



BELL PARK BULLETIN



OCTOBER 2022

Principals Message

We are delighted to report that we had another busy and productive start to our school year. Our Grade 6 students will be participating in our Provincial assessments in math and literacy. We celebrated Anti-Bully Pink Day and participated in Terry Fox activities. On September 28th we acknowledged Orange Shirt Day to honour and remember the victims of the Residential School System. In follow-up, teachers engaged students in discussions, curriculum resources and learning opportunities centered on the history and culture of the Mi'Kmaq people.

We also like to welcome our new grade three teacher Nicole Reid.

Grade 6 Assessment

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECE) is continuing its assessment of student achievement in grade 6 Literacy and Mathematics. The grade 6 students are scheduled to write their assessments between October 18 – 27th. Detailed information was sent home to grade 6 families in September outlining the process. The information from these assessments is used along with classroom assessments to support individual student development in Literacy and Mathematics.

Collective Health and Wellness

We encourage all families to seek out vaccines and boosters as they become available. We will continue to teach students about hand hygiene and how to properly cover their face when coughing or sneezing. If you or your family is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, please call the office for a test kit.

Toys at School

Toys and Pokémon cards are not allowed at school. This helps to keep the focus on learning and prevents special items from being damaged or lost. Please discuss the reason and importance of this school rule with your child and ensure that toys stay at home. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Safe Arrival Reminder

If your child will not be attending school or will be late, it is imperative that you call the school's safe arrival line at **1-833-582-6940** or visit <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/> . Please leave a message indicating your child's name, class, date, and reason for the absence. *Daily attendance and prompt arrival at school ensure your child(ren) and all other students in the class a successful start to their day. Missing even 10 minutes of a morning routine can disrupt everyone!*

All students that arrive late, must check in at the front office and will be marked accordingly.

Schools Plus

The SchoolsPlus team at Bell Park works to build bridges between home, school, and community by offering direct service and group programs to students and families to support success in all aspects of life. SchoolsPlus staff work with students and families in a variety of ways to identify and address challenges, connect with school and communitybased resources, and build new skills. The SchoolsPlus space at Bell Park is a safe, inclusive space located on the second floor that is open to all students and families and provides a

great place for students to develop healthy peer relationships, and learn new skills with the guidance of a trusted adult.

The SchoolsPlus team at Bell Park includes Chris Underhill, Community Outreach Worker, and Marsha Stephens, Assistant Lead. If you have any questions about SchoolsPlus or are interested in SchoolsPlus support, please feel free to contact Chris at chris.underhill@hrce.ca or Marsha at marsha.stephens@hrce.ca

Information Packages

Please remember to return the information package that was sent home last week. These papers are extremely important. Updated information is crucial to ensure the safety all students at Bell Park.

Picture Day!

School photos will take place on Thursday, October 27. We are using Adams Photography again this year.

Life Threatening Allergies

Please note that we are a nut aware and scent free school. Please do not send in food with nuts or that may contain traces of nuts. We thank you for checking labels carefully.

October Is Mi'Kmaq History Month

We celebrate Mi'Kmaq History Month in October. The theme this year is Mi'Kmaq Beadwork and the Art of Beading. Mi'Kmaq beadwork represents the life and creation. Generations of hands, eyes, backs, and fingers have worked for balance in intricate designs and colour palettes. From wampum and bone beads to suspenders and packed caps to contemporary medallions, beauty emerges from skill and love.

The goal of the month is to help Nova Scotians Build awareness of Mi'Kmaq history and heritage and to increase understanding of the province's rich Mi'Kmaq culture. A poster is produced, and numerous events are organized throughout the month in recognition of Mi'Kmaq History Month. Students in all grades will deepening their knowledge of Mi'Kmaq culture and history during the month of October and throughout the school year.

