

## École Shannon Park School

# NEWSLETTER

75 Iroquois Drive • Dartmouth, NS • B3A 4M5

Tel # (902) 464-2084 • Email: [spes@hrce.ca](mailto:spes@hrce.ca)

Website: <https://spk.hrce.ca>



**September 2025**

Dear Families,

Welcome Back to School! We had a great first week. Students and staff are excited to be back. September is a month of positive beginnings. Classes are working on building relationships and establishing routines to create safe learning environments. Please read through our newsletter so that you can keep in touch with us and follow along with the great things happening at Shannon Park Elementary.

Sincerely,

*Ms. Gourlay and Mme. Hazel*

### **Upcoming Dates: Click [here](#) for HRCE 25-26 Calendar**

- September 11: Stand Up Against Bullying-Pink Shirt Day
- September 11 : SAC and HSA meetings 6pm School Library
- September 15: School Lunch Program begins
- September 18: Curriculum Night
- September 22 & 23: School Picture Days
- September 25-Terry Fox Walk
- September 26-Observe Orange Shirt Day
- September 29: Professional Development Day - No School for Students
- September 30: National Day for Truth & Reconciliation - No School
- October 1: Treaty Day - Culturally Significant Day -School Open
- October 13: Thanksgiving Day - No School
- October 24: NSTU Provincial conference day - No School for Students

---

## Morning Drop Off and After School Dismissal

Primary-Grade 6 students can arrive at school at 8:00 am and will be outside with teacher supervision. There is no supervision prior to this time. At 8:15 am the bell will ring and students will come inside and go to their classes for an 8:20 am start time. Dismissal time is 2:10pm and classes will dismiss from their designated doors. Pre-Primary students can be dropped off at their doors at 8:20am and will be dismissed from their designated doors at 2:10pm.

## Recess and Lunch

We will be outside in various types of weather for recess and lunch, so please dress your child to be comfortable for the weather outside. Recess is supervised by our teachers. During lunch, students have 25 minutes for eating and 25 minutes of outside play time with our lunch monitors.

## Stand Up Against Bullying Day is September 11

In 2007, Berwick Nova Scotia classmates David Shepherd and Travis Price bought and distributed 50 pink shirts after a student at their school was bullied for wearing a pink shirt.

With that act of kindness, Pink Shirt Day was born!

On the second Thursday of September, we recognize Stand Up Against Bullying Day.

On **Thursday, September 11**, we will celebrate inclusivity, kindness and friendship. All HRCE school teams are focused on ensuring all students have a safe and welcoming environment in which to learn and thrive.

Please join us and wear pink if you're able on September 11 to take a stand against bullying.



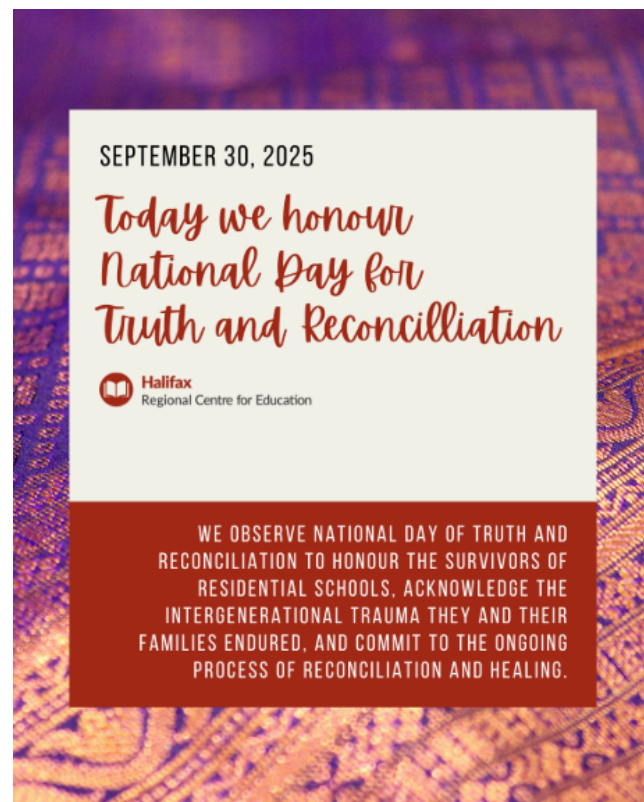
---

## Join us in observing National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Each year on September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation honours the children who didn't return from residential schools, as well as survivors, their families, and communities.

Orange Shirt Day, led by Indigenous communities, aims to raise awareness about the inter-generational impacts of residential schools and allows us all to show our support for the Every Child Matters movement.

As there are no classes on Monday, September 29 and Tuesday, September 30, we welcome staff and students to wear orange on **Friday, September 26**.



## Demographic Form Updates

On **September 9th**, the Demographic Updates Form will be available to families in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. This form should be updated by every family to ensure all information about your child is current, including contacts, medical information, consents and demographics. Even if there are no anticipated changes, please still review this information and submit the form. This information will then be reviewed by the school before updates are finalized. The deadline to submit the form is **October 6, 2025**.

## SchoolCash Setup

SchoolCash Online is an easy-to-use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. You can pay for your child's yearbook, class trips and so much more, quickly and conveniently. Simply register an account to be able to pay in several different payment forms. [Click here](#) for more information.

## HSA and SAC first meeting

Our first School Advisory Council (SAC) and Home and School Association (HSA) meeting will be Thursday, September 18th at 6pm in our school library. This is a great opportunity to become involved with our school community. If you are interested or just want to know more about each of these groups, please contact us to let us know; [spes@hrce.ca](mailto:spes@hrce.ca)

## Shannon Park Vision and Values & School Matrix

At Shannon Park we are a student-centered school where everyone is respected, included and celebrated for who they are. We value all cultures, identities and lived experiences, and we grow by learning from each other. We empower everyone to strive for their best and take pride/ownership in their learning.

<div>  <b>Simplified PBIS Matrix – Shannon Park 2025</b> </div>				
Location	Respect for Self	Respect for Others	Respect for Environment	Respect for Learning
Classroom	Try your best Dress and act appropriately	Be kind and keep hands to yourself	Keep your space clean Use bins properly	Be ready to learn Use your materials
Hallways	Walk safely Stay to the right	Use quiet voices Share space politely	Look with your eyes Use garbage cans	Be quiet near other classes
Lunch Room	Use good manners Eat politely	Stay in your seat Don't share food	Clean up Sort waste properly	Use quiet voices Keep your area clean
Library	Work quietly Pick good-fit books	Wait your turn Use whisper voices	Return books on time	Treat books gently Be helpful
Phys. Ed.	Try new things Wear gym clothes	Share and follow rules	Use equipment safely Keep it clean	Listen and participate
Assemblies	Listen carefully Sit properly	Clap politely Stay still	Keep the space tidy	Sit quietly Follow the plan
Playground	Play safely Stay in your area	Use kind words Be a good sport	Pick up garbage Take care of equipment	Line up safely Follow rules
Bus	Be on time Stay seated	Use quiet voices Be polite to the driver	Keep your backpack tidy	—
Washrooms	Use properly Wash your hands	Respect privacy Use indoor voice	Throw waste in bins	Go back to class quietly
Arrival/Dismissal	Be on time Dress for the weather	Be polite to others Keep hands to self	Use the right door	Enter and leave calmly
Class Trips	Be a good role model	Respect adults and classmates	Clean up after yourself	Follow directions Use your manners

---

## Lunch Monitors

We are reaching out in search of lunch monitors. If you have or are willing to have a criminal record check/vulnerable sector and child abuse registry done and are able to help, please phone 902-464-2084 or email [spes@hrce.ca](mailto:spes@hrce.ca) and we can begin the process. Even if you are only available certain days of the week your time is appreciated. Thank you!



## Head Lice

If your child has been in contact with someone who has lice, please check your child's head carefully to see if they have caught lice. Head lice spread easily, so if one person in the household has lice, others may have it too. A child with head lice may return to school after the first treatment. Please know that head lice is a common occurrence and we can all work together to minimize the effects. See Guidelines [here](#).

## Reminders

- Please, do not send nut or peanut products to school (this includes Nutella products).
- It is helpful to have a complete change of clothes in your child's backpack just in case of mud, puddles, or spills and it may save you a trip in the middle of your day.
- Please do not bring dogs onto school grounds.
- Please do not drive or park 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.
- Please request proper forms for the administration of any medications. These need to be completed each school year. Medications can be administered to students by school staff during school hours when we have completed forms on file at school. This includes over the counter medications.
- Please ensure that your child has indoor shoes for school and wears outdoor shoes/boots to help keep our school clean.