



PARKDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Kristen Moore, Principal
Faber MacDonald, Vice Principal
Date: October 1st



Dates to Remember:

Oct 2	Truth & Reconciliation Day (no classes)
Oct 3	Food Drive Kickoff
Oct 3	Picture Day
Oct 9	Thanksgiving (no classes)
Oct 10	Earth Rangers Presentation
Oct 11	Cross Country Meet
Oct 13	Food Drive ends
Oct 16	Coloring Contest begins
Oct 23	Parkdale Proud (wear school colors)
Oct 24	Crazy Hat/Hair Day
Oct 26	Orange & Black Day
Oct 26	BINGO in the gym (evening)
Oct 27	Prof Learning Day (no classes)
Oct 31	Halloween activities
Nov 1	PJ Day
Nov 13	Remembrance Day (no classes)
Nov 16,17	PEITF Convention (no classes)

General Information

We are peanut friendly at this time! Please understand that this can change on a day's notice if we get a student who is anaphylactic.

Absences If students are going to be absent, please notify the main office by phone at (902) 368-6945 or email Jackie at jmlund@edu.pe.ca as well as your child's teacher.

Improving Student Attendance We are off to a great start with student attendance. In September the average daily attendance for all students was 95%. The class with the best attendance was 3A, and their average daily attendance was 98%. They had a little reward and lots of praise! Remember, even missing 1 day a month means dropping to 95% attendance. What can you do to help?

- Build regular routines for bedtime and the morning,
- Set out clothes pack backpacks, and lunches the night before to give extra time in the morning.
- If there is a reason that they aren't looking forward to school regularly, please reach out and let us know so we can address it,
- Schedule medical appointments after dismissal if possible

Make Time for Crafts Schools have noticed a decline in children's fine motor skills. One easy way you can support your child at home is through arts and crafts. Children love to be creative, but it's so much more than that.

- When kids use their fingers to manipulate art materials they are developing their fine motor skills as they use

those small muscles in their hands. Their bilateral coordination skills improve as they learn to use both hands at the same time.

- Early child literacy skills in art and crafts cover a wide range of areas. When kids make art or crafts they get to talk about their work which develops their communication skills. "Why did you choose that colour?" "Tell me about what you made."
- Kids get to learn about and recognize different shapes, count and sort out their art supplies and even measure out lengths and sizes of art materials.
- Don't worry so much about the finished project. Focus more on all of these amazing skills
- So, get out those scissors and glue and let your child develop their inner artists and so much more!

Breakfast Program is up and running on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays each week.

Food Program Hotlunch orders and payments must be in by 9 am on Mondays. Please Note: If there is NO school on Fridays we will have pizza day on Wednesdays. The PEI Food School Program is up and running. Families can register at www.peischoolfood.ca If you have questions you can email info@peischoolfood.org.

Please send a fork and spoon with your child each day. Cutlery is not provided with lunches.

Terry Fox Run was held on Sept 22nd and our students raised \$200. Thank you to all those who sent donations. Also thanks to Mr Carroll and our Gr 6 Peer Helpers who lead the school in warm up stretches to start the event.

Home & School

Parkdale Elementary Bingo Night
Thursday, October 26, 2023, 6PM at the
Parkdale Elementary Gym

More details to come in the following weeks
Thank you to the parents who reached out to volunteer at the bingo event, we will be in touch soon with more details. We are still looking for a few more volunteers, please send us an email at parkdaleelementaryhs@gmail.com to reach out! Lastly, a big thank you to everyone who attended the K-1 playdate, it was a great turnout and we are looking forward to hosting the next one! Check our website under Home & School for the Monthly Home & School Federation News!

Student Sign Out: If you are picking your child up early from school after you have been greeted by a staff member we ask you to please come up to the top of the stairs and sign your child out.

Papa John's Fundraiser/Discount Code

Papa John's have offered us a school fundraiser/discount. If any staff, friends or families order from them and use the code EAGLE, It will give a 25% discount on menu-priced items ordered online on their website or mobile app. They will keep track of the code's usage throughout the school year, and on May 31st, they will let us know the donation amount it collected and mail us a cheque worth 10% of the code's net sales! Please support this great school fundraiser!!

School entry: The back door will remain locked during the day. All visitors must enter through the main door. We ask you to please ring the doorbell on the right hand side and wait until a staff member greets you. Visitors are asked to sign in at the table at the top of the stairs.

Safety Issues: Confederation Street - Concern has been expressed in the past over student safety. We ask for your cooperation in dropping off and picking up students on the school side of Confederation Street only. Please do not drive into the staff parking lot to drop off students.

Parents dropping their children off in the morning, please remember that supervision begins at 8:15 am and the bell rings at 8:25 am for school to start. Students can be dropped in the back pavement area and our greeters will welcome them. Parents are asked to say goodbyes at the doors.

Dismissal: Parents picking their children up at the end of the day can meet them outside the front door. Students are dismissed at 2:30 pm. Students **SHOULD NOT** be by themselves crossing the road to get into parent vehicles.

Change in After School Routine

If there is a change in their regular after school routine, we require an email to the teacher and Jackie in the office or a phone call prior to noon. If we do not receive notification from you, your child will follow their regular routine.

Chocolate Bar Fundraising

Please ensure all overdue money and chocolate bars are returned to your child's homeroom teacher. Congratulations to our top 3 fundraiser's: 3rd place Thomas Ellis (4A) 2nd place Draven Corrigan (3A) and 1st place Bryson MacDonald (6A). Together students raised over \$5,000 and this money will support the school and help offset student field trips throughout the year. Thank you so much for your amazing support!

Communication

Please bookmark our website. <https://parkdale.edu.pe.ca> and check your emails regularly. We will plan on sending weekly updates and a newsletter at the start of each

month. You can also sign up for your child's **Class DOJO**. A private group for sharing exciting learning updates.

October's Monthly Activities

Oct. 3rd - Food Drive Kickoff
Oct. 13th - Food Drive Ends
Oct. 16th - Coloring contest begins
Oct. 23rd - Parkdale Proud (wear school colors)
Oct. 24th - Crazy Hat/Hair Day
Oct 25th - Decorated pumpkins are due today
Oct. 26th - Orange & Black
Oct. 26th - Bingo in the Gym (evening event)
Oct. 30th - Guess the Candy Jar
Oct. 31st - Dress Up in your Halloween Costume
Nov 1st - P.J. Day

PSB Text Messaging System

Parents are invited to join our emergency text messaging system. The system is configured to send text messages to mobile phone numbers whose recipients have agreed to receive them. We use text messages to communicate during emergency situations as well as specific school closures or early dismissals. Parents can easily opt-in by texting "Y" (or "Yes") to our Short Code number 978338 (Canadian-based numbers) or 61569 (US-based numbers). Standard Text Message & Data rates may apply.

Social Emotional Learning

The single most important thing you can do to help calm your child when they are upset is to remain calm. When a child is upset and adults around them begin to get upset as well, it often leads to raised voices, threats of unrelated consequences if they do not calm, taking away preferred activities or possessions, etc. Two key things occur when this happens; first, the heightened state of the adult leads to even more heightened state of the child, due to coregulation. The second, is that the child learns from the adult that it is appropriate to raise their voice and punish other people when they are upset. We need to bring the calm when our children are upset. Model taking deep breaths, stating your feelings out loud in a calm voice, "I'm upset and I need to calm my body by taking deep breaths and slowing down my heartbeat." Children learn far more from what we do than from what we say.

Boys & Girls Club – new programs

BGC will be offering two evening programs beginning Oct 3rd for ages 5-12 from 6-8 pm. Please contact Leon at admin@bgcharlottetown.com for more information.

There are also a few spots remaining for the afterschool program. If interested please contact BGC – Charlottetown.