



Caldwell Chronicles

January

HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR!

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YEAR OF THE SNAKE

CHARACTERISTICS

Snakes can be seen as cunning and sly but they are also wise and witty. For some people, finding a snake in their court is seen as a sign of good luck. People born in the year of the snake are calm, humorous and can be gifted in art and literature (the artist Picasso was born in the year of the snake). Suspicion and jealousy can be a weakness for some snakes.

LUCKY...

COLOURS : red, light yellow and black

DIRECTIONS: north-east, south-west, south

NUMBERS: 2,8,9

YEARS

1917, 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965,
1977, 1989, 2001, 2013, 2025





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IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY 29 – FEBRUARY 12 : LUNAR NEW YEAR

FEBRUARY 1 – BEGINNING OF AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH – LEGACY IN ACTION - CELEBRATING BLACK BRILLIANCE!

FEBRUARY 1 – REGISTRATION MONTH!

FEBRUARY 17 – HERITAGE DAY NO SCHOOL

FEBRUARY IS REGISTRATION MONTH!

Registration is only required if you are **new** to Halifax Regional Centre for Education or your child is beginning school in Pre-Primary or Primary.

Current Pre-Primary students are not required to re-register for Primary.

Parents/guardians must have valid work/study permits for their child(ren) to attend HRCE schools.

Registration for new Pre-Primary students begins on February 3rd. For more information, please click [here](#).

• HRCE Home Address Lookup can be accessed [here](#).



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- The Parent and Student Portal for PowerSchool can be accessed [here](#).

New registrants to HRCE will be able to access the portal at the beginning of the school year.

DID YOU KNOW?

Literacy is not just about reading the words in a book or writing words on a page. In fact, teaching your child how to be literate starts long before that! Here are some key takeaways from “Thirty Million Words” by Dr. Dana Suskind

The Power of Early Language Exposure

- The quality and quantity of words a child hears during their early years significantly influence their brain development.

2. Parent-Child Interaction is Key

- Engaging in responsive and interactive communication with children helps build neural connections.
- Conversations, storytelling, and back-and-forth exchanges (even with infants) foster language skills and cognitive growth.



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3. The "3Ts" Framework: Tune In, Talk More, Take Turns

- **Tune In:** Pay attention to the child's interests and respond accordingly.
- **Talk More:** Provide rich language input by narrating activities, asking questions, and introducing new vocabulary.
- **Take Turns:** Encourage back-and-forth interaction to promote conversational skills and social-emotional bonding.

4. Brain Plasticity and Early Opportunities

- The brain's plasticity is at its peak during the first few years of life, making it a critical period for language and cognitive development.
- Environments rich in language and engagement lay the foundation for lifelong learning and emotional well-being.



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INCLEMENT WEATHER



Halifax
Regional Centre for Education

Wind Chill Safety Protocol

Definition of Wind Chill

Wind chill is the cooling sensation caused by the combined effects of temperature and wind. It is a feeling, not a real temperature.

Guiding Principles

Student safety is the number one priority. Consider all of the following factors before deciding whether it is safe for children to be outdoors in the cold.

- Are the students dressed in warm clothing, with good protection for their heads, hands and feet?
- How long will the students be outside?
- Will they be standing still or active and generating heat?
- Is the area exposed to the wind? Is it sunny or shaded? (The sun may lessen the effects of the wind chill a little.)

The following chart is based on guidelines from Environment Canada. Keep in mind that the guidelines were developed for healthy adults; young children may be more sensitive to the cold.

<i>If the wind chill is...</i>	<i>then...</i>
0°C to -20°C	take care in deciding whether it is appropriate to send students outside (see the factors listed above)
-21°C to -27°C	seriously consider whether it is appropriate to send students outside
below -27°C	do not send students outside

Because dressing appropriately is one of the most important ways to keep safe in cold weather, please remind students and parents through your school newsletter or other forms of communication.



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AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH 2025



LEGACY

IN ACTION

CELEBRATING BLACK BRILLIANCE



LEGACY IN ACTION: CELEBRATING BLACK BRILLIANCE HIGHLIGHTS THE LIVING LEGACY OF BLACK NOVA SCOTIANS, HONORING THE IMPACT AND PERSEVERANCE OF THE LONG-STANDING COMMUNITY. IT HIGHLIGHTS THE GREATNESS WE HOLD, THE PATHS WE LEAD THROUGH OUR DEEP CONNECTION WITH OUR ELDERS, THE STORYTELLING, THE RHYTHMS OF CHANGE, AND THE ABILITY TO LOOK BACK TO MOVE FORWARD.



HALIFAX