

# **Shannon Park Elementary**

75 Iroquois Dr, Dartmouth, NS, B3A 4M5 Phone (902) 464-2084; Fax (902) 464-2866

Bell Schedule for 2024-2025 - Supervision begins 8:00am/Classes Begin 8:20am/Lunch 11:20-12:10pm/ Dismissal 2:10

# May 2025



May

#### **Lost and Found**

Lost and Found Items will be donated before May Long Weekend. If your child is missing something, please feel free to come to the main doors, let Paula or Louisa, our admin assistants, know you are here, sign in and have a look.

#### **SPES Monthly Character Themes**

September – Respect February – Friendship
October – Responsibility March – Fairness
November – Compassion April – Integrity
December – Generosity May - Perseverance
January – Honesty June – Citizenship



- May is Asian Heritage Month
- May is Canadian Jewish Heritage Month
- May is Polish Heritage Month
- May is Speech and Hearing Month
- May 5 is Red Dress Day
- May 15 is Black Excellence Day
- May 11-17 is Education Week
- May 17 is International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia
- May 25 to 31 is Nova Scotia Access Awareness Week



#### May 15 is Black Excellence Day

What is Black Excellence Day? In essence Black Excellence Day is about acknowledging, celebrating, and uplifting Black contributions while fostering a more inclusive and equitable environment. The following are ways you celebrate the fourth annual Black Excellence Day:

Celebrating achievements: Black Excellence Day provides an opportunity to celebrate the achievements, contributions, and successes of Black individuals within the community. It highlights the talent and accomplishments within the Black community, ensuring that Black students have an opportunity to highlight all their positive contributions within the education system.

**Promoting equity and inclusion:** Recognizing Black Excellence fosters a culture of equity and inclusion within schools. It sends a message that all students, regardless of their background, have the potential to excel and make valuable contributions to society. By celebrating diversity and promoting inclusivity, schools create a more welcoming and supportive environment for all students.

**Education and awareness:** Black Excellence Day serves as an educational opportunity to raise awareness about the rich history, culture, and achievements of Black people. It provides a platform to share stories of resilience, innovation, and leadership, helping to combat stereotypes and promote understanding and appreciation of Black heritage.

Empowerment and inspiration: By celebrating Black Excellence, students are inspired and empowered to pursue their own goals and dreams. Seeing examples of successful Black individuals from various fields, such as science, arts, politics and sports, can motivate students to strive for their own excellence.

**Community engagement:** Black Excellence Day can serve as a platform for community engagement and collaboration. It provides an opportunity for schools to partner with local organizations, leaders, and activists within the Black community to organize events, workshops, and discussions that promote dialogue and understanding.

Overall, celebrating Black Excellence Day within HRCE schools is important for fostering a culture of inclusivity, empowerment, and appreciation for the diverse talents and contributions of Black individuals.

2025-26 EXCEL Registration

The EXCEL Before and After Program is a recreation based, fee-for-service before and after school program run by Halifax Regional Centre for Education. At each school site where EXCEL is offered, the dedicated staffing teams plan games and activities that suit the needs and interests of all registered students. Since EXCEL began more than 25 years ago, staff have continually enhanced the program based on experiences and feedback. Today, with more than 4,000 participating students, EXCEL is one of the largest programs of its kind in the Maritimes, providing inclusive and engaging programming for participants.

For more information about registration, fees and programing, please **click here**.

If you have additional questions, please contact the EXCEL Before and After Program Registrar's Office: Kimberly Lozon at 902-464-2000 ext. 2787 or excelregistrar@hrce.ca and Gail Hartling at 902-464-2000 ext. 2236 or excel@hrce.ca.

Empowering Futures: Innovation in Education

Education
Week
May 11–17
2025

Education Week 2025, May 11 to 17, is a special opportunity to acknowledge educators, school support staff and partners for their outstanding work. This year's theme, *Empowering Futures: Innovation in Education*, celebrates educators who have gone above and beyond in their efforts to infuse innovation into their classrooms and schools.

We applaud educators, school staff, and partners who embrace innovation in meeting the evolving needs of students in preparing them for a rapidly changing future.

#### Congratulations to HRCE's winners:

- Alicia Hennessey | Teacher | Lockview High
- Rhonda McLean | School Counsellor | St. Agnes Junior High
- **Diana Hatchette** | Teacher | John Martin Junior High
- Rosaline "Rosie" Bona | Principal | Rockingham Elementary
- Peta-Gay Clarke | Lead Early Childhood
   Educator | Central Spryfield Elementary
- Kristin Welbourn | Library Support Specialist |
   Bay View High

- **Phillip Jackson** | African Nova Scotian Student Support Worker | Duc d'Anville Elementary & Clayton Park Junior High
- Matthew Hughson | Mi'kmaw/Indigenous Student Support Worker | Sackville High & Leslie Thomas Junior High

Please take a moment, if you feel inspired, to send a note of appreciation to an educator in your child's life who is having a positive impact!

#### Message from our Music Team

Our new violin concert time is Thursday, May 22 at 12 noon just before our Grades 3-6 Spring Concert at 12:30pm following the violin concert. We will have lunch 10 minutes early (11:10-12:00) on that day to accommodate both concerts.

#### Message from our Phys. Ed Team



With all the wet and muddy weather lately, our gym floor has been taking a hit! Students tracking in mud from the field are making it tough to keep the space clean and safe for everyone. We kindly ask that all students bring a pair of indoor shoes—something clean and comfortable they can change into before gym class or indoor activities. This small step makes a big difference in protecting our gym and ensuring a better experience for everyone.

Thank you for your support in keeping our school clean and safe! Thank you, Pam & Erin



**Important Dates** 

#### Homework Hub: Finish the year off strong!

Did you know your student has access to Homework Hub? Finish the year off strong with the help of experienced tutors!

- **GNSPES Access:** Easy access to online resources and tutoring through your GNSPES account (gnspes.ca) by clicking on the Nova Scotia Homework Hub icon.
- **24/7 Access:** Anytime access to video tutorials, practice questions and vocabulary review.
- Bilingual tutors available for students in:
- Grade 4-6 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- Grade 7-12 on school nights 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Watch this video to learn more about Homework Hub!

## APRIL

**30:** Elem/Middle/Jr professional development day - no classes all schools

#### MAY

**12-27:** Provincial Assessments for Grade 3 (4 days)

#### 2024-2025

(Subject to change)

#### 15: Black Excellence Day - Culturally Significant Day - schools open

- 19: Victoria Day no classes
- 22: Grades 3-6 Spring Concert and Violin Concert
- 31: Spring Fair

#### JUNE

- 21: National Indigenous Peoples Day Culturally Significant Day
- 27: Assessment & evaluation day no classes all schools
- **30:** Last day of school

school day by:

# and sign up using your PowerSchool username (full email). 3. SchoolMessenger through PowerSchool

We require a valid working phone number, so we can contact you

Safe Arrival - Report absences in advance, up to the start of the

**1. Toll-Free Number -** 1-833-582-6940 to report future absences **2. SchoolMessenger App -** Download the SchoolMessenger app

- Supervision is 8:00am do not drop off students before 8:00am.
- For changes in bussing, please contact transportation: <a href="mailto:transportation@hrce.ca">transportation@hrce.ca</a>
- All students will ride their assigned bus/buses only
- Please ensure your child arrives by 8:15am to limit disruptions to learning routines
- Please call/email for an appointment to ensure availability
- Visitors are required to sign in, wear a badge, and provide a reason for their visit.
- Visitors cannot wander the school to safeguard instructional time and ensure safety of students, staff, and visitors.
- Teachers will generally respond to email within 2 business days
- We are a scent and nut aware school
- No pets! For yours, students and pet safety (Identified Service Dogs permitted)
- No smoking, vaping or nicotine products on school property
- Proper forms needed annually to administer <u>any</u> medications. No medications are administered to students by staff during school hours unless necessary and prescribed by a health care professional. Including over the counter medications.
- Please ensure we have current custody or court documents if applicable
- Talk to your child about crosswalk safety
- Children are not permitted to open outside doors or answer the doorbell

### School Procedures

Help our school run smoothly and safely!

- Hold Secure Practice, Lockdown Practice and Fire Drills will be practiced throughout the year to develop awareness and expectations for safety.
- No Driving/Parking on School Property There is absolutely no driving/parking on school property for unauthorized vehicles without prior arrangements during the day. Please drive slowly and watch for crosswalks. When buses arrive, do not drive, or walk around them. This protects all of us and especially our students.

Power School Parent Portal Login