

# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY



## Newsletter #9-May 2025

Dartmouth South Academy

111 Prince Arthur Avenue

Dartmouth, NS B2Y 0C5

<http://dsa.hrce.ca>

Phone: (902) 464-2081/Fax: (902) 461-0199

Principal: Adrienne Blumenthal

Vice Principal: Susan Aucoin/Ashley Grant

### Pre-Primary and Primary Registration for 2025-2026

It is imperative that parents of pre-primary children who will be 4 on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 and primary children who will be 5 on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 register their children now if they are not currently enrolled in pre-primary. Our staffing allocation is based on these numbers.

For more information or to access the online registration forms, please visit [www.hrce.ca](http://www.hrce.ca).

### Grade 8 School Clothing

This year we are again able to offer clothing to our grade 8 students. The hoodies (\$30.00) will have the school crest on the front. On the back will be class of 25 and students will be able to sign their name in the 2 and 5. All orders must be received by May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Clothing comes in the form of Hoodies only (grey and black) in various sizes. Please register for Schoolcash online to select one of the available options. No late orders will be accepted and all orders must be paid using Schoolcash. We are unable to accept cash.

The URL to the site is:

<https://hrce.schoolcashonline.com/>

### Grade 8 Ceremony

The grade 8 closing ceremony will take place the afternoon of June 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm in our school gym. Doors will open at 1:30 pm for guests.

The celebration dance will be the same evening from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. This will be for grade 8's only. The dance will be free of charge for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade DSA student and their guest will need to purchase a ticket for \$5.00 one week in advance. The guests will need to sign a form and be in good standing at their current Jr. High school. Student ID will be required.

### Grade 8 Grad Photos

**A reminder of the Grade 8 Grad Photos.  
They will be taken on Tuesday May 13<sup>th</sup>,  
2025.**

### Bell Times

Morning Attendance – 8:55-9:00 am

Lunch – 12:00 – 1:00 – gr P-6

Lunch – 1:00 – 2:00 – gr 7-8

Dismissal Pre P-8 – 3:00 pm

# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

## HRCE - Texts

***Do you want to receive information from our school and HRCE by text message?***

We now have the ability to send information to you by text message. **To ensure compliance with Canadian Anti-Spam laws, you must opt-in to receive information by text message.**

**If you have already opted in – that's great! You don't have to read further.**

***If you haven't (and would like to), here's what you need to do:***

- If you did not receive the opt-in text message on **November 16**, please call your child's school to update your contact information in PowerSchool. Any changes are uploaded nightly and reflected the following business day. When your number is added or changed in PowerSchool, you will automatically receive the opt-In message.
- If you decide you no longer wish to receive HRCE and school information via text, you can reply to the message with "STOP" or by clicking [here](#).
- Parents/guardians can opt-in at any time by texting "Y" or "YES" to 978338. The mobile number **MUST** also be in PowerSchool.
- This text message function **WILL** include school cancellation notifications.
- This text message function will **NOT** share bus delay information.

**Anyone who is NOT a parent/guardian in our system who wishes to receive school cancellations due to inclement weather must opt in via the HRCE website: [www.hrce.ca/notifications](http://www.hrce.ca/notifications) . This includes staff, students and members of the community.**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

May is Asian Heritage Month

May is Canadian Jewish Heritage Month

May is Polish Heritage Month

May is Speech and Hearing Month

**May 3rd** – DSA Spring Dance – Primary to Gr 8 from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. **STUDENTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT**

**May 5<sup>th</sup>** – Red Dress Day

**May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>** – Finding Nemo Musical – 6:00 pm

**May 11 – 17<sup>th</sup>** – Education Week

**May 13,14,20,21** – Grade 3 Provincial Assessments

**May 15<sup>th</sup>** – Black Excellence Day

**May 17<sup>th</sup>** – International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia

**May 19<sup>th</sup>** – Victoria Day (no classes All Schools)

**May 21,22,27,28** – Grade 8 Provincial Assessments

**May 25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>** – Access Awareness Week

**May 26<sup>th</sup>** – Grade 7 Immunization

**May 28<sup>th</sup>** – Primary Orientation – 6:00 pm

***Students must remember to  
bring their own water bottles  
and eating utensils!***

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## 2025-2026 EXCEL Registration

The EXCEL Before and After Program is a recreation based, fee-for-service before and after school program run by Halifax Regional Centre for Education. At each school site where EXCEL is offered, the dedicated staffing teams plan games and activities that suit the needs and interests of all registered students. Since EXCEL began more than 25 years ago, staff have continually enhanced the program based on experiences and feedback. Today, with more than 4,000 participating students, EXCEL is one of the largest programs of its kind in the Maritimes, providing inclusive and engaging programming for participants.

For more information about registration, fees and programming, please [click here](#).

If you have additional questions, please contact the EXCEL Before and After Program Registrar's Office: Kimberly Lozon at 902-464-2000 ext. 2787 or [excelregistrar@hrce.ca](mailto:excelregistrar@hrce.ca) and Gail Hartling at 902-464-2000 ext. 2236 or [excel@hrce.ca](mailto:excel@hrce.ca).



## Celebrating Education Week 2025

Education Week 2025, May 11 to 17, is a special opportunity to acknowledge educators, school support staff and partners for their outstanding work. This year's theme, *Empowering Futures: Innovation in Education*, celebrates educators who have gone above and beyond in their efforts to infuse innovation into their classrooms and schools.

We applaud educators, school staff, and partners who embrace innovation in meeting the evolving needs of students in preparing them for a rapidly changing future.

### Congratulations to HRCE's winners:

- **Alicia Hennessey** | Teacher | Lockview High
- **Rhonda McLean** | School Counsellor | St. Agnes Junior High
- **Diana Hatchette** | Teacher | John Martin Junior High
- **Rosaline "Rosie" Bona** | Principal | Rockingham Elementary
- **Peta-Gay Clarke** | Lead Early Childhood Educator | Central Spryfield Elementary
- **Kristin Welbourn** | Library Support Specialist | Bay View High
- **Phillip Jackson** | African Nova Scotian Student Support Worker | Duc d'Anville Elementary & Clayton Park Junior High
- **Matthew Hughson** | Mi'kmaw/Indigenous Student Support Worker | Sackville High & Leslie Thomas Junior High


Please take a moment, if you feel inspired, to send a note of appreciation to an educator in your child's life who is having a positive impact!

# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

Mark these important HRCE dates on your calendar!

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

MAY <b>19</b>	<b>NO CLASSES</b> Victoria Day
JUNE <b>26</b>	<b>NO CLASSES</b> High school students only for assessment and evaluation
JUNE <b>27</b>	<b>NO CLASSES</b> PP-12 for assessment and evaluation
JUNE <b>30</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</b>

 Halifax Regional Centre for Education

## 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:

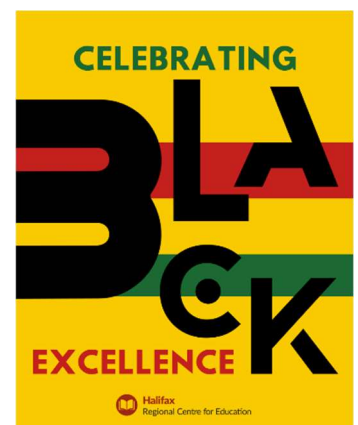
**Celebrating achievements:** Black Excellence Day provides an opportunity to celebrate the achievements, contributions, and successes of Black individuals within the community. It highlights the talent and accomplishments within the Black community, ensuring that Black students have an opportunity to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



# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY



## Finish the year off strong with Homework Hub!

- **GNSPES Access**  
Easy access to online resources and tutoring through your GNSPES account (gnspes.ca) by clicking on the Nova Scotia Homework Hub icon.
- **24/7 Access**  
Anytime access to video tutorials, practice questions and vocabulary review.
- **Bilingual Tutors**  
Tutors available for students in:
  - Grade 4-6 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
  - Grade 7-12 on school nights 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Find the Homework Hub at  
gnspes.ca or call 1-888-444-6607



## Homework Hub: Finish the year off strong!

Did you know your student has access to Homework Hub? Finish the year off strong with the help of experienced tutors!

- **GNSPES Access:** Easy access to online resources and tutoring through your GNSPES account (gnspes.ca) by clicking on the Nova Scotia Homework Hub icon.
- **24/7 Access:** Anytime access to video tutorials, practice questions and vocabulary review.
- **Bilingual tutors available for students in:**
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  - Grade 7-12 on school nights 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

[Watch this video](#)

to learn more about Homework Hub!

## 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 [here](#).

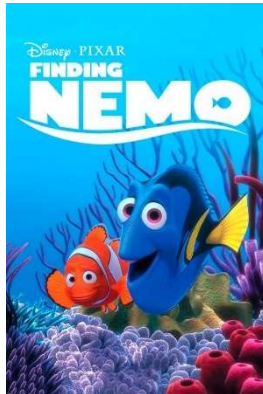
## Lost and Found

We are not equipped to hang onto the lost and found here at DSA; we simply do not have the space to keep it and it's very unhealthy as the clothes are often wet and dirty. Please take the time to look for your child/children's belongings.



# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

## DSA Musical – Finding Nemo



DSA is excited to present: **Finding Nemo**

May 6<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

6:00 pm

Tickets – to be purchased online using  
Schoolcash. If there are tickets left, they will  
be sold at the door - \$5.00

**MAMBEC SUMMER CAMP 2025**  
9 WEEKS OF SUMMER CAMP  
AT COLE HARBOUR PLACE FACILITY

DATES	WEEKLY THEME
WEEK 1: JULY 2-4	LEGOS/ROBOTICS
WEEK 2: JULY 7-11	TIME CAPSULE
WEEK 3: JULY 14-18	YOUNG DETECTIVES
WEEK 4: JULY 21-25	EVERY DAY IS A HOLIDAY
WEEK 5: JULY 29-AUG 1	YOU ARE A HOLLYWOOD STAR
WEEK 6: AUG 5-8	MAMBEC OLYMPICS
WEEK 7: AUG 11-15	SUPER HEROES
WEEK 8: AUG 18-22	70's PEACE AND LOVE
WEEK 9: AUG 25-29	LEGOS/ROBOTICS

Participants bring lunch (Peanut Free), two snacks, a towel, bathing suit, water bottle, sunscreen, a hat, and sneakers (no flip-flops or crocs).  
Camps run 7:30am-6:00pm Monday to Friday  
Full Week \$245.00 (+ tax per week) includes sunrise/sunset

**It's PIZZA DAY!**  
*fab friday*  
**PIZZA DAY**  
\$6.50/child Fridays Only

**\$245<sup>00</sup>**  
+ tax/week  
Includes sunrise/sunset  
Drop Off - 7:30 AM  
Pick Up - 6:00 PM  
**AGES 5 AND UP**

Life Skills with a Martial Art Connection  
**MAMBEC™**  
Are your Children Prepared for Dealing with Conflict?  
MAMBEC Studio | Cole Harbour Place Facility  
Register Now...Space is limited  
**ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY**  
mambec.com | 902.488.6779

VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, PayPal, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, QR code

# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

BGC GREATER HALIFAX CLUBS, THE NORTH GROVE, AND SCHOOLSPLUS PRESENT...

## ONLINE & CYBER SAFETY: HELPING YOUR CHILDREN STAY SAFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD

**MAY 14, 2025**  
**6-7:30PM**

**THE NORTH GROVE**  
6 PRIMROSE ST.  
DARTMOUTH, NS

**FREE!**  
CALL 902-464-8234 TO  
EXPRESS INTEREST

Join us for a discussion on all things online safety. From deep dives into certain apps, to quick and easy safety tips, to strong and healthy communication skills, this workshop is for parents of teens and tweens who are grappling with the constantly evolving online world.

**CALL 902-464-8234 TO JOIN THE INTEREST LIST!**



# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

Dear Parent/Guardian,

During the summer, your PowerSchool Parent Portal account was recreated as part of an update. Your previous username and password no longer exist. Student access to the Portal is unchanged. Students who know their username and password will continue to use the information they have always used.

Your new username is *your full email address that is receiving this message*. For example, if your email address is myemailaddress@gmail.com your **Parent Username** is now myemailaddress@gmail.com.

When the PowerSchool Parent Portal reopens on **Thursday, September 2**, please follow these steps to activate your new parent account:

1. Open a web browser and navigate to the Portal Sign In page at:  
**<https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca>**
2. Click on the link: **Forgot Username or Password?**
3. Click on the **Parents** tab.
4. Under the **Forgot Password?** section, enter your **Parent Username**. Your **Parent Username** is the full email address that received this message.
5. Enter your **Parent Email Address** (use same email address entered in Step 4).
6. Click the **Reset Password** button.
7. A Password Reset Request email will be sent to you. Click the link in the email to reset your password.
8. Navigate back to the Portal Sign In page at: **<https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca>**
9. Enter your **Parent Username**. Your **Parent Username** is the full email address that received this message.
10. Enter the password you set via the Password Reset Request.
11. Once logged in, review your account details.

PowerSchool SIS

### Recover Account Sign In Information

Students Parents

#### Parents

**Forgot Password?**  
To reset your password, enter your username and email address below, and click the 'Reset Password' button.

Parent Username myemailaddress@gmail.com

Parent Email Address

Reset Password

Only the school where the student is currently enrolled can troubleshoot and make changes. Contact the school if you encounter any difficulty, such as a student no longer linked to your account.

Thank you for your cooperation and support through this parent account update.



# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY

## Reporting Student Absences

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Dear Parents/Guardians

One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely at school each and every day. Our school will be implementing a new way to report absences through SchoolMessenger. If your student is absent and the absence has not been reported in advance, you will receive notifications via email, text, and phone calls from SchoolMessenger.

To report your student absent, you can use any of the following methods:

- **PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal**  
Parents/guardians can log into <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> to access the link to the SchoolMessenger website to report future absences.
- **SchoolMessenger App**  
Parents/guardians can download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices, create an account and use their email that the school has on record for them as their username.
- **Toll-Free Number**  
Parents/guardians can call **1-833-582-6940** to report future absences using an automated system.

All three methods are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Absences can be reported at any time before the start of school on the day the student will be absent. Up to five consecutive absences can be recorded at once. If you have students attending other schools, please continue to report absences using the existing procedures for those schools.