



Kinkora Regional High School

Home of the Blazers

Kinkora Blazers January Newsletter

*There is no passion to be found playing small,
in settling for a life that is less than the one
you are capable of living.*

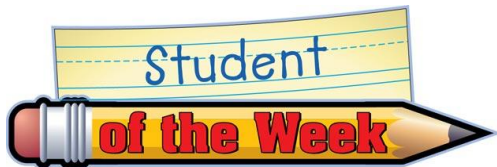
~ Nelson Mandela ~

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Jan. 5 - First day back for 2026.
- Jan. 26 to 30 - *Final exams.*
- Feb. 2 - *Turn-Around Day.* No classes.
- Feb. 3 - First day of *2nd semester!*
- Feb. 10 to 14 - *Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week.*
- Feb. 13 - *Professional Learning Day.* No classes.
- Feb. 16 - *Islander Day.* No classes.
- Mar. 6 - *Professional Learning Day.* No classes.
- Mar. 16 to 20 - *March Break.* No classes.
- Apr. 9 - *Parent/Teacher Interviews from 3:30-8 p.m.*
- Apr. 10 - *Parent/Teacher Interviews from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. No classes.*
- Apr. 3 - *Good Friday.* No classes.
- Apr. 6 - *Easter Monday.* No classes.
- May 1 - *WATA Day.* No classes.
- May 18 - *Victoria Day.* No classes.
- June 10 - *First Day of Final Exams*
- June 19 - *The 64th Annual K.R.H.S. Graduation @ 6 p.m.*
- June 30 - *School closes for the summer.*

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to our most recent *Students of the Week* ~ Carter Duffy, Helary Cavan & Joris van de Berg. Special thanks to the *K.R.H.S. Student Council* for sponsoring this award.



FAREWELL

We were very fortunate to have *U.P.E.I. student teacher Georgia Fraser* here at K.R.H.S. this past semester. Her last day with us was Dec. 11 and we wish her well in the years to come. Your contributions to K.R.H.S. were certainly appreciated and you will be missed! **Remember, once a Blazer, always a Blazer.**

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

Monday, January 26:
All Block C Classes

Tuesday, January 27:
All Block D Classes

Wednesday, January 28:
All Block A Classes

Thursday, January 29:
All Block B Classes

Friday, January 30:
Make-up day for exam conflicts, snow day, etc.

Monday, February 2:
Turn-Around Day. No classes.

Tuesday, February 3:
First day of *2nd semester!*



RESULTS FROM YULETIDE YIPPEETIME

The Gr. 11 students reign supreme!!!! Congratulations to the *Gr. 11 class* for winning *Yuletide Yippeetime*. This was a week-long contest prior to Christmas Break, pitting grade versus grade in a variety of fun, festive activities.



Tuesday, Dec. 16 - Dress theme – *Your Favourite Christmas Movie Character*

#1 *Addyson Rogers* as Santa and *Olivia Stewart, Hannah Lynch, Alva Pacatcatin,* and *Avah Muttart* as the reindeer

#2 *Sawyer Lefurgey* as Ralphie from *The Christmas Story*

#4 *Jill Parker* as Buddy from *Elf*

#3 *Kimberly Destreza* as Clark Griswald from *National Lampoons Christmas Vacation*

Activity – *Christmas Colouring Relay*
(Winners – Gr. 11s)

Wednesday, Dec. 17 - Dress theme – *Ugly Christmas Sweater*

#1 *Lucas Desjardins*

#2 *Jana-Lynn McNally*

#3 *Hannah Lynch*

#4 *Ella McIver*

Activities – **Santa Relay** (Winners – Gr. 11) and **Letter to Santa** (Winners – Gr. 12)

Thursday, Dec. 18 - Dress theme – **Dress Your Holiday Best**

Activity - **Festive Christmas Turkey Dinner** prepared by the Culinary & Foods classes free to all students

Friday, Dec. 19 - Dress theme – **Christmas Morning**

- #1 Sarah Cassell
- #2 Thatcher MacKay
- #3 Alessandria Reccio
- #4 Ryder Martin

Activities – **Deck the Walls** (the **Gr. 12s** won by securely taping **Helary Caven** to the wall)

Students enjoyed a **school-wide Scavenger Hunt** at the end of the day.

Special thanks to the staff (especially **Jessica McCarthy, Trent Ranahan & Matt Killeen**) for planning & organizing all these fun events for the entire school prior to the holidays!!



BLAZER BISTRO SPECIAL

Blazer Bistro Special on December 4 was a **Yuletide Breakfast** which included **two pieces of bacon and one sausage, scrambled eggs, waffles, home fries, a fruit kabob, and your choice of apple juice, hot apple cider, or hot chocolate.** Thank you for your continued support of our **Culinary 801 class.**



K.R.H.S. CHRISTMAS TURKEY DINNER FOR STUDENTS

The **Annual Student Christmas Turkey Dinner** took place on Thurs., Dec. 18. This was free for all students. The holiday meal featured many local favourites from our community including roast turkey from **Noonan Brothers' Farms** in Borden-Carleton, mashed potatoes grown and donated by **MWM Farms** in Middleton, and carrots & turnips grown and donated by **Bunny**

Burrow Vegetable Company in Newton.

The meal was with **homemade cranberry sauce, gravy, and dressing** as well as an assortment of **wonderful homemade desserts** (made by the Foods 421 & Culinary 801 classes). A heartfelt thank you to all our local farm families for donating to this year's Christmas Dinner.

The Culinary 801 & Foods 421 classes, under the guidance of Jessica Reeves, prepared this festive meal and the K.R.H.S. staff served the meal to all students. Special thanks to **Michelle Gibson, Michelle MacPhee, and Emily Temple** for all their extra help in the kitchen and to **Eddie McCarvill** who carved the turkeys. We were also very pleased to invite all our bus drivers.



TOYS FOR TOTS

Thanks to all K.R.H.S. students & staff for contributing to **Ocean 100's Toys for Tots Campaign.** The toys were dropped off at Vogue Optical in Summerside on Dec. 16. Special thanks to **Gr. 12 student Kylee MacDonald** who spearheaded the **K.R.H.S. Cares Campaign** as part of her ESAP Capstone Project. Kylee also hosted a Bake Sale which raised \$240 for the **Christmas for Seniors Campaign.**



PINK SHIRT DAY

In February, K.R.H.S. students will be participating in **Pink Shirt Day** at our school. This event allows students to **promote awareness, understanding, and openness about the problem of bullying and to commit to standing up against bullying.**



ACADEMY DIPLOMA PROGRAM IN AGRICULTURE & BIOSCIENCE

Jessica Reeves co-ordinates the *Academy Diploma Program in Agriculture & Bioscience* here at K.R.H.S. *Gr. 11 & 12 ADP students* had a tour of the *Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus* in Truro, Nova Scotia on Nov. 19.

K.R.H.S. LIBRARY NEWS

The K.R.H.S. library is open *every day* before school, during class, at breaks, at noon, and after school. Special thanks to Teacher Librarian Shelley Tremere.



FROM STUDENT SERVICES...

Holland College's Open House is on Feb. 13. This is a great chance for students to *explore the programs, meet instructors and current students, and get a feel for what life at Holland College is like.* For more details or to register, go online at: <https://hollandcollege.com/events/open-house.html?event=0>

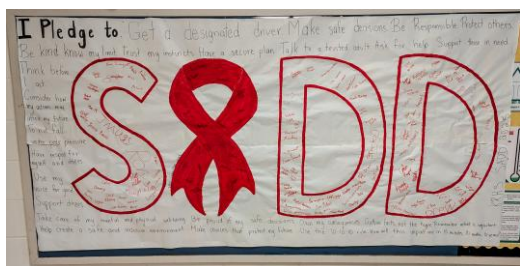
Please see Mrs. McCarthy anytime, visit *the 2026 Grad Google Classroom*, or the school website for more details and links to these scholarship opportunities.

<https://kinkorahigh.edu.pe.ca/learning-resources/scholarship-and-bursaries>



SADD

Congratulations to students *Krystal Destreza & Sarah Cassell* for winning the *SADD Instagram Trivia Giveaway*. They both won a \$20 gift card, generously donated by *O'Shea's!* The K.R.H.S. SADD Committee's latest initiative was our pledge. Students were invited to *sign the pledge and make a commitment to make safe decisions.* The banner is proudly displayed outside the K.R.H.S. Cafeteria. SADD would like to remind everyone to have a safe & healthy holiday season!



ANNUAL K.R.H.S. HOCKEY POOL

All the proceeds go right back to K.R.H.S. Athletics (to purchase uniforms, equipment,

official costs). Log on to *officepools.com* for results. ID is kinkora & password is guest.

Current standings are:

1st - *Norah Pendergast*

2nd - *Emerald Flyer*

3rd - *Lorraine Mulligan*

Hockey Pool

STORM DAY POLICY

◆ Every effort is made to announce all Public Schools Branch weather-related cancellations by 6:30 a.m. on local radio stations and on the PSB website.

◆ You will hear announcements like, "all classes in the Public Schools Branch are cancelled" or "there is a Public Schools Branch system-wide shutdown" or "all classes are on a one-hour delay" or, if schools have to close early, you may hear "all classes in the Public Schools Branch will be dismissing two hours early today."

◆ Sometimes, it may only be necessary to close an individual school or a family of schools. Partial system closures or delays will be announced by family of schools. K.R.H.S. belongs to the Kinkora family of schools.

🔗 More Information on PSB's Storm Closures - <https://psb.edu.pe.ca/parent-and-student.../storm-closures>

ELMER MACDONALD SCHOLARSHIP

In the fall of 2025, the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture started funding the *R. Elmer MacDonald Scholarship*, which provides financial assistance for P.E.I. residents who are enrolled in *eligible undergraduate agricultural programs at the Dalhousie University's Faculty of Agriculture* in Truro, Nova Scotia. Named after R. Elmer MacDonald, an industry and community leader, and someone that had a strong dedication and keen interest in the agricultural industry on Prince Edward Island, *this new scholarship aims to encourage more Island students to pursue an education and career in agriculture.*

If you are an eligible student, you will receive the scholarship each academic year while attending post-secondary studies in an eligible agriculture program up to a maximum of four (4) academic years. *You can receive \$1,500 annually with the maximum total grant payable up to \$6,000.*

We are very pleased that two of our 2025 graduates received the R. Elmer MacDonald Scholarship this fall, *Vance Lawless & Cole Schofield.*

ALUMNI UPDATE...

Where are those K.R.H.S. grads now?

~ **K.R.H.S. Grad of 2017 Colby Bell** has been a *Registered Veterinary Technician* since graduating from *Oulton College* in 2022. She began her career working with wildlife in

Fredericton, N.B. and joined the *Summerside Animal Hospital* team in May 2023. Colby is also an active participant in the fostering program with *Keeping Cats Homed*. Her passion for animal care extends beyond the clinic, as she regularly fosters and nurses sick kittens in need. At the clinic, Colby spends much of her time in the surgery suite, closely monitoring patients during both general and dental procedures. Her calm presence and technical skills make her a vital part of the surgical team.

~ **K.R.H.S. Grad of 2016 Allan Larsen** is a *fourth-generation beef producer* in Cape Traverse who operates a cow-calf and feedlot system with around 800 cattle. Allan is currently *President of The PEI Cattle Producers*.

~ **K.R.H.S. Grad of 2013 Ashley Noonan** was recently recognized as *Employee of the Year* for *Kool Breeze Farms* in Summerside.

~ **K.R.H.S. Grad of 2010 Samantha Dougay** is currently *Acting Executive Director* of *The PEI School Food Program*, a universally accessible program available to *all students* in public schools across Prince Edward Island. Prior to becoming Acting Executive Director, Samantha worked for almost three years as *Food Service Manager - School Based Programs*.

~ **K.R.H.S. Grad of 1982 Dr. Greg Keefe**, past Dean & Professor with the *Faculty of Veterinary Medicine* at *AVC/UPEI* was named to the *2025 Elsevier/Stanford University Top 2% of Scientists List*. This is an annual ranking identifying the world's most impactful researchers.

alumni

2026 GRAD NEWS

- December Grad Activity was a *Christmas potluck & gift exchange* after school on Dec. 10.
- Remember to check out the *K.R.H.S. Grads 2026 Google Classroom* and the *K.R.H.S. school website* regularly for updates.
- Please submit your baby pictures for the yearbook to Mrs. McCarthy.
- The *Annual K.R.H.S. Graduation Ceremony* will take place on *Friday, June 19* at 6 p.m. There are 41 potential graduates for 2026.
- The *2026 Grad Executive* includes *Addison Baldwin, Maura Mulligan, Avrie Smith, Charleigh Webster, Keira Duffy, and Charlee Norring*. Members are responsible for planning & organizing all grad activities throughout the year.

CLASS OF
26

GAMING CLUB and DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB

If you are interested in trying out *Dungeons & Dragons*, the *D&D Club* meets in Room 205. See Mr. Voth for more information.

MUSIC NEWS/K.R.H.S. BAND

Special thanks to Kirk White for the excellent work he does with our music program. *Concert Band practice* is every Tuesday after school. *Gr. 9 Concert* was Dec. 16.



K.R.H.S. MUSIC TEACHER KIRK WHITE

'*INSIDE AMERICAN PIE*', featuring our very own Music Teacher *Kirk White*, will be premiering in the UK. Playing at *Curve Theatre* in *Leicester, England* from February 26 to March 14, 2026. So excited for you, KW!!



K.R.H.S. CAFETERIA

The *School Food program* at *K.R.H.S.* offers nutritious lunch options all year long with a *3-week menu rotation*. Thank you to our amazing **Food Service Team:**

Michelle Gibson ~ Kitchen Manager
Michelle MacPhee ~ Kitchen Assistant
Emily Temple ~ Kitchen Cook

KARAOKE IS BACK!!

Come enjoy *all your favorite hits*. Second half of lunch in Ms. Pendergast's classroom. Bring your friends!!



BLAZER BOARD GAME CLUB

Blazer Board Game Club takes place in the K.R.H.S. Library every day at lunch break. We have a great collection of board games and puzzles, as well as art supplies for colouring.



NUT BAN

Our school has a **TOTAL NUT BAN** due to students with severe allergic reactions to nuts.



COMMUNITY SERVICE BURSARY PROGRAM

Did you know that you *can earn money towards a bursary at the end of Grade 12 by volunteering in your community?* Students can **register with the program after their Grade 9 year** and can **collect credit for up to 150 hours of volunteer work.** For more information please visit their website at

<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/education-and-lifelong-learning/community-service-bursary>

A reminder to all students that we are looking for student volunteers for the **Breakfast Program, as Intramurals Co-ordinator, and as Peer Tutors.** If you are interested, please see Mr. McAleer or Mr. Killeen in the office. Community Service Bursary hours are available for all of these positions.



STUDENT WELL-BEING TEAM

The **Student Wellbeing Team** hosts a **drop-in clinic at K.R.H.S.** every second Wednesday. **Emily, our mental health nurse, will be available from lunchtime until the end of the school day.** The clinic will offer a chance for students to connect with the team and receive **coaching, counselling, skill building, and mental health resource navigation.** What you can expect is a non-judgmental ear to sound your concerns off to. There is a sign-up sheet located in the office for anyone who would like to take advantage of this opportunity.

K.R.H.S. BREAKFAST & SNACK PROGRAM

Lori Allen, our Youth Service Worker, as well as several student volunteers are busy every morning supervising and preparing for our **breakfast/snack program which is offered free for all students daily** from 8:15-8:30 a.m. There are smoothies, yogurt, granola bars, cereal, milk, bagels, cream cheese, and fresh fruit available every morning. Any student interested in volunteering to help with the **Breakfast Program** are asked to contact Mr. McAleer or Ms. Allen. Breakfast Program volunteer hours can count towards Community Bursary Hours.

P.E.I. HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS

🍎 Questions? Contact the Federation office at: 902-620-3186/1-800-916-0664/peihsf@gov.pe.ca
Follow PEIHSF on Twitter @peihsf and Facebook at: PEI Home and School Federation



OHS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The **Workers Compensation Board of P.E.I.** is seeking two Gr. 11 or 12 K.R.H.S. students for its **Occupational Health & Safety Leadership Program.** Students who are selected for the program and who complete all program requirements will receive **\$800** at the end of the school year with the chance to earn more! For more information, please check out www.wcb.pe.ca/Workplace/Programs or contact Erin at ecarver@wcb.pe.ca. Applications are due Jan. 23, so grab a friend and apply today!



K.R.H.S. STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students for being selected as **Students of the Month** for the month of **November.** These students are being recognized for excellence in the following areas:

School Spirit – Hailey Rogers
Club Member – Evan Longuepee
Good Citizenship – Kimberly Destreza
Grade 9 – Max Murray
Grade 10 – Andrew Buell
Grade 11 – Logan Schofield
Grade 12 – Maura Mulligan
Administrator's Choice – Jack Pickering



GIRLS' BASKETBALL NEWS

The Blazers Girls' Basketball team had their **season debut** vs Grace Christian on Dec. 1. The girls struggled to generate offence in the first half but rallied in the 4th quarter and finished strong. Final score was 44-26 for the Knights. Points were scored by **Avah, Sarah, Alessandria, Hannah,** and **Alva.** **Addyson** was the leading scorer with 10 points, including a big 3 pointer. The team played a gritty game versus Francois Buote on Dec. 17. The girls had a short bench but battled hard on both ends of the court and held their own. **Hannah Lynch** was the leading scorer with 12 points. **Chloe Moore** had 5, including a big three pointer.

Other scorers were *Sarah, Alessandria, Olivia,* and *Alva*. Great work, girls. Special thanks to Coach Jill Parker.



POWERLIFTING NEWS

K.R.H.S. students *Rory Bennetto-O'Brien, Jack Mulligan,* and *Peter Nimer* competed in a *P.E.I.S.A.A. Powerlifting Meet* at Westisle on Dec. 2. Special thanks to Coach Trent Ranahan.

K.R.H.S. STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

The *Blazer Blizzard Christmas Dance* on Dec. 6 was a huge success.



K.R.H.S. PERSONAL FINANCE & INVESTING CLUB

An excellent opportunity for *young investors at K.R.H.S.* Becoming a member of the *Personal Finance & Investing Club* will not only be a great addition to your resume but will also allow you to meet and discuss finance & investing with other like-minded students. *Weekly meetings will be held starting in February in the K.R.H.S. Library.* Everyone is welcome to join. This group is facilitated by former grad *Alex Trainor* who is now a 4th year student at U.P.E.I. Many thanks to Teacher Advisor Shelley Tremere.



STEAM PEI

On Sat., Jan. 17, *STEAM PEI* is hosting a *free Girls GET WISE Challenge Day* for female-identifying students. The event features hands-on activities including *Robot Artist, Fraction Quilt Making, Adaptive Engineering Studio,* and more! With guidance from women in STEM, participants *build confidence, develop problem-solving skills, and gain a stronger sense of belonging* in STEM fields.



SCHOOL CLOTHING/ BLAZER SPIRITWEAR

Anyone interested in ordering school clothing can do so at any time using the website: <http://kinkora.entripyshops.com/>

GRADE NINE ART CLASS

Grade 9 Art students *made their own negatives* to create these *cyanotypes* using technology that was invented in the 1840s to create "Blueprints". The Art class welcomed retired photography teacher, Liza Wendt, who helped students build pinhole cameras out of recycled objects that will be staged outside from winter solstice to spring equinox to capture long exposure "solargrams" of the sun streaking across the sky daily over six months. The photography module has been full of fun and surprises as we experiment with ancient and modern processes. Many thanks to Art teacher Norah Pendergast.



*If we had no winter,
the spring would not be so pleasant;
if we did not sometimes taste of adversity,
prosperity would not be so welcome.*

~ Anne Bradstreet ~

*There can be no keener revelation of a society's
soul than the way in which it treats its children.*

~ Nelson Mandela ~

*The world is a book, and those who do not travel
read only one page.*

~ St. Augustine ~

*Focus on the journey, not the destination.
Joy is not found in finishing an activity
but in doing it.*

~ Greg Anderson ~

