MILLWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
COMMUNICATION BULLETIN

November 1, 2026

Dear Millwood Families,

November is an important month in our school community, with opportunities for learning, reflection, and family engagement. Please take a few minutes to review the information and upcoming dates below.

Important Dates

- Wednesday, November 4 – Take Our Kids to Work Day (Grade 9)
- Sunday, November 8 – Indigenous Veterans Day
- Wednesday, November 11 – Remembrance Day (No Classes PP–12)
- November 13-19 – Transgender Awareness Week
- November 16-19: Report Cards (High School)

Take Our Kids to Work Day

Wednesday, November 4 is Take Our Kids to Work Day for Grade 9 students.

This provincial initiative provides students with an opportunity to explore the world of work by spending the day with a parent, guardian, family member, or community host. Through this experience, students gain valuable insight into workplace expectations, career pathways, and the skills required for future success.

We hope our Grade 9 students enjoy this opportunity to learn more about careers and begin thinking about their future goals.

Indigenous Veterans Day - November 8

On November 8, we recognize Indigenous Veterans Day and honour the First Nations, Inuit and Métis people who have served and continue to serve in the Canadian Armed Forces. Indigenous veterans have made significant contributions to Canada's military history, serving with courage and dedication while often facing discrimination and barriers to recognition when they returned home.

This day is an opportunity to learn about their stories, recognize their sacrifices and reflect on the importance of ensuring their contributions are remembered and honoured.

We encourage families to take a moment to learn about Indigenous veterans and share their stories with the next generation. Learn more here.

Remembrance Day - November 11

Each year on November 11, people across Canada pause at the 11th hour to remember. The poppy we wear, the silence we observe and the stories we share are ways of keeping the memory of those who served, those who never returned home, and the lasting impact of war alive for future generations.

In our schools, Remembrance Day offers students an opportunity to explore the meaning behind these traditions and consider what remembrance looks like today. As we honour the past, we also reflect on the importance of peace, kindness and understanding in our own communities.

We invite families to join Canadians across the country in taking a moment to remember.

Remembrance Day Ceremony - Family Participation Requested

As we prepare for our upcoming Remembrance Day ceremony on November 10th at Millwood High School, we would love to recognize and honour the veterans, active service members, cadets, and others who have served or are currently serving in our armed forces.

We are inviting families to share photos of family members who have served or are serving. These photos will help us celebrate and recognize the important contributions and sacrifices made by members of our school community and their families. If you would like to have a family member included, please submit their photo using the attached Google Form. (Note: To respond to the google form, please have students use their email to login)

https://forms.gle/RtCExmxKxwzBLGC46

We are also looking for family members who may be interested in joining us as special guests for our Remembrance Day ceremony on November 10th. If you have a family member who is a veteran, active service member, or has a connection to military service and would be interested in attending our ceremony as a guest, we would love to hear from you! Please send your student to connect with Mr. Holley no later than Tuesday, November 2nd if they have someone who would like to come in.

Thank you for helping us make this year's Remembrance Day ceremony meaningful and special for our school community. We appreciate your support in helping our students recognize, remember, and honour those who have served and continue to serve.

Happy Diwali

Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is celebrated by millions of people around the world, including Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and some Buddhists. The celebration carries different meanings across traditions, but often centres on themes of light overcoming darkness, good overcoming evil, and hope, renewal and new beginnings.

Celebrations may include lighting diyas (small oil lamps), decorating homes, sharing special foods, exchanging gifts and gathering with family and friends. Diwali is an opportunity to learn about the diverse traditions and cultures represented in our school communities and to celebrate the many ways people find meaning, connection and joy.

We wish all those celebrating a Happy Diwali!

Looking Ahead: Semester Exams

We are approaching the midpoint of the semester. Midterm report cards will be sent home during the week of November 16.

As we look ahead to the remainder of the school year, families should note that exam periods are scheduled for the final week of January and the final week of June.

When planning family vacations or other travel, please keep these dates in mind. Students are expected to write exams during the scheduled examination period, and alternate exam dates will not be provided for vacations. Additional information regarding Semester 1 examinations will be shared with students and families later this semester.

Transgender Awareness Week - November 13-19

Transgender Awareness Week is an opportunity to reflect on how kindness, inclusivity and understanding help create welcoming school communities where everyone feels they belong. Taking time to learn about experiences different from our own, listening with an open mind and treating others with respect can make a meaningful difference in someone's day and sense of belonging.

Families can help reinforce these values by encouraging children to lead with kindness, embrace differences and recognize that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and compassion. Together, we can help create school communities where every student feels welcome, valued and supported.

SchoolsPlus at Millwood High School

What is SchoolsPlus?

SchoolsPlus is a confidential, voluntary, free service available in every HRCE school in Nova Scotia.

Our goal is to build positive relationships between families, schools, and communities and help connect students and families with the supports they need.

How Can SchoolsPlus Help?

When students and families are connected to multiple services, it can sometimes feel overwhelming. SchoolsPlus Facilitators are here to help make that process easier and ensure everyone is working on a shared goal.

SchoolsPlus Facilitators can support families by:

- Coordinating services and supports
- Helping establish a shared goal
- Clarifying who is responsible for each part of the plan
- Setting timelines and identifying next steps
- Following up and checking in to help keep things on track
- Building connections between families, schools, and community resources

Resources & Community Supports

SchoolsPlus can also connect students and families with a wide range of resources and community supports, including:

- Recreation and physical activity
- Tutoring and educational supports
- Food and basic-needs supports
- Health and wellness resources
- Community programming and services
- And more!

How Do I Get Connected?

Getting connected with SchoolsPlus is easy. Ask your child's school administrator for a referral to SchoolsPlus.

SchoolsPlus Contacts

Stacey Oliver, MSW, RSW
SchoolsPlus Facilitator, Millwood Family of Schools
stacey.oliver@hrce.ca

Laura McAvoy
SchoolsPlus Community Outreach Worker
(Millwood High School and Millwood Elementary)

Planning for Inclement Weather

Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school buses in the event of severe or inclement weather.

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible. A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours and bus pickups are delayed by two hours; or
- All schools are open, but some or all busses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.

If weather deteriorates, or is forecasted to worsen throughout the morning, an 11:00 a.m. announcement could be:

- Bussed students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Non-bussed students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.

How will I find out?

- By email to the addresses in PowerSchool
- By text message, if you have opted-in. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: 978338
- On the HRCE website
- On Instagram

It’s important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation. Please remember: As a parent or guardian you always have the choice of whether or not to send your child to school.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

We appreciate your continued support of our students and school. Go Knights!