

— Issue 4 —

TBS Updates

November 2025



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Events
Clubs
Spirit Week
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...and more!

Upcoming Dates



Dec. 2 - Giving Tuesday

Dec. 5 - Community Skate Session - Kentville Centennial 3-4pm

Dec. 9 - Annual General Meeting - 4-5pm at TBS

Dec. 17 - Free Dress Day (Holiday theme optional)

Dec. 18 - Assembly - 2-3.30pm at Horton High School

Dec. 19 - Teacher Work Day - No School

Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 - Holiday Break

Jan. 5 - Teacher Work Day - No School

Jan. 5 - Term 1 Report Cards

Jan. 12-23 - Three-Way Conferences

Mar. 4-6 - Frozen Jr - A G4-8 Musical Production

Being part of a small community

*By Mr James Weekes
Head of School*

This first term at Booker has reminded me how much I value the connections with students, teachers, parents and friends of the community. In our small valley we often cross paths with others in professional and personal situations. After more than eight years here, I truly appreciate the connections that have developed as well as the respectful boundaries for our teachers and families.

On November 10, we held our TBS Annual Scholarship Fundraiser and it was a big success. I was extremely humbled by the incredible array of donations to the auction this year. I know Ms Jamie and many families worked hard to gather these for us. It was lovely to see TBS neighbours and friends of the school turnout to this lovely event.

I would also like to take a moment to thank the teachers for their continued efforts to engage our families in the student learning. Whether it is field trip support, guest speakers, ASP supervision or more, it demonstrates our sense of community to have everyone working together.

With three weeks left of this term, I look forward to celebrating our students in the Winter Assembly at Horton High School on December 18. We have solo performers and class performances ready to share with you, as well as a little teaser for Frozen Jr!

Warmest regards,

Mr James



Did you know?

Grade 5 took a trip to the city to visit a Mosque, a Synagogue and a Hindu Temple!



*Young Elsa & Young Anna
at CentreStage.*

Events & Notes

Giving Tuesday

Tuesday, Dec. 2

We're happy to share that we're already close to the halfway point of our \$50,000 goal for The Booker Fund! This progress has been made possible by families, friends, and community members who care about our school. We are truly grateful. With Giving Tuesday just around the corner, we'd love your help keeping this momentum going. Any support, big or small, makes a real difference in the experiences we're able to offer our students. Check out The Booker Fund [here](#).



Annual General Meeting

Mercer Studio and Zoom - Tuesday, Dec. 9 - 4pm

Our Annual General Meeting of the Society is coming up on Tuesday December 9 at 4pm. We will have child care and snacks for those families that need it and plan to be wrapped up by 5pm at the latest. We do have at least one Director stepping back this year, so if you are interested in a position on the school Board of Directors or know someone who would be a good fit, let us know by emailing Mr James - james.weekes@bookerschool.com

Winter Assembly

Horton High School- Thursday, Dec. 18

This year's Winter Assembly will take place at Horton High School on Thursday, December 18 at 2:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Students must be picked up from school between 1.30pm and 1.45pm at the latest. The school day will end with the assembly and there will be no After School Program on this day.



BOOKER ON THE ICE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5



GRADE 4-8 - FRIDAY MORNING 8.30-9.45

DROP-OFF AT THE RINK THEN WE NEED
VOLUNTEER DRIVERS TO HEAD TO SCHOOL
(SEE TODDLE)

**COMMUNITY SKATE - ALL TBS FAMILIES
INVITED - FRIDAY AFTERNOON 3-4PM**



NO FEES FOR RENTALS
KENTVILLE CENTENNIAL ARENA





EARLY YEARS ANNOUNCEMENT

Most people will be aware by now that Ms Liz, our Pre-Primary teacher, shall be going on maternity leave at March Break.

As Ms Liz and her family embark on this new adventure, she will be relocating full time to city and not be returning to teach at TBS.

Ms Liz has been an incredible colleague, friend and teacher across our community. Students of all ages know and appreciate her and she shall be dearly missed.

With some tears and great excitement, we will be making the most of her final few months with us and wish her the best in her next adventure!



Annual Fundraiser & Fall 50/50 Draw

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Annual Fundraiser such a wonderful success. Whether you purchased tickets, made a donation, contributed auction items, or joined in the fun of our silent and live auctions, your support made all the difference. It was a fantastic night out, filled with community spirit and generosity. Altogether, we raised \$X! We couldn't have done it without you! Congratulations to the winner of our Autumn 50/50, Rae Owen! All together, we raised \$3400, with Rae winning \$1700! Stay tuned for our next draw!

Thank you to our auction donors:



ArtCan Kitchen & Studios
Aspinall Pottery
CentreStage Theatre
Ceri Pothier, Hussey Gregson Fitzpatrick Group, Scotia Wealth Management
Christine Brennan, Engel & Volkers Wolfville
Devour! The Food Film Festival
Emma and Wes Kelly
Grade 2/3 and Ms. Colleen
Grade 4 and Ms. Colleen
Grade 5 and Ms. Colleen
Grade 6 and Ms. Colleen
Grade 7/8 and Ms. Colleen
Howard Little Excavating Ltd.
Kat Frick Miller
Kingsport Osteopathic Clinic
Lima Can
Mara Medical Aesthetics
Martock
Ms. Tarja
Neptune Theatre
New Valley Care Homes Ltd.
Pothier Motors
Rebecca Tran
Rocky Timber Enterprises and Valley Sky Glamping
Ron Testroete
Ross Creek Centre for the Arts
Saltair Nordic
Symphony Nova Scotia
The Clayground
The Patoine/Vakili Family
The Pothier Family
The Tran Family
Two Birds One Stone Farm
Victor Cuts
Will Cooper Art

Remembrance Day

The students In Grade 1 engaged in a series of activities as we acknowledged and learned about Remembrance Day and took time to reflect on the meaning of the holiday.

During language learning the students listened to a read aloud of the poem, 'In Flanders Fields' and explored what the concept of 'perspective' means and the ways in which poets, photographers and artists have different points of view and ways of seeing things. The students observed a painting of a poppy created by Georgia O'Keeffe and discussed the way in which she chose to paint the poppy using a close/zoomed in perspective/lens.

Each student then closed their eyes and we had two minutes of silent reflection time in which the students personally imagined what the poppies on Flanders Field would have look like. They each then illustrated a poppy in their own way using their creative voice and agency as to the materials and perspective they selected. The students loved how each picture of 'Flanders Fields' looked different and was unique based on their own decision to either 'zoom in or zoom out' when creating it.

The students also collaborated with Grade 2 & 3 to make a poppy out of torn paper after being inspired by a read aloud that reminded us all of the importance of the line 'lest we forget'.





Supporting our Local Libraries

By Ms. Melissa

Grade 4 students are wrapping up a Unit of Inquiry on children's rights and responsibilities. Through an exploration of Malala Yousafzai's global advocacy for children's rights to education and the importance of spreading the word to draw attention to important issues, students have begun exploring a local issue with connections to the unit theme: regional library funding challenges that could limit access to information and learning provided by libraries. Students have considered the questions "What does the library mean to me?" and "What does it mean to others in our communities?" They have conducted research by reading an article (featuring classmate Nico!), coming up with questions to interview a local librarian in Port Williams, and hearing from Jill Davies, a local community contact for CBC Nova Scotia Information Morning who has reported on the issue. Students who are interested in doing so will write letters to their local representatives in support of the issue.



From the Annapolis Valley Regional Library



Changes Are Coming to Your Library in 2026

The Annapolis Valley Regional Library is facing a critical budget shortfall in 2026. Inflation has increased 43% since 2009, but the Library's sustainable funding has only increased 10%.

The Province provided emergency funding this year which has helped us in the short term and for this, we are grateful. Unfortunately, this is not enough to prevent service changes.

What This Could Mean in 2026

Reduced service hours
Fewer new books and resources
Program and service reductions

Our Commitment

We are being transparent with our communities about these changes.

We remain hopeful that the Spring 2026 Provincial budget will provide the sustainable funding needed to maintain library service. With sustainable funding, libraries will remain essential community hubs.

How You Can Help

Contact your local MLA and municipality to share your library story and let them know why the library matters to you.

If you have questions, please talk to staff at your local branch. Updates will be posted here as details become available.

Grade 5 Religions

By Ms. Katherine

The Grade 5 class has been exploring how understanding the similarities and differences between religions can support international-mindedness. In order to explore this concept in depth, the class invited in guest speakers enjoyed visits from John Rockwell, a Buddhist guest speaker, who shared how meditation helped him find calm and clarity when he felt lost, and Jodi and Steven Porter from Acadia Divinity College, who are theologians that study religions worldwide. The class took part in a meaningful field trip to Halifax where they had the opportunity to visit three different religious and cultural centres: Ummah Masjid & Community Centre, Vedanta Ashram Society Hindu Temple, and the Beth Israel Synagogue. These visits gave them a firsthand look at how different faiths express their beliefs through prayer, rituals, and community life.

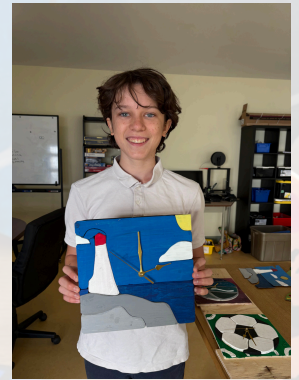


Home Depot Partnership Enhances Design Tech. Program

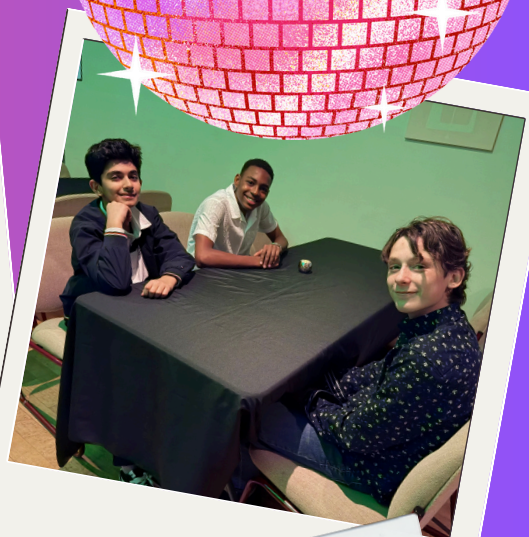
By Mr. Mark

In August, I reached out to the Home Depot in New Minas to explore a potential partnership in support of our school's new Design Technology program. Justin Einwiller, the store's Assistant Manager, generously committed to the initiative and provided a band saw for our wood shop. Students in the Grade 7/8 Design Technology class began by completing a safety training course before embarking on their first woodworking project: designing and building a unique clock from a 10" x 10" piece of plywood. Each student created twelve initial concept sketches, from which two were selected and rendered in full colour. One final design was then chosen and developed into a full-scale cardboard mock-up, which later served as a cutting template for the wooden clock.

The completed projects showcased students' creativity, craftsmanship, and careful use of woodworking tools. Additional tools and materials will be donated by Mr. Einwiller in the coming months, and we would like to extend our sincere appreciation for his generous support of this exciting new program.



Middle School DANCE



Fibre-Arts Fun!



Grades 2–3 explored needle felting for fun, carefully choosing colours to create realistic-looking “felted breakfasts” that quickly became favourite classroom toys. Grade 4 learned about the long history of weaving and practiced the classic “over and under” technique while crafting vibrant yarn-and-twig sun catchers. Grade 5 designed needle-felted owl scenes using wool roving, discovering how sheep’s wool is prepared and dyed. Grade 6 created felted landscapes inspired by Nova Scotia’s natural beauty. And Grades 7–8 connected with the province’s rug-hooking heritage by crafting their own Nova Scotia scenes using hand-torn fabric strips, yarn, and wool roving.





Volunteering & the Parent Participation Program

Our school community thrives when families get involved! Volunteering is a great way to meet others and support the experiences that make our school special. Whether you can help in the classroom, at events, or by sharing a skill, every contribution makes a difference. If you can give some time this year, we'd love to hear from you.

Parent Participation Program

If you would like to sign up for our Parent Participation Program, please email:

jamie.ohanlon@bookerschool.com

Tuition Payments for 2025-26



For families on the three-payment plan, don't forget to send in your December payments at the beginning of the month. Please send etransfers to:

treasurer@bookerschool.com

Please note that we can also take Visa payments in the office with a 3% charge.





Scholastic Canada Book Clubs

School Code: RC791340

Seasonal Notes

Skating - On Friday, Dec. 5, Grade 4-8 students will be skating at the Kentville Centennial Arena from 8:30-9:45. There will also be a community skate for any families who wish to join us at the rink from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Skates and helmets are provided but you may bring your own if you wish.

Schoolyard Cleanup - If you are able to help us out with a bit of a clean up before the snow falls, please stop by with your rakes and leaf blower at any time!

Clothing - Students of all ages should make sure they have spare clothes in their bags or cubbies. We love to head outside in all weather, so let's make sure our students are ready for it!

Follow us online!



[@bookersschool](https://www.instagram.com/bookersschool)



facebook.com/bookersschool



bookersschool.com



The Booker Fund

This year, we have been rolling out a new fundraising initiative called The Booker Fund. The Booker Fund is the backbone of The Booker School's fundraising program. This annual fund provides vital support that allows us to hire the best teachers, give them the resources they need, offer financial assistance to amazing students, and give our students the chance to go beyond. Most of our donors choose to make unrestricted gifts, allowing the school the greatest flexibility to deploy funds where they are most needed. Some of our donors prefer to direct their gifts specifically to financial assistance to ensure that the school can offer sustainable support to families who enrich our community in every way.

2025-2026 Goals

In the 2025-2026 school year we aim to raise \$50,000 and hope that 100% of our families will join in this effort. A gift of any size makes a difference to how we can help our students flourish this year.

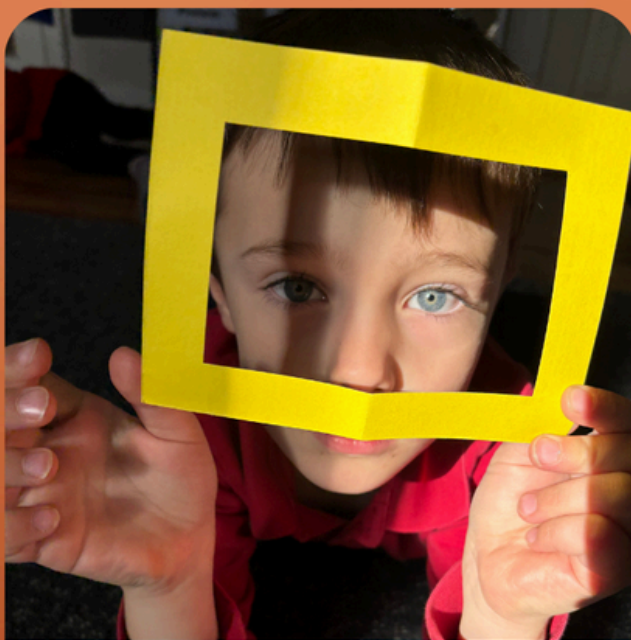
The Booker School is a charitable organization and gifts to the Booker Fund are tax deductible as allowed by law. Make your gift today!

Ways to Donate

You can easily donate and receive a tax receipt through Canada Helps by using this [link](#).

We also accept cheques and e-transfer. Cheques can be made out to The Booker School and e-transfers can be sent to treasurer@bookerschool.com.

NOVEMBER



Forms



An important part of The Booker School experience is having opportunities to explore our local community. We also benefit greatly from the volunteer efforts of our friends and family. The forms below enable us to provide safe programming for all students. Please fill them out at your earliest convenience.

8.5 Activity Waiver

9.5a Volunteer Driver

Please note that The Booker School will now hold volunteer record checks for two years. If you submitted these documents in 2024-25, you do not need to do so this year.



Community Corner

Property to rent

One of our community members has a beautiful 2-bed, 2-bath home for rent on Grand Pre Rd. Check it out buy clicking the red title to the right for a link to its posting on SafeGuard.

[Two-bed, two-bath home for rent.](#)



Cadance Academy
Proudly Presents:
our 19th annual production
of the **Nutcracker**

DECEMBER
13TH & 14TH
SAT 6:30pm
SUN 2:00pm
Festival theatre
Wolfville

Get your tickets **NOW!**



www.CadanceAcademy.ca/Nutcracker2025



NUTCRACKER
2025



If you know of any great clubs or activities for children or adults, feel free to send us your connections! We are also posting opportunities throughout the year on the TBS Families Facebook Group.



2025-2026 Master Calendar

The Booker School Master Calendar 2025-2026

Week	TBS 2025-26	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	Whole School Events
							1	2	School Closed
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Teacher Work Day
	August	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Event
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	<i>Tentative Dates are italicised</i>
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
1		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Labour Day Sep 1 - Classes begin Sep 2
2		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Hopes & Dreams Conferences
3	September	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
4		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Adventure Week - Sep 28 Orange Shirt Day
5		29	30	1	2	3	4	5	Truth & Reconciliation Sep 30
6		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	October	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Thanksgiving Break
7		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Teacher Work Day Oct 24 - School Closed
8		27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
9		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Remembrance Day Observation Nov 11
11	November	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
12		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Annual Scholarship Fundraiser
13		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
14		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	December	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Teacher Work Day Dec 19 - School closed
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	December Break
		29	30	31	1	2	3	4	Teacher Work Day Jan 5 - School closed
16		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
17	January	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Conf. Three Way Conferences Jan 12-23
18		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
19		26	27	28	29	30	31	1	
20		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
21		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Teacher Work Day - Feb 13 - School Closed
22	February	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Heritage Day Feb 16
23		23	24	25	26	27	28	1	
24		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Grade 4-8 Musical Production
	March	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	March Break
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
25		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
26		30	31	1	2	3	4	5	Easter Weekend April 3-6
27		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
28	April	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
29		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
30		27	28	29	30	1	2	3	TWD & Student-Led Conference day
31		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
32		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
33	May	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Victoria Day May 18 & Teacher Work Day May 19
34		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
35		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Port Williams Days
36		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Adventure Week
37	June	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	End of Year Assembly Jun 19
38		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Teacher Work Days - School Closed
	July	29	30						

