



PARKDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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



Dates to Remember:

Dec 5 Home & School Meeting 6:30 pm
Dec 11 Christmas Concert Gr K-3 - 6 pm
Dec 11 Christmas Concert Gr 4-6 - 7 pm
Dec 12 Storm Date for Christmas Concerts
Dec 16 Red and Green Day
Dec 17 Crazy Hat/Hair Day
Dec 18 Guess the Candy Jar @ lunch
Dec 19 Reindeer Games
Dec 20 Pajama Day
Dec 20 Last day of classes for 2024
Jan 6 First day of classes for 2025

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

What happens if my child is missing more than 1 day a month? As a school we realize sickness, family emergencies, and travel can happen. If your child has missed 5 or more days or has a pattern of late arrivals, teachers will first call you to discuss if there are any concerns at home. Then we will try and brainstorm how we can support your child's attendance.

- Be honest when teachers ask if you are struggling with morning or nighttime routines
- Share if your child is worried about something at school
- Ask for supports such as counselling or youth service workers
- Be open minded to taking some parenting sessions and learning how to best support your child. There are programs available like *Roots and Shoots*, *Strongest Families*, and *Positive Parenting Between 2 Homes* that are offered outside of the school to help
- Continue to try and book appointments at the end of the day or on PD Days

Holiday Concerts

Our school holiday concerts will be held on Wednesday, December 11th (storm date December 12th). Grade K-3 concert will be held at 6:00 pm and Grade 4-6 concert at 7:00 pm. Students are asked to meet in their classroom a half hour before the concert starts. Please enter via the gym doors only. The gym doors will not open until 5:30 pm. Admission is by donation and Home and School will be selling 50/50.

We will be selling tickets for the "Best Seats in the House" at the concerts. The information and tickets will be sent home on Monday.

Holiday Decorating The lobby is looking festive with Christmas decorations! That being said, we know there are also other special holidays that families in our school community celebrate this time of the year, and we would love to add to our holiday decorating to include those holidays as well!

If your family has a special holiday in December or January (i.e. Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Lunar New Year, Tet, etc) and you have **extra decorations you'd be willing to lend or donate to the school, please contact us!**

Parkdale Clothing Orders are now open

Click on the link below for all the school clothing options available for ordering!

[Home | Parkdale Elementary School](#)

Coupon Booklets were sent home with the students. Please ensure these get delivered to the people who purchased them. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser. We raised \$1700!! Well done students and families!

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to all who supported our book sale!! Parkdale School earned over \$600 in rewards which we can use towards purchasing books for the classrooms and library.

Report cards were sent home on November 21st with the students. Please sign the brown envelope under this date and return it to your child's teacher so we know you received the report card and we can reuse the envelopes for the March report cards. Thank you!

Winter Clothing

Please ensure your child comes to school with a hat, mitts, winter coat, boots and snowpants. The students need to be dressed appropriately every day for outside recess.

Festive Spirit Days

Dec 16th – Come to school wearing your favourite red and/or green clothing!

Dec 17th – Create a funky hair style or wear a crazy hat.

Dec 18th – Guess the Candy Jar @ Lunch

Dec 19th – Reindeer games 12:30-2:10 pm

Dec 20th – Wear your comfy pajamas all day long!

Home & School

Our rescheduled meeting will be **Dec 5th at 6:30 pm**. We would love to have a couple of parents from each grade attend. Please reach out to your child's teacher to volunteer to be a representative! We will be looking ahead to 2025 and planning activities, including Staff Appreciation Week, the Cultural Festival and ways to help parents connect. What would you like to see more of at Parkdale Elementary? Come get involved!

Food Program 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.

Families can register for The *PEI Food School Program* at www.peischoolfood.ca

Christmas Families - Every year, families and community groups help support families within our school who need extra support during the holiday season. Currently, we still have several families who would benefit from having additional support during the holiday season – please let our school counsellor Jo Cullen know jxcullen@edu.pe.ca

Kindergarten Registration for 2025-26

If you know of someone who hasn't registered their child yet for Kindergarten please ask them to contact the school to register. Children must be 5 years old by December 31st, 2025.

Communication

Please bookmark our website.

<https://parkdale.edu.pe.ca> and check your emails regularly. We will 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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Roots & Shoots Program

Roots & Shoots is a supportive, non-judgmental space for parents and caregivers of transgender and gender-diverse children. The goal of the program is to connect caregivers with tools and resources needed to support the transgender and gender non-confirming people in their lives, while also offering safe spaces for trans and gender-creative young people to connect with each other in a low-pressure social environment. Parents and caregivers participate in a group setting with a focus on discussion, peer support, and information sharing while their gender-creative children and siblings engage in parallel play-based activities provided by Sierra Club of PEI's Wild Child Program. The program is free of charge and participants are provided with pizza and snacks at each meeting.

Roots & Shoots Charlottetown Group

When: The last Wednesday of the Month from 6-8 PM (September to June)

Where: The Haviland Club, 2 Haviland Street, Charlottetown

Registration: www.bit.ly/3BTIfvg

Further information can be found at

<https://www.peersalliance.ca/roots-shoots>

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/>

Parkdale Staff would like to wish all our families a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season! We look forward to working with all our students and families in 2025!