



## École Shannon Park School September 2021 Newsletter

### Gratitude

We are grateful for the warm welcome and all the patience and understanding as we navigate what this new school year will look like at Shannon Park. We continue to slowly ease into ways our school community can work together as we learn to live with Covid-19.

### Dates to Remember

- September 9                                    Stand Up Against Bullying Day
- September 15                                   SAC Meeting – Virtual Meeting at 7:00 pm
- September 20-24                              Teacher Curriculum Information Shared with Parents/Guardians
- September 20, 21, 22                        Photo Days –See Adam’s Photography Notice
- September 24                                    PD Day PP-12 (No classes)
- September 30                                    Truth and Reconciliation Day (No classes)
  
- October 11 - Thanksgiving Day (No classes)
- October 12 – SAC Meeting
- October 22 - Provincial Conference Day PP-12 (No classes)
- November 11 - Remembrance Day (No classes)
- Nov. 15-Dec. 2 - Elem/Jr High Report Cards Home
- November 19 - Assessment & Evaluation Day - Elem/Jr High (No classes)
- November 25 - AM: PD Day PP-12 PM: Parent-Teacher Interviews - PP-12 (No classes)
- December 22 - First Day of Christmas Break PP-12 (No classes)
- January 4 - Schools Re-open PP-12
- February 1-28 - Registration Month
- February 18 - PD Day PP-12 (No classes)
- February 21 - Heritage Day (No classes)
- March 14-18 - March Break (No classes)
- March 23 - Assessment & Evaluation Day - Elem/Jr High (No classes)
- Mar. 28-Apr. 7 - Report Cards Home - Elementary/Junior High Schools
- April 7 - AM - PD Day - PM - Parent-Teacher Interviews (No classes Elem/JrHigh)
- April 15 - Good Friday (No classes)
- April 18 - Easter Monday (No classes)
- May 23 - Victoria Day (No classes)
- June 29 - Assessment & Evaluation Day - PP-12 (No classes)
- June 30 - Last Day of School - Report Cards Home

\* Subject to change based on evolving Public Health information

### New staff at Shannon

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| Carol-Anne Larade – Principal<br>Jamie Kavanaugh – Vice Principal<br>Paula Leger –Administrative Assistant<br>Jing (Celine) Zhang – Admin Assistant<br>Julie Cameron - School Counsellor | Krista Parsons - 1-2 Eng<br>Jamie-Lee Berends 1 FI<br>Savanna Stevens - 2-3 FI<br>Gaelan Varn - 3-4 FI<br>Alexa Nemfield - 5 FI<br>David Bruce - Music 30% | Deidre Philpott - Core French<br>Melissa Pyatt-Ring - Relief 60%<br>Sherri Asprey – EPA<br>Liz Hamilton – EPA<br>Josie Scott - EPA |
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### Registration Forms

We will be sending home Power School registration forms containing information about your child that we have on file. **Please review the form carefully making any necessary changes or omissions, sign the back page and send back to the classroom teacher.** This information is imperative to ensure we have all contact numbers on file should we need to contact you in case of an emergency. Please update medical and allergy information.



## Changes to End of Day Routines

Please keep end of the day routines for your child as consistent as possible. Please do not leave phone messages with changes to your child's end of day routines, we may not receive them 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.

If you have dismissal changes involving Excel, please also contact Excel at (902) 240-5585

Please note that students are not permitted to take an alternate bus to go to a friend's house after school. Only students on the specific bus manifest can ride on each bus. Students ride on their assigned bus only.

Please allow yourself extra time if you need to pick your child up early as there may be a wait at the office. Please remember to sign your child out or back in if they are returning. *Please only use the main front doors for early pick up.*

## Fire Drills

The week of September 13<sup>th</sup> we will hold our first fire drill of the year. We have 6 fire drill practices throughout the year; 3 in the fall and 3 in the spring.

## Lockdown drill

The week of September 20<sup>th</sup> we will hold our first lockdown drill of the year. We have 2 lockdown drills throughout the year, one in the fall and one in the winter. We also hold one Hold and Secure drill during the year. Teacher will talk with children to help them understand this practice drill.

## Curriculum Information



Teachers will be sharing information with families about their programs, their classroom routines and the best way to contact them. You can also view staff contacts on the Shannon Park website- <https://spk.hrce.ca/>

## 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 902-464-2084 and press 1. 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. All students that arrive late must go to the main doors to check in and have hands sanitized.

## Life Threatening Allergies



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

## Lunch and Breakfast

Please send in student lunches that do not need to be heated up, that students can open independently to avoid other hands on their lunch containers and please include the necessary plastic utensils. We will be looking into the possibility of families purchasing milk and hot lunches but cannot guarantee it will be provided yet. Please send in filled water bottles and reach out to the school, 902-464-2084 if you need a water bottle. We will be starting our breakfast program in the next few weeks.

## Regular and Substitute Lunch Monitors



We are looking for substitute lunch monitors! If you are interested please reach out to Mr. Kavanaugh our Vice Principal. All new monitors need to have their checks done and complete a Lunch Monitor Application. Thank you for your help!

## School Access

All doors are locked. There is a video intercom located in the corner of the main door, please ring the buzzer and a staff member will meet you at the door. We ask for patience when you ring the bell and it may take us a few minutes to get to the door if we are on the phone or attending to a child.



## Animals on School Property



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

## Medic Alert Bracelets



Please note that the Canadian Medical Alert Foundation provides medic alert bracelets to any student who has an identified medical condition. Call the office for the information or visit this website <http://nochildwithout.ca>

## SAC Meeting

Shannon Park's first SAC (School Advisory Council) meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00pm. This will be a virtual meeting.

## Criminal Record Check



To volunteer you need to have a criminal record check and a child abuse check. These checks need to be renewed every three years. We are looking ahead to when we can welcome more volunteers

## Administering Medication at School

In order 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.

## Office Notices



Please note that newsletters will be sent out electronically. Most notices will be sent home electronically to the contact email you have provided on your child's registration form. If you do not have an email please inform the school and we will provide a paper copy.

## Parking Safety

Please help keep our children safe when dropping off and picking up your children. Be sure to not stop in areas that block the crosswalk in front of the school and to not stop too close to the entrance and exit of the parking lot as the busses need room to turn into the parking lot and turn out to exit. For the safety of students exiting busses in the morning and boarding busses at the end of the day, there is no parking for visitors or families in the back-parking lot where busses drop off and pick up students. Please note that the area in front of the school is a "No Idle" zone.

## Electronics

Electronics are best kept at home as the school is not responsible for lost or damaged electronic devices. Should you need to contact your child during the day you can call the school. If your child needs to get in contact with you they can use the school phone to call home. If you send a cell phone to school with your child, it needs to stay in their backpack during school hours.

## 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). Head lice are a common condition that can affect anyone.

"No-nit" or "no head lice" policies that keep children away from school are not effective. Head lice are common among students: they do not spread disease and cases of head lice are often misdiagnosed. A school-wide notice will be sent home to all parents/guardians when school staff suspect a case of head lice.

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. Keep long hair tied back or braided. Teach your child(ren) not to share personal items that have touched their head. Teach your child(ren) to put their hats and scarves in their coat sleeves or backpacks.

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).