

Good afternoon Sunnyside Families,

It's October already! We've had a wonderful start to the school year. Our students and staff have been busy learning and building their classroom communities. The month of September included back to school and the opportunity for students and staff to meet each other the evening before classes began. We had school pictures taken and the proofs will be coming home with students today. Students wore a sea of pink on Stand Up Against Bullying Day and orange on Friday for Orange Shirt Day. We had wonderful assemblies at both sites so students had an opportunity to learn the significance of Orange Shirt Day as one of the reconciliation calls to action. Students also painted rocks that are laid out at both sites to remind us of the legacy of the residential schools. We had a series of emergency drills including Fire, Lockdown and Hold and Secure. We will have 2 more fire drills before December and a bus evacuation drill in October.

October, Mi'kmaq Heritage Month begins with Treaty Day on October 1st. This year, the theme for Mi'kmaq Heritage Month is Mijipjewey Na Mawa'luksi'k (Food Gathers Us Together). We will have opportunities this month to learn more about this as a school and in our classes.

Reminders

- **Sunnyside is a peanut and nut aware site. Some of our students have life-threatening allergies, so it is important to not send any products with nuts or peanuts in them. This includes candy bars and Nutella products.**
- **Respect No Parking and No Stopping signs when dropping off and picking up your children.**

Important Dates

October 3—Terry Fox Walk Eaglewood, HSA virtual meeting Dance planning

October 4—Terry Fox Walk Fort Sackville

October 7—Picture Orders due

October 8—SAC meeting 6 pm Eaglewood

October 11—PD Day—no school for students

October 14—Thanksgiving—no school

October 24—HSA Hallowe'en Family Dance

October 25—PD Day—no school for students

October 31—Hallowe'en

Pictures: Picture orders are due on October 7th. If you are choosing to have retakes done, please send in your picture envelope indicating this. Retakes will be on November 5. Retakes are for anyone who missed our original picture day and for families who are not happy with the proofs.

Lunch Program: The provincial lunch program is shaping up and will begin at our school at the end of October with ordering beginning before then. Please see [here](#) for more information and details including the menus.

Pizza Day: Our September pizza day was a huge success, thanks to Kenny's Pizza and our amazing volunteers. We will be having one more pizza day on October 18th. You have already received your School Cash invitation to order. If you are not yet set up on School Cash, you can do so [here](#) and contact Ms. Tricia if you have any difficulties.

Home & School Dance: We are busy planning our annual Home & School Dance scheduled for October 24th. There will be a virtual meeting held on Oct. 3 to work out details and assign tasks. This dance is extremely popular and fun, and it requires many hands to make it a success. Please consider attending the meeting—contact the home and school to get the link: sunnysideHSA@gmail.com. There will also be sign-up opportunities for volunteers if you can't make the meeting.

School Advisory Council: The parent representatives for our School Advisory Council are Hannah Janega-McDonald, Barbara Blays and Willow Anderson. Our first SAC meeting of the year will be held at Eaglewood on Oct. 8th at 6pm. Any parent/guardians are welcome to attend to observe the meeting. If you know of anyone (who does not have children at the school) who would be interested in being a community member, please ask them to contact the school.

The School Advisory Council acts in an advisory capacity to the school, the HRCE and the DEECD. They support the school with our Student Success Planning and consult with the HRCE and DEECD on policy development and implementation.

Terry Fox Walk: On Thursday, October 3, 2024, students at Sunnyside Elementary School (Eaglewood site) will be participating in our Terry Fox Run. Students will have the opportunity to walk or run around the field for 20 minutes from 2:40-3:00.

Students at Fort Sackville will be participating on Friday, October 4th in the afternoon.

When Terry Fox started his run many years ago his wish was to have every Canadian donate \$1.00. To help raise funds for the Terry Fox Foundation, each family can make a donation if they choose. You may send it to the classroom teacher marked "Terry Fox".

Thanks for supporting the Terry Fox Foundation!

Demographic Update: You have recently received an email prompting you to do a demographic update for your students. We wish to encourage you to do this as soon as possible to make sure that we have the most up-to-date information on your child. Doing the update each year also allows you to fill out the media release form. Without this information, we will not be taking pictures of your child.

Lunch Clubs: Do you have an interest that you would like to share with our students? Are you available from time to time at lunch time to run a lunch club? If so, please let us know at the school. Last year, we had a very popular weekly chess club for grade 2 students run by a parent. With your collaboration, we can offer other lunch clubs; we just need parents/guardians who are able to volunteer a bit of time to make it happen.

Volunteer Paperwork: To volunteer at the school and for HSA events, you need to have a recent Child Abuse Registry and Criminal Records Check with vulnerable sector on file in the office. Once this paperwork is completed, it must be submitted to us within 6 months of issue. We will keep it on file for 3 years. The Child Abuse Registry is free and the Criminal Records Check with vulnerable sector is for a fee. We can give you a volunteer letter that gets you a \$20 discount with the Halifax Regional Police on Gottigen Street.

School Bus Safety Week

October 21-25, 2024 is School Bus Safety Week in Nova Scotia!

Did you know that more than 30,000 HRCE students ride the school bus every day? School Bus Safety Week is a great time to remind students, families and schools of a few daily safety tips that everyone can follow to ensure all students get to school safely.

Bus Stop Safety

- Be on time for the bus and please don't run to/from the bus.
- Stand back off the road and don't push or shove when waiting at a stop.
- Always cross in front of the bus. Walk three metres (10 feet) in front of the bus to a point where you can see the driver and wait for the driver's signal to cross. Proceed to the centre of the road, STOP, LOOK & LISTEN and cross the road when it is safe.
- Never crawl under a school bus or cross the road behind the bus.
- Know the danger zones around the bus.

School Bus Safety

- Please respect and listen to the driver and avoid distracting them.
- Please keep noise levels to a minimum.
- Do not stand or move seats while the bus is in motion.
- Never put your hands, arms, feet or head out of the bus window.
- Ask the driver for permission before you open the bus windows.
- Do not throw anything inside the bus or out of the windows.
- Keep the aisle clear at all times when the bus is in motion.

You can find out more information about School Bus Safety Week, including more safety tips, [here](#).