

January 2026

PARKDALE ELEMENTARY

Principal - Kristen Moore
Vice Principal - Faber MacDonald

49 Confederation Street
Charlottetown, P.E.I.
C1A 5V5

Telephone - 902-368-6945
Website - www.parkdale.edu.pe.ca



Upcoming Events

January 20 th	Home and School Meeting - 6:30 pm
January 22 nd	Family Literacy Day
January 29 th	Winter Carnival (during school hours)
	Kindergarten & Grade 1 Open Gym Night 6-7 pm
February 9-13 th	Staff Appreciation Week
February 13 th	PD DAY - No Classes
February 16 th	Islander Day - No Classes

Hot Lunch Programs

Our Parkdale Hot Lunch Program closes every **Sunday at 11 pm**. Please have all orders in at that time or your child will not receive lunch for the week.

PEI School Food Program closing dates this month are **January 1st, January 8th, and January 22nd**.
Don't forget your utensils.

PLEASE NOTE: There is a new cut off day and time for Parkdale Hot Lunch Program (refer to e-mail sent out January 5th)

Winter Clothing

Reminder to send appropriate winter gear with your children, it is cold and snowy!

(Snowpants, Jackets, Boots, Hats, & Mittens)

It is always a good idea to send a change of clothes for your child to keep in their bag/cubby in case they need it throughout the day.



School Entry/Early Pick Up

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

If you are **picking up a student early** - please sign your child out on the table as soon as you come through the front door

Lunch/Recess

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.

Please try to send healthy snacks with your child, avoiding chocolate bars, candy, etc.

Our Shining Stars from November

Kinsley Green	Alex Fleishhacker
Killian Evans	Kaleo Drake-Clark
Kairi Green	Shania Bambrick
Harper Costain	Aiden Wilks
Georgia Coffin	Logan Gillespie
Gage Thomas	Gursimran Kaur
Evey Natividad	Josie Yeo
Ahmed	Rachel Westbury
Alyish	Ben Zuccolo
Brianna	Kallie Younker
Neo	Nasra Abdirashid Ali
Nova	Kylee
Omar	Gauthier-Morrison
Masa	Ayon Shiju
Zlata	Austin Paul
Thatcher	Shreya Jijo
Emma	Malik Al Ghafarji
Jersii Arbing	Nataniya Prasoon
Reese Burke	Yohan Shaiju
Maleah Gallant	Calvin Cheverie
Naunidh Sidhu	Flora McGrath
Gracelyn Jackson	Mason Gough
Salman Hassan Issack	Suhaib Hassan
Eli Richard	Luna Moore
Esil Hattaab	Jax
Thatcher Ellis	Gauthier-Morrison
Hannah Yu	Jessy Stone
Khaled Alkrad	Jawad Elbadri
Caleb MacQuarrie	Zeinab Abdirashid Ali
Micah Perry	Oliver MacIntyre
Dreyden Lalonde	Shicheng Shao
Valentia	Luke Warren
Carmona Montes	Kosei Neelin
Colin Gaudet	Jana Alharal
Tristan Thornley	Christina Livingstone
Axle	Yahia Khashaba
Brett Wedge	Paisely O'Shea
Elyas Alhasan	Liam Murphy-Peters
Oday Al Ghafarji	Paisley MacLean
Sylvanas Muirhead	Adam Al Barakat
Oliver Robinson	Finn Gough
Pratyush Patel	Lilith MacIntyre
	Shiyan Shao
	Ellie Hennessey

Our Hall of Fame Recipients:

Georgia Coffin
Harper Costain
Kairi Green
Baran Karbasi
Naunidh Sidhu
Eunice Moses
Micah Perry
Axle Thomas
Shiyan Shao
Lilith MacIntyre
AJ Bain
Pratyush Patel
Kylee Gauthier-Morrison
Cole Moore
Jax Gauthier-Morrison
Ayon Shiju
Yohan Shaiju
Clara Coffin
Archer Pascual
Chet Dougan
Paisley O'Shea
Oliver MacIntyre
Ava Burke
Oday Al Ghafarji



Outerwear Needs

With the snowy weather, we are looking for gently used snow pants and winter gloves (waterproof material)

If you happen to have any of these items around your home that you wish to donate to the school, please drop them off to the main office between 8 am-3:30 pm.



New SLP at Parkdale

We would like to welcome Pamela Ross, Parkdale's new speech language pathologist who will be coming to our school on Wednesdays. A huge thank you to Katelyn O'Hanley - our previous SLP. Wishing you all the best!

2026-2027 Kindergarten Registration

It is soon time to register your Kindergarten student for the 2026-2027 school year!

Children must be **5 years old by December 31, 2026** in order to be eligible for Kindergarten. Parents are asked to register their child at his/her local elementary school during school hours or send all information via e-mail to Chelsea Snow, Administrative Assistant at casnow@edu.pe.ca.

The registration form is located at the below link: <https://parkdale.edu.pe.ca/about/kindergarten-registration>

Parents are reminded to provide two pieces of information which verify proof of child's age and verification of home address to the school while registering (Birth certificate or PEI Health card & a bill such as a current utility bill which show address).

Welcome to Kindergarten sessions for incoming students and their parents will be held in the Spring of 2026. Parents will receive more information via e-mail address provided on their child's registration form.

Questions: You can contact Chelsea Snow at casnow@edu.pe.ca

Winter Carnival

On January 29th, we will be holding a Winter Carnival in the afternoon during school hours for all students.

We will send out more information closer to that date



Thank you!

We would like to thank everyone who donated to our Christmas Families this year. We were able to support so many families in our Parkdale community this year.



As part of our PBIS, classrooms are using a Voice Scale to help students learn appropriate volume levels for different activities. This visual tool teaches self-regulation and creates a positive learning environment. The scale includes five levels: Level 1 (Silent) for independent work, Level 2 (Whisper) for quiet partner talks, Level 3 (Normal talking) for class discussions, Level 4 (Talking loud) for outdoors, and Level 5 (Yelling) for emergencies only. Teachers display the current level throughout the day, helping children develop awareness of their voice volume and respect for others' learning needs.

Supporting This at Home

Practice voice levels during daily routines! Ask your child to use a "Level 2 whisper" when siblings are doing homework, or a "Level 3" during family dinner conversations. Make it a game by calling out different levels and having them demonstrate. This reinforces classroom learning while building self-awareness about volume control in various settings.

PBIS

My Voice Scale		
5		Yelling (Emergency)
4		Talking loud (Outdoors)
3		Normal talking (Class voice)
2		Whisper
1		Silent (no talking)

Home and School Newsletter, January 2026

🍏 2026 Extra Mile Awards for Teachers/Staff

Local Home and School Associations can consider nominating a school teacher/staff person for going the "extra mile" for students. The Federation is accepting nominations until Jan. 16. Find criteria and application at: <https://peihsf.ca/extra-mile-award/>

🍏 Resolutions drive real change

Together, parents and educators in Home and School help shape P.E.I.'s public education system through advocacy resolutions presented at the provincial Annual General Meeting. Resolutions serve as the single most important tool Home and School uses to influence change, with approved ones forwarded to the government requesting consideration of improvements that benefit all island students.

Key Impacts: Resolutions request collective action on pressing issues like inclusive education, anti-bullying, equity, and resource needs, uniting parent and teacher voices to foster policy shifts.

Guidelines: Identify issues through discussions with local parents and teachers, then follow guidelines and examples at www.peihsf.ca/resolutions for writing and presenting clear, actionable resolutions.

Deadline: The submission deadline is Jan. 31. If you need help, contact the Federation office at peihsf@gov.pe.ca / 902-620-3186.

🍏 President's Annual Reports 2025-26

Home and School Presidents are asked to submit their 2024-2025 annual reports to the Federation office by Feb. 28. Jeana MacIsaac, Office Assistant, will send last year's reports to each president in early January. All reports will be compiled in the Federation's Annual Book of Reports with copies distributed at the AGM and posted at <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>.

🍏 School Staff Appreciation Week, February 8-14

School Staff Appreciation Week is an opportunity for parents and students to recognize the dedication and hard work of school staff: teachers, administrative support, educational assistants, and custodians. Set up a small committee to brainstorm ways the school community can thank school staff. Keep plans simple!

🍏 AGM & Convention, Rodd Charlottetown Hotel

Our 73rd AGM will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2026. Ask parents and teachers to volunteer to attend and represent your local Home and School Association. Home & School Associations are urged to pay for delegates' expenses (i.e., registration fee, gas, and hotel room). Book your hotel room Call the Rodd Charlottetown hotel to book rooms at:

Each local may send up to five voting members, but can sponsor as many as would like to attend. Registration details will be available in February, posted at: <http://peihsf.ca/agm>

🍏 Federation Board Nominations

Leading up to the AGM, the PEI Home and School Federation will be seeking nominations for the positions: President, Vice President, and Directors for Charlottetown Rural, Colonel Gray, Kinkora, Montague, and Morell families of schools; all are two-year term positions. Your paragraph text Contact: peihsf@gov.pe.ca or 902-620-3186

🍏 Messages from Public Schools Branch Trustees

Charlottetown, Zone 5 = Wishing all students, families, and staff a healthy and uplifting New Year. We extend our sincere appreciation for your continued dedication and support. As your Zone 5 Trustees, we remain steadfast in our commitment to collaboration, advocacy, and student success. We encourage you to join the next Public School Board Trustee Meeting either in-person at Stratford Town Hall on January 8th at 7:30 p.m. or online via website at Board Meetings and Minutes | Public Schools Branch. May the year ahead bring progress, connection, and possibility for our entire school community. Andrew (amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca) & Gaylene (gcarragher@edu.pe.ca).

Bluefield, Zone 4: Happy New Year, everyone! I'm Karen Clare, and I'm honoured to take on my Trustee role to listen, represent, and advocate for the Bluefield Family of Schools. I also look forward to connecting with our community as we support our students throughout the school year.

Karen (kclare@edu.pe.ca)

The following column is written by David Schult, President of the P.E.I. Home and School Federation, for The Guardian and is published on the first Saturday of the month during the school year. David lives in Charlottetown with his wife and two children, who attend UPEI and Colonel Gray Senior High School.

Help make resolutions reality: P.E.I. Home and School Federation helps create safe spaces for learning

Every New Year, we make resolutions we hope will change our lives. On Prince Edward Island, there is a quieter kind of resolution that changes children's lives – resolutions debated and passed each spring at the Home and School Federation's annual general meeting. These ten resolutions, drafted around kitchen tables and school gyms, have shaped everything from what children eat at lunch to how their personal data is protected online.

Over the past decade, [Home and School resolutions](#) proved that well-researched, community-driven ideas can become provincial policy. The clearest example is the [Healthy School Food Program](#), first advanced in a 2015 resolution calling for a universal free school lunch program. That single idea sparked a sustained advocacy effort that helped lead to the creation of the non-profit PEI School Food Program Inc., which served 886,625 meals in [Public Schools Branch](#) schools in 2024–25 and was highlighted in both the Premier's throne speech and ministerial mandate letters.

Other resolutions moved just as quickly.

PROTECTING SCHOOL CHILDREN

In 2024, Home and School members raised alarm about [children's screen time](#), pointing out that PEI youth were averaging eight hours of screen use per day, four times the national recommendations. A resolution calling for a policy on screen use in primary schools prompted the Chief Public Health Office to endorse the initiative and the Department of Education and Early Years to begin developing guidelines for student screen time in classrooms, turning a parental concern into concrete policy within a year. In 2025, a very different kind of crisis galvanized families: the major [PowerSchool cybersecurity incident](#) exposed sensitive records for more than 70,000 islanders. A resolution on protecting student, parent, and teacher personal data demanded mandatory technical safeguards like encryption and multi-factor authentication, penalties for non-compliance, data minimization, and stricter vetting of third-party providers against federal privacy standards. By insisting that lessons be learned from a painful breach, parents signaled that digital safety and trust in public systems are now central to children's well-being.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Some victories are about life-and-death preparedness. A [2016 resolution asked the government to fund automated external defibrillators \(AEDs\)](#) in all Island schools, recognizing that early access to an AED can be the difference between life and death in a cardiac emergency. When the province later announced funding to place these devices in schools, the Federation rightly pointed to that resolution as a catalyst for a safety investment that benefits students, staff, and the wider community that uses school facilities.

Other resolutions have tackled the very structure of the education system. In 2018, members called for a revision of the [Education Act and a return to an elected school board](#), arguing that a system run by appointed members lacked democratic accountability. While the government initially declined the idea, by December 2020 the province committed to reinstating school boards with elected representatives, demonstrating how persistent, principled advocacy works.

Health and safety inside school walls have also been front and center. After the troubled renovation of Three Oaks Senior High School, including the removal of asbestos without proper protocols and disruptions that shortened the school year, a [2019 resolution pressed for strict guidelines on school renovation and construction](#). It called for public consultation, safe hazardous material removal, air quality testing, and controls on noise, helping ensure that future projects protect both student health and learning time.

ONGOING RESOLUTIONS

More recently, families have used resolutions to respond to daily realities in classrooms and online. A [2025 resolution on behaviour resource support](#) urged the Department to add at least 0.5 full-time equivalent student behaviour intervention positions to school staffing, drawing on the Positive Behaviour Intervention Supports model to create safer, calmer learning environments. Another 2025 resolution endorsed [Canada's proposed Online Harms Act \(Bill C-63\)](#), aligning PEI parents with a national push to hold social media companies accountable for reducing children's exposure to sexual exploitation and content that promotes self-harm.

Climate change and road safety have not been ignored. A [2024 resolution asked that extreme heat](#), defined using a Humidex over 35 degrees, be added to school cancellation criteria so that policies reflect new environmental risks to student health.

Ongoing resolutions on school bus safety, including a 2018 call for two license plates on all PEI vehicles to improve enforcement, reflect a long-standing commitment to making sure that the ride to and from school is as safe as the classroom itself. And in 2021, the Home and School Federation worked to improve [school bus safety](#) and heard concerns about vehicles continuing to pass parked buses as students enter and exit. The decision was made to bring key stakeholders together to discuss the issues and actions to prevent potential accidents.

CREATING CHANGE

Taken together, these ten issues – food security, screen use, data protection, AEDs, democratic governance, safe renovations, behaviour supports, online harms, heat safety, and bus safety – show the quiet power of resolutions written by ordinary Islanders. They started as ideas in local Home and School meetings and grew into provincial programs, legal reforms, and system-wide practices that touch every child.

As January invites people to set personal goals for the year ahead, Home and School members across PEI are drafting a different kind of resolution: one they will bring to the [Federation's AGM in April](#). There, local resolutions will be debated, refined, and voted on, with the potential to become the next wave of change that improves education and well-being for all Island children.

If you have children in an island public school, you are a member of a local Home and School organization. Visit the [Home and School Federation website](#) and learn how to write an amazing resolution, present it to your local Home and School and submit it to the Federation to discuss at our [April AGM](#).

Will your resolution focus on solving bullying, child predators, funding for school playgrounds, best uses for AI? You can make the change you want to see for our children's future. Together we build better schools.

SELF DEFENCE

6 Week Program - Ages 12+

Buenos Island Studio

Thursday 8th January

6:30-7:30PM

or

Friday 9th January

5:00-6:00pm

\$120



JANUARY 2026

UPCOMING

PROGRAMS

TRY KARATE

4 Week Program
Ages 5+

Wednesdays - West Kent Elementary School
6-6:45PM - Little Dragons
7-8PM - Little Ninjas

Thursdays - Buenos Island Studio
4:30-5:30PM - Little Ninjas
7:30-8:30PM- Adult Karate

Fridays - Buenos Island Studio
8-9PM - Adult Karate

\$75

www.karatewithaoife.com

