

# DARTMOUTH SOUTH ACADEMY



## Newsletter #4 - Dec 2018

Dartmouth South Academy  
111 Prince Arthur Avenue  
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 0C5

<http://dsa.hrsb.ca>

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

Principal: Adrienne Blumenthal

Vice Principal: Donna Gillespie

### School Closure for Inclement Weather

The Halifax Regional Centre for Education takes great care when making the decision to alter the normal operations of schools in the event of severe or inclement weather. Decisions on school closures and/or bus cancellations are posted on the board's website at [www.hrce.ns.ca](http://www.hrce.ns.ca), on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/HRCE\\_Official](https://twitter.com/HRCE_Official), recorded on 464-INFO (4636) and communicated to all local radio stations. You can also receive notice of school bus cancellations by e-mail or text message by following the link on the front page (left side) of the HRCE website. If you are interested in learning more on how decisions regarding closures and cancellations are made, visit

<http://www.hrce.ns.ca/content/id/1137.html>

### Wreaths

Just a reminder that the Wreath order pick up will be December 6<sup>th</sup> at DSA. You are welcome to pick them up from the cafeteria anytime between 5:00 – 7:00 pm.

### Lunch Monitors

We are in need of a couple of full time and substitute lunch monitors. If you are able to assist, please call Ms. Lake at 902-464-2081.

### Concert - Reminder

Below you will find the concert dates for 2018-2019:

December 17<sup>th</sup> – 1:30 pm – P-6 Concert

All parents/caregivers/family members are welcome. No tickets are necessary.

Storm Date – December 19<sup>th</sup> – 1:30 pm

### Lunches

When lunches are dropped off at the office, it is not only difficult to ensure that they reach the student in a timely fashion but it's difficult to keep track of them. If you need to send them in, be sure to have their names on them. When sending in lunches with your students, please send eating utensils (spoons, forks) Thank you!

We have several people that need to take their children out of school early at times. While we understand that this is sometimes necessary, it does take from their learning time. If a student is removed from class 15 minutes early every day that is over an hour a week they will lose; the same is true when they arrive late on a regular basis. If it is necessary to have your child leave early, please send a note in to the teacher to prepare for it.

### Cell Phone Use in School

At DSA we are fortunate to have one-to-one technology (chromebooks) for all our students to support their learning. To ensure that we have an optimal learning environment, students are expected to keep their cellphones in their backpacks during instructional time. Backpacks are kept in locked lockers or in a designated spot in the classroom.

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## School Surveillance System

Our school uses a video surveillance system as part of our continued efforts to support a safe, positive and effective learning environment. We recognize that the images recorded by this video surveillance system are personal information and, as with all other personal information, we take steps to balance privacy rights with safety and security concerns. The school has the legal authority to collect this personal information under Section 24 of Nova Scotia's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Only designated staff has access to our video surveillance equipment and such access is restricted as required by law. The system is used to enhance school safety and to deter or take action in response to unlawful behaviours.

If you have any questions about video surveillance at our school, please contact Adrienne Blumenthal, Principal, at 902-464-2081.



## Dates to Remember

**Dec 6<sup>th</sup>** – PD Day – Morning/Parent Teacher – Afternoon  
(1:00 – 3:00 and 5:30 – 7:30 pm)

**Dec 17<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Concert – 1:30 (P – 6)

**Dec 19<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Concert (Storm Date) 1:30 pm

**Dec 21<sup>st</sup>** – Last Day of Classes for Christmas Break

**Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>** – School Reopens after Christmas Break

## Bell Times

**Morning Attendance – 8:55-9:00 am**

**Recess – 10:30 – 10:45 am**

**Lunch – 12:00 – 12:55 pm**

**Afternoon Attendance – 12:55 – 1:00 pm**

**Dismissal P-8 – 3:00 pm**

## Safe Arrival

Thank you to everyone who follows our safe arrival program. The safe arrival line is 902-464-2081. Please leave a message.

## Change of Clothing

It's that time of year where the weather is a little unpredictable. Please consider sending in a change of clothes in your child's backpack to save on calls home. Thank you.

## Spirit Club

Dartmouth South Academy's Spirit Club is encouraging each homeroom class to collect items for a local food bank. Items collected will be distributed within the community. Items can be given to your student's homeroom teacher and can be food items or personal care items.

## Parking Lot Reminder

Please be aware of the parking situation in front of the school. We've had many people pull up to the front of the school and park in spots that are clearly marked as no parking. It has also been noted that some parents continue to pull into the staff parking lot to drop their children off in the morning. We ask that you not pull into the staff parking lot to just drop your children off for obvious safety reasons and we ask that you kindly pay attention to the signage that has been posted. Thank you for your co-operation.