

Good afternoon Sunnyside Families,

We've had another positive week at Sunnyside. This week we held a Lockdown Drill at each site. Students did a great job. We will have another Lockdown Drill in February. Next week, we will be holding our Hold and Secure Drill.

Lunches: The Nova Scotia Lunch program began at our school this week and we are continuing to work out bugs in the delivery time. Our school is working closely with HRCE staff and the lunch provider to have our lunches delivered on time each day. When lunches were delayed from the provider this week, we played outside before eating. Students are always going to be given time to eat when lunches are late.

Clothes: We recommend that all students keep a change of clothes in their classroom or backpack. Accidents happen; students find puddles and mud outside. If they have a change of clothes, we will not need to call caregivers during the day to ask them to bring clean clothes.

Terry Fox Run/Walk: Each year, Sunnyside Elementary students and staff participate enthusiastically in the School Terry Fox Run/Walk. Students walk and run on their respective school yards. When Terry Fox started his run many years ago his wish was to have every Canadian donate \$1.00. Families are welcome to send in donations that will be forwarded to the Terry Fox Foundation. You may send it to the classroom teacher marked "Terry Fox".

Getting to Know our Learners:

In September, classroom teachers spend time getting to know their students and who they are as learners. Schools will be using *Universal Screening in Reading* for Grade 1 and 2 students. This is one of the many ways teachers will assess learning.

What is Universal Screening in Reading?

It's a short (1–5 minute) activity that helps us see how your child is developing key reading skills. Think of it as a quick check-in on their reading journey, like looking at a map to see where they are and what might help them move forward.

Why do we do it?

The screening helps teachers understand children's strengths and where they may need extra support. This allows us to plan instruction, so students get what they need to succeed in reading.

Important to know:

This is *not* a test. There's no "pass" or "fail." It's a way for teachers to ensure students are supported in their learning.

Be tick aware

Sharing on behalf of Nova Scotia Public Health

In summer and fall, people spend time at Nova Scotia's many beautiful beaches, parks, and wooded areas. However, we need to be mindful of the presence of ticks and how we can protect ourselves. These small insects are found across Nova Scotia and can cause tick-borne diseases (TBDs), including Lyme disease and anaplasmosis.

Ticks like moist and humid environments and can be found in or near woods, shrubs, leaf litter, long grass, urban parks and gardens. They can be very small, which makes them hard to spot and their bites don't hurt, which makes it difficult to know when you've been bitten.

Visit NovaScotia.ca/TickSafety and learn:

- How to protect yourself - especially in grassy, wooded, or shrub-covered areas
- What to do if you find a tick on yourself/your child
- The signs and symptoms of tick-borne illnesses

Demographic Form Updates: Thank you to all families who have completed the demographic form update. It is very important that parents/guardians update this each year for all students. If you have not done so yet, the deadline is Oct. 6. If you need support with this, please reach out to Ms. Tricia in the main office.

Sunnyside Elementary Plan for Communicating Student Learning: Our Plan for Communicating Student Learning is attached to this email. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Thompson in the main office.

Upcoming Dates:

Sept. 25—Terry Fox Run/Walk (both sites)

Sept. 26—Orange T-shirt Day (observed at school)

Sept. 29—PD Day--no school for students

Sept. 30—Truth & Reconciliation Day (no school)

Oct. 1—Treaty Day (school)

Oct. 13—Thanksgiving (no school)

Oct. 20—Picture Day

Oct. 23—H&S Pumpkin Run

Oct. 24—NSTU Conference Day--no school for students

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend!