

#### MARINE DRIVE ACADEMY NEWS 479 Church Point Road P.O. Box 188 Sheet Harbour Phone: 902-885-2777 Email: mda@hrce.ca Website: https://mda.hrce.ca SCENT/PEANUT/NUT SAFE SCHOOL

Principal: Mr. Verge

Vice Principal: Mrs. A. Smith

# V5 Issue 5 May/June 2025



#### 2024-25 Yearbook

Yearbooks are on sale from April 22-May 15. The preferred method of payment is school cash online. Please visit <u>www.hrce.schoolcashonlinecom</u> and register for an account. Purchase yearbooks online using credit card and echeck. To receive email notifications please click "My Account – Manage email notifications". If paying by cash or cheque (payable to Marine Drive Academy) please send payment to the school with the order form that was emailed to parents/guardians on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Orders are due by May 15<sup>th</sup> – no exceptions.** 

# The Gr 7-8's constructed pneumatic and hydraulic systems in Mr. Odo's science class.





#### Food and Garden Projects

Darlene Rasmussen has been working with a group of students who wanted to pursue a Food Project. In October they wrote a grant proposal for a Youth Cooking Project. Initially their application went to Nourish NS but due to overwhelming applications Nourish was unable to award them the grant. However, HRCE upon learning about their project from Scott Dillman, a Health Promoter with Youth Health Centres, the student group was awarded \$3500 from the HRCE Youth Engagement Fund! So, they've been cooking since February...



This group is now pursuing Gardening, and have been awarded a second grant of \$4225,from "HalifACT" Youth Climate Action Fund.

# 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:

**Celebrating achievements:** Black Excellence Day provides an opportunity to celebrate the achievements, contributions, and successes of Black individuals within the community. It highlights the talent and accomplishments within the Black community, ensuring that Black students have an opportunity to highlight all their positive contributions within the education system.

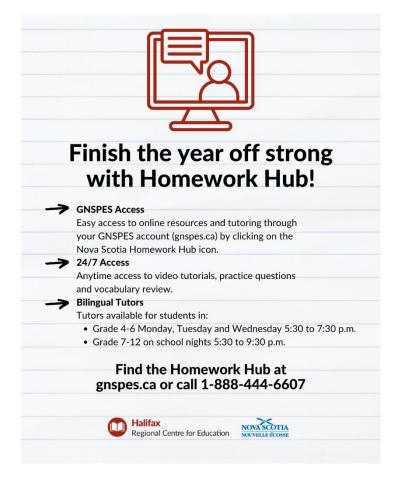
**Promoting equity and inclusion:** Recognizing Black Excellence fosters a culture of equity and inclusion within schools. It sends a message that all students, regardless of their background, have the potential to excel and make valuable contributions to society. By celebrating diversity and promoting inclusivity, schools create a more welcoming and supportive environment for all students.

**Education and awareness:** Black Excellence Day serves as an educational opportunity to raise awareness about the rich history, culture, and achievements of Black people. It provides a platform to share stories of resilience, innovation, and leadership, helping to combat stereotypes and promote understanding and appreciation of Black heritage.

**Empowerment and inspiration:** By celebrating Black Excellence, students are inspired and empowered to pursue their own goals and dreams. Seeing examples of successful Black individuals from various fields, such as science, arts, politics and sports, can motivate students to strive for their own excellence.

**Community engagement:** Black Excellence Day can serve as a platform for community engagement and collaboration. It provides an opportunity for schools to partner with local organizations, leaders, and activists within the Black community to organize events, workshops, and discussions that promote dialogue and understanding.

Overall, celebrating Black Excellence Day within HRCE schools is important for fostering a culture of inclusivity, empowerment, and appreciation for the diverse talents and contributions of Black individuals.



# Access Awareness Week

Access Awareness Week takes place annually during the last week of May to raise awareness about disability, access and inclusion. This year, Access Awareness Week runs from May 25-31, and the provincial theme is "Our Voices, Our Votes: Disability Rights in Action."

The provincial Accessibility Directorate is providing all HRCE schools with posters to help bring attention to the importance of removing barriers for people with disabilities. The posters are being mailed directly to schools from the directorate and should arrive in the coming days.

For 38 years, Nova Scotians have organized community events, flag raising, forums, and concerts during Access Awareness Week to bring attention to the importance of removing barriers for people with disabilities. More information can be found <u>here</u>.

# **Friendly Reminders**

# Main Office

The Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Levy, is away from her desk from 11:00am to 12:00pm. If you call the school and leave a message during this time, please be aware, it will not be retrieved until after 12:00pm.

**<u>Reporting an Absence</u>** for PP-12 Students: For students' safety, it is very important that you contact the school if your student is absent or late for any reason. Please call 902-885-2777 and extension 1 to report an absence. Leave your name, the student's name (first & last) and the reason for the absence. Leaving a message will avoid the school calling home. The absence line is available 24/7.

**Morning Drop-Off Time**: There is no supervision at the school until 8:10 therefore, students cannot be dropped off at school before the staff are available. Please do not drop students off prior to 8:10 as it poses a safety risk for students. Please take the first driveway to your left and park in the student pick up/drop off loop.

#### Water Bottles

Students are reminded to bring a water bottle to fill up at the filling stations. **Disposable cups are no longer available.** 



Online clothing order: You can purchase school clothing at <u>https://pmgsw.com/Your-</u> Ecommerce-Store-c114165318

# Graduation and Post-Secondary Updates from Ms. Walsh

Grade 12 students and parents, the final semester of high school has started, and you are one step closer to graduation. It's an exciting time with lots of news coming your way from the post-secondary institutions to which you have applied. As they do not send your news to the school, please remember to keep me updated. You can email <u>twalsh@hrce.ca</u>, call 902-885-2777 ext.4, or drop by my office.

- If you have been accepted or have news about your application, please let me know your status, the school and the program.
- If you have decided about where you will be attending, please let me know the school and the program.
- Don't forget that some schools have separate applications for scholarships, bursaries and awards. Check the websites of the schools to which you have applied.
- If you receive an award, scholarship or bursary and would like to have it included in the graduation program, please let me know:

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- the name of the award
- the school or organization giving you the award
- $\circ$  the amount of the award.

Award, scholarship, and bursary applications are updated on my website as I receive them. Please check <u>https://sites.google.com/a/gnspes.ca/tracy-walsh/</u> regularly and check the MDA Grads Google Classroom to stay up to date.

HRCE Finance Dept will issue a T4 for any bursaries students receive at graduation totaling <u>over</u> <u>\$500</u>. This is a requirement from Canada Revenue Agency, therefore, graduating students who receive bursaries totaling <u>over \$500</u> at graduation are asked to contact Mrs. Levy with their Social Insurance Number.

Dates to Remember	
May	June
	June 11 <sup>th</sup> – Spring Concert at 6pm
May 11 <sup>th</sup> Haggy Mother's Day	June 15 <sup>th</sup> Happy Father's Day!
May 15 <sup>th</sup> – Yearbook orders are due. (no exceptions) Black Excellence Day	June 19-25 – Exams
School Activity – more info to follow	
May 11-17 is Education Week	June 21 <sup>st</sup> – National Indigenous Peoples Day
May 19 <sup>th</sup> – Victoria Day – NO CLASSES	June 24 <sup>th</sup> – Prom from 7:00-9:00 pm
	June 27 <sup>th</sup> – Graduation at 9:30AM
	Assessment & Evaluation Day – NO CLASSES FOR PP-12 STUDENTS
	June 30 <sup>th</sup> Last Day of School 😜