



JOSEPH GILES ELEMENTARY

Safety. Kindness. Patience. Making Connections

January 6-10 Week 2

Dear Families,

It's our first full week of school in 2025! It's wonderful to see the energy and excitement your children bring back to our classrooms each day. As a reminder, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather, as we enjoy outdoor time until the windchill reaches -20°C . To support families, we are partnering with Schools Plus for our Cozy Coat Exchange—look for more details in this newsletter.

As of today, we have completed 53 school days and have 120 left in the year. We encourage all students to arrive on time and attend each day. Following the Provincial Attendance Policy, teachers will connect with families when a student has missed 5% of the year, and administration will reach out at the 10%, 15%, and 20% thresholds. These check-ins are meant to offer support and ensure any barriers to regular attendance are addressed.

With winter upon us, please be aware of the Halifax Regional Centre for Education's (HRCE) inclement weather procedures. Decisions about school closures or delays are typically made by 6:00 a.m. Possible announcements include: delayed openings (JGES opens at 10:05 a.m.), bus service cancellations, partial school closures, or full school closures. Stay tuned to HRCE updates for timely information.

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 3: First Day back for 2025 for all students

Feb 2025: Registration for new Pre-Primary and Primary students (students not currently in Pre-Primary)

Feb 17: Heritage Day: no classes

March 7: Assessment Day: no classes

March 10-14: Spring Break

April 2,3: Progress Conferences

April 3: No classes for students

June 30: Last Day of School



We are excited to introduce our **Cozy Coat Exchange**, a schools plus initiative designed to help keep winter costs down, especially as kids grow so quickly! If you need a coat, snow pants, or other winter gear, feel free to drop by and take what you need. If you have gently used items in good condition that you no longer need, you can drop them off to help others. No need to donate to take – everyone is welcome!

Cozy Coat Exchange: available sizes

Snowpants- sizes 4, 5, 6, 6/7 (pink), 8, 10, & 12

Girls winter coats- sizes 2T, 3, 6, 6/7, & women's XS

Boys winter coats- sizes 5T, 8, 10, 12, & men's M

Boys spring coats- sizes 4/5 & 5

Cozy Coat Exchange



The coat rack is located outside the office, and families can stop by during **Excelp pick-up, drop-off, or our office hours (8:00 AM - 3:30 PM)**. If you're unable to come in person, our Child and Youth Practitioner, **Jill Flick**, can assist with fitting your student with available items. You can reach Jill at jillian.flick@hrce.ca or call **902-464-5192** and leave a message. We hope this helps make winter a little easier for everyone!

Monday 6	Tuesday 7	Wednesday 8	Thursday 9	Friday 10