



École Shannon Park School

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Bells – Supervision 8:05 Classes Begin 8:25 Lunch 11:25-12:15 Dismissal 2:15

JANUARY 2024

Welcome Back! We hope you had a wonderful break, and we look forward to more learning at Shannon Park for 2024!

We encourage you to spend some time with your child(ren) each night fostering the love of reading by either reading to, sharing reading, or providing time to read regularly at home.

[Ideas to Support Reading at Home](#)

[Ideas to Support Math at Home](#)

[Ideas to Support French Immersion at Home](#)

Important Inclement Weather Reminders

Did you know? HRCE takes great care when making the decision to alter the regular operations of schools and school busses in the event of severe or inclement weather.

It is HRCE's goal to communicate any changes to the regular operations of schools and/or buses as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible. **A 6:00 a.m. announcement could be:**

- All schools are delayed in opening by two hours (10:25am) and bus pickups are delayed by two hours; or
- All schools are open, but some or all busses are not operating for the day; or
- Some schools (either individually or by family) are closed for the day; or
- All schools are closed for the day.

If weather deteriorates, or forecasted to worsen through the morning, **an 11:00 a.m. announcement could be:**

- Bussed students will be picked up two hours earlier than their regular dismissal time; and
- Walking students will be dismissed at their regularly scheduled lunch hour.

How will I find out?

- By email to the addresses in PowerSchool
- By text message, **if you have opted-in**. If you aren't sure if you have opted-in, text Y to the following number: **978338**
- On our website www.hrce.ca
- On X (formerly Twitter) at [Twitter.com/HRCE_NS](https://twitter.com/HRCE_NS)
- On Instagram at www.instagram.com/hrce_ns/

It's important to always have a plan in place for childcare in the event of any cancellation.

For more information on how HRCE manages during inclement weather, visit www.hrce.ca/families/cancellations.

Check out the new HRCE.ca!

Last winter, we asked staff, families, and SACs for feedback on our website. We used that input to build a new family-focused site that prominently features the information our communities need most.

You'll notice:

- Fewer pages – we deleted outdated information.
- A clean, modern look and feel – it's an easy-to-navigate, user-friendly experience.
- Significantly improved accessibility – this is better for our community members who use screen readers and translation services.

January 27 is Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy Day takes place each year on January 27 to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family.

This year's theme, in honour of Family Literacy Day's 25th anniversary, is let's have a party! Make food, sing songs, and play games. The possibilities for learning are endless.

<https://www.hrce.ca/learning/elementary/reading-your-child>

Message from our Home and School Committee:

Shannon Park Elementary's Home and School committee is a group of family volunteers who help make important programs (like breakfast and lunch) and special events (like dances, fairs, and fundraisers) happen at our school. We are all about building school spirit and a sense of community!

We always need new volunteers and welcome ideas and creativity. Get in touch: shannonparkspec@gmail.com

The next Home and School meeting will be held on January 10 at 7 PM. Anyone is welcome to join in person in the library or on Zoom.

Little Caesar's pizza lunches are now ready to order for the remainder of the school year. You can place your order at HealthyHunger.ca.

We continue to look for volunteers for our breakfast and lunch programs. Each takes about an hour of time and very basic food preparation. Email shannonparkspec@gmail.com for more information.

Our Mabel's Labels fundraiser goes throughout the school year! Go to Campaigns.MabelsLabels.com and search for Shannon Park Elementary School.



SCHOOL PROCEDURES

Please ensure you are aware of the procedures to help our school run smoothly and safely.

- **Safe Arrival** - Please report an absence for your student in advance, up to the start of the school day on the date of your child's absence by:
 1. **Toll-Free Number** - Parents/guardians can call **1-833-582-6940** to report future absences using an automated system.
 2. **SchoolMessenger App** - Parents/guardians can download the SchoolMessenger app for Android and iOS devices and will sign up using their PowerSchool username (full email).
- We require a valid working phone number, so we can contact you

- Supervision starts 8:05 do not arrive before
- Please ensure your child arrives on time to limit disruptions to important routines
- Please call/email for an appointment with the principal, vice principal or teachers to ensure availability
- Visitors must sign in at the office, wear a visitor badge and state a reason for each visit.
- Visitors are not permitted to roam the school as we protect our instructional time and ensure the safety of students, staff and visitors too
- Teachers will generally respond to email within 2 business days
- We are a scent and nut aware school
- No pets! For your safety, student safety and pet safety (Service Dogs permitted)
- No smoking or vaping on school property
- Proper forms are required for the administration of any medications. No medications will be administered to students by school staff during school hours unless it is necessary and prescribed by a health care professional. This includes any over the counter medications.
- Please ensure we have current custody or court documents if applicable
- Talk to your child about crosswalk safety
- All students will ride their assigned bus/buses only
- Children are not permitted to open outside doors or answer the doorbell
- Hold Secure Practice, Lockdown Practice and Fire Drills We will practice these security measures throughout the year to develop an 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 school day. Please drive slow 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 - <https://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/>**

School Lunch Program



Lunch monitors supervise students at lunch, **not** teachers and there is no access to a microwave. Students are required to follow the provincial code of conduct. Students will play outdoors for half and eat indoors for half of the time: 11:25am-12:15pm

Hot Lunches are To Be Determined based on Volunteer availability.

We are still looking to hire lunch monitors If you are available at lunch a few days a week or all days of the week, please reach out to Paula Leger in the office for a hiring package and ensure that you have your criminal records check (with vulnerable sector) and child abuse registry.

Regular Attendance/Reducing Learning Interruptions

Thank you for your continued contribution to reducing classroom interruptions and making sure students arrive on time and scheduling appointments outside school hours when possible. Of course, we understand that circumstances are sometimes unavoidable but **having your child here regularly on time is very important.**

“While student attendance is a critical determinant of student success, students are encouraged to engage in healthy habits and remain at home if they are feeling unwell, especially if they have an infectious disease that might affect fellow students or school staff.” ~ Nova Scotia Student Engagement and Attendance Policy

Important Dates

JANUARY

2: Classes resume

10: SAC and Home and School Meetings 6-8pm

- 19:** Floride Varnish Program (Tentative)
- 29:** Winter Concert (Rescheduled from Dec.)

FEBRUARY

February is Registration Month!

- 19:** Heritage Day - no classes
- 21:** SAC and Home and School Meetings 6-8pm

MARCH

- 11-15:** March Break
- 18:** Assessment & evaluation day - no classes
- 25-April 4:** Report cards sent home
- 29:** Good Friday - no classes

APRIL

- 1:** Easter Monday - no classes
- 4:** AM professional learning & PM parent-teacher conferences - no classes
- 10:** SAC and Home and School Meetings 6-8pm

MAY

- 8:** SAC and Home and School Meetings 6-8pm
- 20:** Victoria Day - no classes
- 25:** Spring Fair 10:30-1:00pm
- 29:** Spring Concert Date for Grade 3/4-6 (During the school day- schedule to be determined)
- 30:** Violin Concert 6:00pm

JUNE

- 1:** Spring Fair Rain Date if needed
- 27:** Assessment & evaluation day (PP-12) - no classes
- 28:** Last day of school