



# Sunnyside Elementary School

## Mid-October 2022 Newsletter

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### Upcoming Dates

Oct. 25--Picture Retakes  
Oct. 27--Family Dance  
Oct. 28--PD Day--no school for students  
Oct. 31--Hallowe'en  
Nov 4- - Updated Registration forms due back  
Nov. 11--Remembrance Day--no school  
Nov. 16--SAC meeting 6pm  
Nov. 21--Assessment & Evaluation Day  
--no school for students

### Principal's Message

Here we are at the middle of October and we want to acknowledge the students, staff, families and community who have been working together to support the success of the students at Sunnyside Elementary School.

Students and staff have had a month and a half to build positive relationships with each other that allow us to create a safe and welcoming environment for all. Guided by our Student Success Plan to improve student well-being, and achievement in literacy and mathematics, teachers are focusing on relationships, reading, and math fact fluency skills. We are fortunate to have a math coach working with classes in grade 4-6 to support the learning of multiplication fact fluency. If you have a student in one of those grades, ask them to show you some of the games they are using and to explain the strategies they are learning to solidify this learning.

We have had our first highly successful Pizza Lunch. Students enjoyed their lunch, and we thank all the volunteers for making this happen. For any of you interested in volunteering for future events and class trips, there is more information on the paperwork required on page 5 of this newsletter.

~Ms. Thompson



October is Mi'kmaq Heritage Month

## Safety Drills

Each year we practice a number of safety drills for different situations. Already this year we have had 2 fire drills, a lock down drill and a hold and secure drill. We will have 4 more fire drills and 1 more lock down drill throughout the year. Students at Fort Sackville have also participated in a bus evacuation drill. Eaglewood students will be having their bus evacuation drill tomorrow, Oct. 18th. Each year, our transportation service providers lead these safety drills with students during school hours to ensure they know what to do if they need to evacuate the bus in an emergency. School staff will be present during these drills to support students. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Thompson, [cthompson@hrce.ca](mailto:cthompson@hrce.ca) or by calling the main office.

## Home and School Association News

Sunnyside's Home and School Association is happy to open registration for our first big event in nearly 3 years.

We will be hosting a family Halloween Dance at the Eaglewood School on October 27th from 6-8. There will be a snack table (loonies and toonies please), dance floor, outdoor dance space, and costume prizes!

All students/children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian/caregiver. There is no staff/volunteer supervision of students at this event.

Due to fire regulations, the maximum capacity of the gymnasium means limited tickets to the dance are available, on a first come first serve basis. To ensure as many kids as possible can attend, consider;

- sending your kids with another classmate/friend's chaperone
- limiting to one parent chaperone per family
- If you are unable to attend after signing up, or are feeling unwell the day of, please modify your response to open the space up for another child to attend.
- signing a second parent/guardian to volunteer if more than one parent/guardian wants to attend.

These tickets are how we are keeping an eye on our numbers so we don't have to turn people away at the door on the day of the event, so it is a huge help to us if the numbers are accurate.

To sign up to attend, please click this link to book your ticket through EVENTBRITE Tickets are free. Please use your child's name in the name field, with an accessible email address. Their ticket will have their name on it, and will be emailed to you as a PDF to be either printed out or checked at the door for admission. Tickets are non-transferable. Event brite lets us run a wait-list, so if we run out of tickets, unused tickets that are cancelled can be added back to the pot right up to the start of the event.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/sunnyside-halloween-dance-tickets-443312578857>

To sign up to volunteer, please click this link after booking your ticket above;

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/787006135783074088/false#/invitation>

Thank you in advance to all our great families and volunteers!



Sunnyside Elementary is selling boxes of fresh, local produce as a fundraiser for healthy food initiatives such as our breakfast program in conjunction with Nourish Your Roots. You can buy boxes for yourself and sell boxes to family and neighbours between now and Friday, October 21st. Boxes will be delivered to Eaglewood School on Wednesday, November 2nd. Boxes will need to be picked up between 10:30-5:00 on November 2nd. We are unable to store the boxes at the school overnight. If you cannot pick up your boxes on November 2nd, please contact Ms. Thompson to make alternative arrangements.

Use SchoolCash Online to order your Nourish Your Roots box. If you need support, feel free to call the school, 902-832-8983 and we will help you.

## Reminders

- Do not send nut or peanut products to school
- Be cautious when dropping off your children at school to make sure that all students arrive safely.
- Respect “No Parking” and “No Stopping” signs when dropping off and picking up your students.
- Check your child’s head regularly for head lice. If your child has a case of lice, they can return to school once they have been treated and there are no live lice. Reach out to the school if you need support with this. Your information will be kept confidential.
- Our Lost & Found inside the front door of Eaglewood is getting full. Come have a look or ask your children to check and see if any of their belongings are there.

## Terry Fox Events

Fort Sackville and Eaglewood both held Terry Fox Events at the beginning of October. Students brought in donations to support Terry’s dream and we had a great time running around our school properties.



## Lunch Monitors

We continue to look for lunch monitors to help out during student lunch time. These are paid positions that run from 12:10-1:10 Mon-Fri. We can accommodate people who wish to work only some days, or on a casual basis. If you are interested and able to help out, please reach out to Mrs. MacDonald ([macdonaldn@hrce.ca](mailto:macdonaldn@hrce.ca)) or call the main office.



## Outdoor Play

The students love to play in the woods on our playground and there are so many ways for them to showcase their creativity with the structures they are able to build.



## Art Programming

At Sunnyside we benefit from the HRCE's supplementary funded arts programming. Beginning in grade 4 students have the option to take Strings Instruction and we also have visual and dramatic arts teachers who are available to come to school to work on projects with our classes many classes have already been able to work with an arts specialist and there are more dates and projects coming up. Here is an example of scissor art from 4 Caldwell.



## Reader's and Writer's Workshops

The workshop model is used in literacy instruction at all levels. During Reader's and Writer's workshops, students participate in a class mini-lesson, then they have time to read and write and time to share what they have created, learned or practiced during their work time. Students in 1 Fraser are participating in a mini-lesson about all the different types of texts authors can write before going to do their writing.



## Playground

Thanks to the HRM for our cool new playground! Students are enjoying the new aviation themed equipment.



## Volunteers

Volunteers are an essential part of the Sunnyside Elementary community. As per the Provincial Volunteer Background Check Policy <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/docs/volunteerbackgroundcheckpolicyen.pdf> all volunteers in public schools must submit a recent (within 6 months) Criminal Records Check (with Vulnerable Sector Check) and Child Abuse Registry to the office. We are able to provide you with a letter from the office to reduce the price of the Criminal Records Check with Halifax Police/RCMP. This paperwork sometimes takes time to receive, so if you are thinking of volunteering, you will want to start the paperwork a few weeks before the volunteer opportunity. Once received at the school, the checks are valid for 3 years.

## Fact Fluency Fun

Students in grade 5 are playing a game to practice their multiplication facts.