days full of smiles and group cooperation! Students came to school ready to learn and be active members of our wonderful school community thanks in large part to your efforts at home!

Staff have been busy preparing special learning environments and planning lessons that foster cooperation, respect and a sense of belonging. September will be full of adjustments as we navigate what makes our school days run smoothly and allow us all to maximize learning opportunities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via our main line 902-464-5205 or by email clanceyr@hrce.ca.

Sincerely,
Regan

Ms R. Clancey
Principal

IMPORTANT GENERAL INFORMATION

School Safety

Drop off and Pick Up – When parking on the street please do so far away from the school parking lot entry and exit areas. This broadens the vision of our Cross Walk Guard and assists in safe traffic movement.

Staff supervision begins at 8:10. Please do not drop off and leave children unattended before that time. You are welcome to come before that time and stay with your child(ren) until staff are on duty.

Students are met and dismissed by their teacher at their regular entrance/exit doors. Please wait with or for your child(ren) outside as this assists school entry and dismissal routines. It also helps ensure security and safety.

Dogs are not permitted on the school yard or playgrounds while students are present. We appreciate your cooperation with this!

To gain school entry, please press the button on the door buzzer located to the left of the main doors. Remember to say hello and sign in at the main office upon your arrival.

When picking up students outside of dismissal time, please communicate via writing with your child's teacher and/or the office.

When picking up children from Excel, please wait at bottom of the stairs and a staff member will come to greet you. Staff and students are getting use to the new location and this helps ensure a safe pick up.

On days when your child will be late or absent, please let us know. Our **Safe Arrival** number is **1-833-582-6940**. The only option to select is Absent with Notification. Select this for an Absence or late arrival. When your child arrives late, the office will update their attendance.

Please have your child bring a labelled filled water bottle to and from school each day.

Allergy Alerts / Medication

We have numerous students and staff with severe allergies to food and scents. Please refrain from wearing scents when in our school and be diligent about the food items your child brings to school. Nut products cannot be sent to school.

If your child requires prescription medication to be given during school hours, an “Administration of Medication” form must be filled out and on file in the main office. All medicine is kept secured and distributed from the main office. Medications are required to be in the original container and clearly labelled for your child. If your child has a severe or life-threatening allergy or medical condition, families must complete a Life-Threatening Allergies form to ensure all necessary staff members have access to this information. Please call the school to obtain the appropriate medical forms. This is important to ensure all staff is aware of any conditions or allergies so they can respond appropriately in the case of an emergency. You must complete a form indicating appropriate medical care for your child.

If your child requires an Epi Pen, they must wear their EpiPen on their person. If you decide that you do not want your child to wear the Epi Pen, it can be left in the office but you must complete signed documentation and submit to the principal in September of each year. If you want to send in a second Epi Pen, it can be left in the main school office.

If you require a Medic Alert bracelet, Medic Alert will provide children between the ages of 4 and 14 with a free medic alert bracelet.

Registration Forms & Parent Contact Information

PowerSchool is the student information system used by Nova Scotia public schools. All families should have a PowerSchool account to verify and confirm the information contained in your child’s electronic file. Families will be asked to verify and update their child’s electronic file each year. We will be sending more information about how to do this later this month.

If you are new to PowerSchool or have forgotten your password, please use the links below to get started. <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/>
https://sis.hrce.ca/powerschool_for_parents/index.html#/

Lockdown Drill

The safety and security of our students and staff is a top priority for Robert Kemp Turner Elementary and the Halifax Regional Centre for Education. We implement a number of measures as part of a comprehensive plan aimed at ensuring our school remains a safe place for our students to learn. One of the procedures our school will be practicing is a lockdown drill. During a lockdown drill, classroom doors are secured, and the students remain inside the room until instructed by the teacher to resume their activities. All exterior doors are locked, and no one is permitted to enter or leave the building. Students are kept inside the school and

classrooms when circumstances make it safer to stay in the classroom rather than evacuate. Just as we prepare our students to properly respond to a fire drill, they also need to be aware of the proper response during a lockdown drill. These drills should be treated with the same level of importance as fire drills. Please be assured that staff at our school will spend time discussing the importance of this procedure with students prior to running a drill. We will also take time after the drill to remind them that it was only a practice and there was no danger. When possible, our School Liaison Officer may assist us in conducting the lockdown drills just as the Fire Department assists with evacuation drills from time to time. Please take the time to speak with your child about this procedure and reinforce its importance. We practice these drills to ensure our school remains a safe place for teaching and learning. Our first lockdown drill will take place during the week of Sept 15-19. Please contact the office if you have any questions about lockdown drills.

SchoolCash Online

HRCE uses an on-line system that allows families to make payments electronically. From fundraisers to school trip fees, you will be able to make all payments safely, securely, and quickly through SchoolCash Online. If you have not already done so, please register as soon as possible. It's free and takes less than two minutes. When you create an account, you will receive an email once items are posted for purchase. Visit <https://hrce.schoolcashonline.com/> and click Register to get started. Need support? Connect with the SchoolCash Online help at [schoolcashonline.com/Home/Support](https://hrce.schoolcashonline.com/Home/Support)

The Provincial School Lunch Program

Our school's first lunch date is on September 15th. Online ordering is now accessible to parents. Orders are made by going to www.NSLunch.ca. The next ordering cycle is Sept. 21-Oct. 4. Ordering will open on Sept. 12 and closes on Wed. Sept. 17.

Emailed Newsletters

We email Monthly newsletters to families. It is extremely important we have an accurate and working email address for your family so school communication will reach you. If you require a paper copy of the newsletter, please contact the main office and we will provide one.

School Photos

This year, school photos will be taken by Adams Photography. Our photo day will be on Thursday September 25th.

Head Lice Reminders

We encourage parents to make checking their child's head for the presence of nits and/or lice a regular routine. Please notify the school if your child has head lice and provide the recommended treatment before returning to school. Call 8-1-1 at any time to speak with a Registered Nurse for more information and guidance if head lice are still present after the second treatment. For information on the prevention and treatment of head lice, refer to the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness pamphlet, How to Prevent, Find and Treat Head Lice on our website: <https://ifs.hrsb.ca/our-school>

Ticks

Some of our favourite school play areas include grassy and wooden areas. This can result in encounters with ticks and other small woodland bugs and creatures. Please teach and check your children for ticks and other tiny travellers.

Upcoming Important Dates

SEPTEMBER

10: Home and School Meeting 5:30-6:30



25: Picture Day

29: Professional Development Day - No classes



30: National Day for Truth & Reconciliation – No classes

OCTOBER

1: Treaty Day - Culturally Significant Day – Schools open

13: Thanksgiving Day – No classes

24: NSTU Provincial Conference Day - No classes