

Weekly Update September 12, 2025

Good afternoon Sunnyside Families,

We've had a great second week at school. This week we held assemblies at both sites to learn about Stand Up Against Bullying Day and to commit to working together to build a safe and inclusive school. Students have been working and playing collaboratively, and we have witnessed many examples of students looking out for each other. We had our first fire drill and both sites had calm, quiet and orderly exits from the building during the drill. Bravo to our students and staff.

At our assembly, we introduced our Behaviour Matrix to our students. If you would like to have a look, it is linked to our school website [here](#).

**Parking Lot Safety:** As we settle back into routines at school, we want to highlight procedures we have in place to ensure that everyone is safe during drop-off and pick up times.

- Parents, guardians and caregivers are asked to always drive with extreme caution in our parking lots.
- The parking spaces at Fort Sackville are reserved for staff. We ask you to park on the streets close to the school and walk to the school when dropping off and picking up.
- The Kiss and Go lane at Eaglewood is open for morning drop off and marked with orange cones. Drivers are requested to stay in their vehicles when dropping students off. If you need to get out of your vehicle to help your students, please park on the streets near the school and walk them over. This helps us avoid traffic back-ups.

**School Insurance Program:** All students in Nova Scotia are covered by the School Insurance Program (SIP), at no cost to families, in case of injury at school. Parents/Guardians are also able to purchase additional insurance. If you are interested, you can go to [sip.ca](http://sip.ca) for more information.

**Reporting absences:** Families are asked to report student absences and lates through School Messenger. Prior to 9:30 am on the day of the absence you can:

1. Phone a toll-free number (1-833-582-6040)
2. Login to School Messenger
3. Download an app to report your child's absence

All three options are available 24 hours/day. If your child is marked absent by the classroom teacher and you have not reported the absence through School Messenger by 9:30, you will receive an automated phone call advising you of the absence. You can respond to the prompts on the call to mark your child absent with notification. The school will follow up by calling home on all students who have not been marked absent with notification after that.

There is not an option in School Messenger to report that your child will be late. If your child is going to arrive at school after 9:30 am, you report them absent for the day in School Messenger and will be adjust the attendance record when they arrive.

Please see the attached information on the three ways to report a child's absence. When you download the app, you must use the email that you have provided to the school to be able to

connect to your child's account. This information is on our school website as well. If you need any support with this, you can contact Ms. Tricia in the main office.

**Demographic Updates:** Please remember to do your demographic update. This ensures that information is current for students, and it also includes important permissions, including media release (so we can include pictures of your children in school and class activities such as emails and assemblies), and technology use in school. We appreciate you taking the time to do this. If you have any questions, reach out to Ms. Tricia.

### **Coming up**

Next week we will be holding a Lockdown Drill. We sent home a message this week with information about our safety drills. You can access it on our website [here](#).

Nova Scotia Lunch Program begins at Sunnyside Elementary next week. Ordering for the next 2-week cycle (September 21-October 4) is now open until Wednesday September 17<sup>th</sup> at noon.

**Home and School Association:** Our Home and School Association is a committee of parents, guardians, caregivers and school staff who work to support the positive culture and climate of the school. We run family events and fundraise to support school initiatives. We encourage parents/guardians and caregivers of students at Fort Sackville and Eaglewood to come to our first general meeting at Eaglewood from 6:30-7:30 on Tuesday, October 7th.

We wish you all a wonderful weekend!