



PARKDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Kristen Moore, Principal
Faber MacDonald, Vice Principal
Date: October 1, 2024



Dates to Remember:

Oct 1	Orange Shirt Day
Oct 4	Terry Fox Run
Oct 7	Picture Day
Oct 8	Cross Country Meet
Oct 9	Fall Coupon Booklet Fundraiser begins
Oct 14	Thanksgiving (no classes)
Oct 24	BINGO – Home & School
Oct 31	Halloween Activities
Oct 29-31	Coupon Booklets will be sent home
Nov 1	Professional Learning Day (no classes)
Nov 6	Gr 1-3 Orwell Field Trip
Nov 7,8	PEITF Convention (no classes)
Nov 11	Remembrance Day (no classes)
Nov 12-15	Scholastic Book Fair
Nov 21	Retake Day
Nov 21	Report Cards go home
Nov 22	Parent Teacher Interviews (no classes)

General Information

We are a PEANUT FREE school! Please be diligent in sending peanut free snacks and check labels carefully.

WOW Butter

We would ask that parents DO NOT send in WOW butter or anything that mimics peanut butter as it is too challenging for staff and students to distinguish. The anxiety and attention connected for monitoring this can be quite demanding and it is better to be on the side of caution.

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 will be one of our goals this year. Most children miss a few days of school each year without long-term consequences. However, when students miss too many days, the effects are almost always negative. As a family a goal would be to miss one or less days each month. If we notice trends of increasing absences our team will reach out to brainstorm how we can support you. What can you do to help?

- Build regular routines for bedtime and the morning
- Set out clothes pack backpacks, and lunches the night before
- 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 trips and medical appointments when school is not in session when possible

Terry Fox Run will be held on Friday, October 4th. All students are invited to bring in a donation to the Terry Fox Foundation.

Home & School Happy October! Thank you to everyone who attended the Playground Playdate, and special thanks to our volunteers who made this event possible! The weather ended up being so perfect and it was such a joy to see connections being made and strengthened. There will be no 'regular' Home and School meeting this month; instead we will be hosting the **Halloween Bingo on Thursday, October 24th! Doors will open at 5:30 pm and the first game will start at 6:00 pm.** More details will be coming soon, including the sign up sheet for anyone who would like to help out. We look forward to seeing you!

Picture Day is Monday, October 7th. Students will receive their QR Code on Picture Day. Parents will receive a printed, photographic proof within 1-2 weeks of photo day, this will also have their QR code on it. Retake Day will take place on Nov 21st.

Cross Country Meet will take place on Tuesday, October 8th (raindate Oct 9th). Information and permission forms will be sent home with those students who have made the team.

Coupon Booklets Fundraiser will be starting on Wednesday, October 9th. Order forms will go home on this day and it will be helpful to start right away as many other schools will be selling. The BOGO coupon booklets are popular and often the buyer gets their money back if only using 1 or 2 coupons. Once again, the top sellers will not only receive a cash prize but a chance to act as the principal for the day with Mrs. Moore. Last year our students raised \$2000. Let's try and beat it!

No Classes on the following Days:

October 14th – Thanksgiving Day
November 1st – Professional Learning Day
November 7th, 8th – PEITF Convention
November 11th – Remembrance Day
November 22nd – Parent Teacher Interviews

Breakfast Program is on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. *Thank you to Buns n Things Bakery for supplying the bread for our Breakfast Program again this year. What a special act of kindness!!*

Shining Star & Hall of Fame Assembly

Each month at Parkdale we hold a Shining Star & Hall of Fame Assembly. Students are caught making great choices, being friendly, working hard, overall standing out for their great actions. Then students receive a star ticket. Once they collect five tickets they will get their name on a larger star as part of our Shining Star Bulletin Board. Also each month, students may get recognized for exemplary choices and nominated by their teacher for outstanding contributions. If your child is receiving a Hall of Fame award, you will be invited to come to the assembly. Please use the back gym doors, and students will usher you in once the doors open. The assemblies are approximately 30 minutes in length.

Birthday Treats

If you wish to send in a treat on your child's birthday, please remember that the teachers are very busy in their classrooms and cutting cake, passing out extra treats can add a lot to their day. Please email your child's teacher and get permission before sending any treats. Please consider sending an easy treat to distribute such as cupcakes or cookies.

Food Program Our *Hotlunches Program* is up and running for the year. All 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 ***Please send a fork and spoon with your child each day. Cutlery is not provided with lunches.***

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. Pick up time is 2:30 pm and there is no additional supervision after the busses leave.

Lunch/Recess Times: Our lunch recess will be 11:25-11:50 am and the students eat lunch from 11:50 – 12:15 pm. There is no morning recess again this year but students are given the time to have a snack in their classroom. Recess will be in the afternoon 1:15-1:30 pm.

Halloween Activities

There will be a list of activities shared in the coming weeks. Please note that students are asked not to wear masks to school or bring any pretend weapons with costumes on Halloween Day.

Communication

Please bookmark our website.

<https://parkdale.edu.pe.ca> and check your emails regularly. We be sending weekly updates and a newsletter at the start of each month.

Emergency Procedure Drills

At the beginning of the school year we practice our emergency procedures for fire drills, evacuations, lockdowns and bus evacuations. Students are prewarned for most scenarios and staff reassure that these are procedures to keep us safe, and so we can feel confident that we know what to do in an emergency. Sometimes the loud fire drill can be unsettling the first time, but again, with practice we know what the noise is and can be prepared.

Attendance and Engagement from the PSB

As we mentioned in our first newsletter of the year, schools across PEI are renewing their emphasis on the importance of regular attendance. Being present and on time ensures that students have the best opportunity to engage fully in their learning and stay connected with their peers and teachers. In September, more than 80% of students missed fewer than 10% of school days. This is an optimistic start to our school year that we can build on! Let's continue working together to help reinforce the value of consistent attendance, as every day counts towards building a successful academic year.

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.

When a new number is added, you may see the following message: "PSB & CSLF messages. Reply Y to confirm, HELP 4 info. Msg&data rates may apply. Msg freq varies. schoolmessenger.com/smsca"

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Biathlon & Cross Country Skiing Programs for Youth taking place this winter at the Brookvale Provincial Ski Park.

Learn to Ski Program is for children 6-9 years old held on Sat from 10-12 am Jan to March \$55 plus rentals (if required \$30).

Biathlon Bears Program is for children 8-14 years old Wed 6-730 pm and Sun 12-2 pm. \$125 plus rentals (if required \$75). If you are interested in enrolling your child in one of these programs please contact Brad Haltli brad.haltli@nordicsportspei.ca Space in the program is limited so please register early. Financial support for program fees can be obtained by applying to the Kids Sport program (<https://kidsportcanada.ca/prince-edward-island/provincial-fund/>)