

Porter's Lake Elementary School Family Forecast Feb 23-27

This Week at a Glance

Monday, Feb 23	Tuesday Feb 24	Wednesday Feb 25	Thursday, Feb 26	Friday, Feb 27
Upper wing Cafeteria PTO meeting 6 pm	Upper wing Cafeteria	Cafeteria Gr 2	All Eat in Classrooms	All Eat in Classrooms

Principal's Message

Hello PLES Families,

With some snow in the forecast, I'd like to begin with a quick reminder about our early dismissal procedures. If an early dismissal is announced, the school will send a short email outlining the dismissal time and asking families to email (preferred) or call the school with dismissal information for your child(ren). We must connect with each family before a student can be dismissed. If another family will be picking up your child, please be sure to let us know in advance. As a reminder, students may only travel on their assigned bus; we are unable to change buses or add students to a bus based on parent request. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation—this helps us keep everyone safe.

I'm pleased to share some positive news as well. Attendance is up, and late arrivals are down. We've seen a noticeable improvement in students arriving at school on time and closer to the bell. This is making a real difference in the flow of the school and helps students settle into learning more quickly. Thank you for your continued efforts—please keep this up as we head into the final three weeks before March Break.

Lastly, we've noticed that the office has been distributing over 200 cups per week. These cups were intended to support students who occasionally forget their water bottles, but they have become overused. To help refocus on bringing reusable water bottles, we will be pausing the distribution of cups from the office for two weeks. If your family does not have access to a water bottle and needs support, please let us know—we are happy to help.

Take care,

Mr. Fry

Principal, Porters Lake Elementary School

Parent Information Meeting – Students Entering Grade 7 (2026–2027)

Families of students entering Grade 7 at Eastern Shore Consolidated School in September 2026 are invited to attend a Parent Information Meeting.

The session will take place on **Wednesday, February 25 at 6:00 PM**

PLES FAMILY BINGO: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

PLES is hosting a new school event; the PLES PTO will be hosting Bingo Night! Please join us for an all-ages evening of fun and prizes. There will also be a canteen with snacks and drinks. Bingo Night is Thursday March 5th, 6:30-7:45pm.

Pilot Program For Waste Reduction for Hot Lunch Program.

We have been chosen for a waste-reduction pilot with Chartwells and a reusable container program. It launches February 23. Lunches will be served in blue reusable containers, and after eating, students will empty the contents, and place empty containers on trays outside classrooms for collection. A short video will be shared with students, daily messages will go to staff and families to support the initiative.

Nova Scotia Reusable Container Lunch Program Overview

Starting Feb 23, lunch meals will be served in reusable Friendlier containers.



For each container reused GHG emissions are reduced by 95% as a new container doesn't need to be made

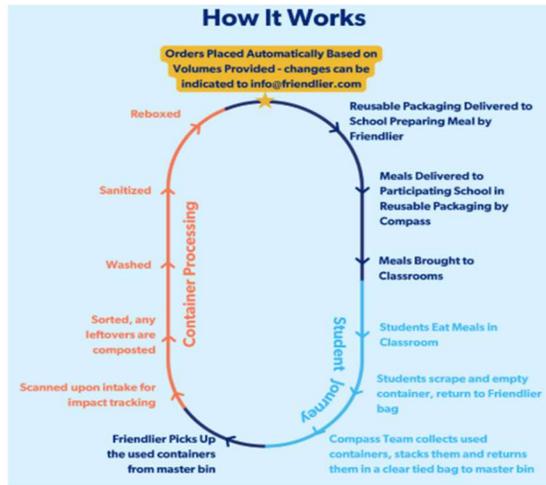
168 kg of GHG emissions prevented

58 kg of plastic waste diverted

8,000 L of water saved

per 1000 products reused

chartwells friendlier



Upcoming Dates

March 5 Bingo Night	April 1 st Term 2 Report Cards Released
March 12 Gr. 3-6 Skating Trip	April 2 nd Progress Conferences (no school)
March 13 Assessment & Eval day: No School	April 3 Good Friday (no school)
March 16-20 Spring Break	April 6 Easter Monday (no school)

From the HRCE:

Power Outage Information for Families

As we move through the winter months, we want to share how decisions are made when a school experiences a power outage.

Our priority is always to keep schools open safely when possible. A power outage does **not** automatically mean classes are cancelled – even if it happens during the school day. The decision depends on when power is expected to be restored.

Here's what happens:

- When a school loses power, HRCE's Operations Team contacts Nova Scotia Power to gather available details on the cause and an estimated restoration time.
- Once we have this information, we consider:
- **Before school starts:** Have buses begun their routes? If so, we wait until students arrive before making a decision. If classes are cancelled, elementary families will be contacted before dismissal.
- **During the school day:** How close is dismissal? What is the temperature in the building? Does the school rely on power for water or septic systems? These factors, among others, help us decide whether to stay open or close. Often, power returns faster than we could safely send students home.

If classes are cancelled:

- HRCE will notify families by email and text.
- Families of elementary students will also receive a phone call before dismissal.

Deciding to close schools during a power outage is never simple, but safety is always our top priority. We understand that cancellations can be inconvenient, and our goal is to keep students learning in class whenever possible.

More information about school cancellations for any reason can be found [here](#).