



# BELL PARK BULLETIN



SEPTEMBER 2023

September 14	Stand Up to Bullying – Pink Shirt Day
September 19	Terry Fox Walk
September 28	Curriculum Night – 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
September 28	Truth and Reconciliation Presentation
September 29	Orange Shirt Day for Truth and Reconciliation Day
October 2	Truth and Reconciliation Day – <b>No school</b>
October 9	Thanksgiving Day – <b>No school</b>
October 23	Picture Day
October 27	Provincial Conference Day – <b>No school</b>

## **SAFE ARRIVAL**

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. If your child becomes ill during the day, we will call you or the person designated by you. For this reason, it is important that we have up-to-date telephone numbers on record.

*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.

## **CURRICULUM NIGHT**

Curriculum night will take place on September 28, 2023, from 6-7 pm. Teachers will be sharing information with families about their programs, classroom routines and the best way to contact them.

## **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.

## **BREAKFAST AND LUNCH**

Please send in student lunches that do not need to be heated up and that students can open independently to avoid other hands on their lunch containers. Also include the necessary utensils. We no longer have water jugs here at Bell Park. Water can be accessed

always from our various bottle fillers throughout the school. Please send your student with a filled water bottle each day.

## **CHANGE TO END OF DAY ROUTINES**

Please keep end of the day routines for your child as consistent as possible. If you have an emergency arise, please do not leave a phone message, we may not receive it in time. If you know a change in advance, communicate this to your child's teacher and ensure the teacher has acknowledged receipt of it.

Students are not permitted to take an alternate bus to or from school. Only students on the specific bus manifest can ride on that bus.

## **FIRE DRILLS AND LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES**

We have 6 fire drills throughout the year: 3 in the fall and 3 in the spring. We had our first one this week and all students and staff did a great job!

We have 2 lockdown drills throughout the year: 1 in the fall and 1 in the winter. We also hold 1 Hold and Secure drill during the year. Teachers will talk with children to help them understand this practice.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

To volunteer you need to have an up to date criminal record check and a child abuse check, with a vulnerable sector screening. These checks need to be renewed every three years.

## **ADMINISTERING MEDICATION**

To have medication administered at school, Parents/ Guardians need to drop off medication and fill out the required forms that can be obtained by contacting your child's teacher. Medication needs to be in the original bottle with a prescription label. **School staff can only administer prescribed medications.** Please advise the school in advance of administering medication in order that the appropriate forms can be forwarded to Parents/ Guardians.

## **HEAD LICE**

Head lice are tiny insects and parasites that live on the human body and are most often attached to clean hair. Their eggs, also called nits, stick to the hair shaft, very close to the scalp. Head lice are spread most easily through direct head-to-head contact or through personal items used on the head or in the hair (e.g. hats, combs, brushes, ponytail holders).

Nova Scotia Public Health recommends two head lice treatments to completely break the head lice cycle. The second treatment should be used 7 to 10 days after the first or as directed by the product. The first treatment kills live head lice. Some lice may hatch after it, but they are adolescent nits and cannot lay eggs.

Combing your child(ren)'s hair and removing nits is a daily requirement. The second treatment kills the adolescent nits and breaks the head lice cycle. Check your child(ren)'s head(s) and hair regularly.

Teach your child(ren) not to share personal items that have touched their head. Please keep the school informed about head lice issues as they arise. Additional information on how to prevent, find, and treat head lice is available at:

[www.novascotia.ca/dhw/publications/public-health-education/07135-head-lice-pamphlet-en.pdf](http://www.novascotia.ca/dhw/publications/public-health-education/07135-head-lice-pamphlet-en.pdf).

## **ANIMALS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**

If you walk your pet to school along with your child, please note that pets **must always remain off school property**. Small children are nervous, and it is for everyone's safety! Thank you.

## **LUNCH MONITORS – HELP WANTED!!!**

We are currently recruiting for lunch monitors. Lunch monitors provide support and assistance to students during lunchtime activities under the direction of the school principal. The lunch monitor will oversee students in a variety of settings including the classroom, lunch area, and outside play areas and may be required to conduct a variety of indoor and outdoor games and activities.

We often find ourselves in need of lunch coverage for our pre-primary classrooms as well. Please contact the school office if you or someone you know may be interested in a position.

## **BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF PRESTON**

Anyone wishing to contact the Boys & Girls Club may phone Charnell Colley at 902-222-2719 with any inquiries.

## **NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION**

Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

The day honours the children who never returned home and the survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.

Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led, grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and support the "Every Child Matters" movement. The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

As September 30 falls on a Saturday this year, we welcome staff and students to wear orange on Friday, September 29. All classes will be cancelled on Monday, October 2 in recognition of this day.



## **STAND UP AGAINST BULLYING DAY – SEPTEMBER 14**

Stand Up Against Bullying Day is recognized on the second Thursday in September across Nova Scotia. Recognizing this day early in the school year allows us to set a positive tone by engaging students in activities that focus on the importance of building healthy relationships.

HRCE is committed to ensuring that every school is a safe place to learn and succeed. We put this commitment into action through our policies, procedures, staff development, and school supports.

Please join us in taking a stance against bullying by wearing pink on September 14!

### **USING BUSPLANNER**

BusPlanner will provide everything you need to know about student transportation including eligibility, stop times and stop locations. Once you register and subscribe, you may also receive email notifications on changes to routes, bus delays or cancellations.

To sign up, go to BusPlanner at [hrce.mybusplanner.ca](https://hrce.mybusplanner.ca) and click on Parent Portal. Follow the instructions to create an account.

**LINK YOUR SLIDER TO:** <https://hrcetransportation.mybusplanner.ca/>

### **SCHOOLCASH**

We have started using our SchoolCash portal with our first fundraiser of the year. We hope to use this program for all trips and fundraisers. To sign up for this service, please log on to:

<https://hrce.schoolcashionline.com/>

### **NOURISH YOUR ROOTS FUNDRAISER**

Starting September 11, we are offering all families and community members a chance to purchase farm-fresh produce grown in Nova Scotia.

Paper order forms were sent home by email and are due in the office September 25. All schoolcash orders done on-line, will automatically be sent to the school office.

See above to enroll your family in our School Cash program.

