



ELLERSLIE ELEMENTARY

Principal : Sarah Totten

Vice-Principal : Jeff Grass



DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 23-** Hot Dog Day
- January 27-**Family Literacy Day
- February 3-**PD Day (No classes)
- February 14-**Heart Art Show @ 1:00pm
- February 17-**Islander Day (No classes)
- February 21-**Winter Wellness Day (This is a regular school day)
- February 26-**Pink Shirt Day
- March 7-**Parent Teacher Interviews (K-9) (No classes)
- March 17-21-**Mid-term break (No classes)
- April 11-**PD Day K-9 (No classes)
- April 18-**Good Friday (No classes)
- April 21-**Easter Monday (No classes)
- May 2-**Area Association/CUPE 3260 Convention (No classes)
- May 19-**Victoria Day (No classes)
- June 23-**Grade 6 Closing at 4:00pm
- June 26-**Last Day of Classes (K-9)

Principal's Message

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you had a restful and joyful holiday break. It was wonderful to see excited faces returning to the school.

January is a time for new beginnings and fresh opportunities, and we look forward to seeing our students embrace challenges, set new goals, and continue to develop both academically and personally. We encourage all students to start the year with a positive attitude and a commitment to doing their best in everything they do.

I would like to thank our Home and School for continuing to sponsor the Elf on the Shelf project along with our school skate. This year we were able to give away 2 books every day in December! Very Exciting!

Take care,
Ms. Sarah



January 27 is Family Literacy Day. Staff and students will be participating in various activities throughout the day.

WINTER ATTIRE

It is that time of year when we would ask that parents please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We would also ask that parents label as many items as possible to avoid mix ups!

PEI HEALTHY SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

PEI's Healthy School Lunch Program Anyone who is not registered for the Provincial School Lunch Program can still register @ www.peischoolfood.ca **Reminder that students should bring utensils to school with them as forks/spoons are no longer provided.**

NEW STAFF:

We welcome Rose Leger to our Ellerslie team. Rose will be filling in for our Guidance Counsellor, Brody Webster for the month of January. We hope he enjoys his time while on parental leave.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

A sincere thank you to our volunteers for their continued support! We couldn't do it without you. Our breakfast program will start up again on January 8th and continue on Mondays and Wednesday with healthy options available for all of our students.



FLEA MARKET

Thank you to everyone for a successful flea market this year. Students were very excited to make their purchases and wrap their gifts to bring home.

Thank you to all who made donations, all those who helped organize and clean up and to all who made a purchase. We were able to raise over \$900 to donate to the Easter Seal Tour with our own Remi Dean being this year's ambassador. We can't wait until next year. Thank you again for your support!

BASKETBALL:

As we roll into January, basketball season begins to ramp up. There is league meeting on Tuesday to create a schedule then parents/guardians can expect to receive a copy in the coming days. Reminder that the girls team practice after school on Mondays and Wednesdays and the boys team practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

HAND WASHING

In light of flu season, please remind your children to regularly wash their hands.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2025-2026

Parents are asked to register their children for Kindergarten right away if they haven't already done so.

- Children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2025, in order to be eligible for Kindergarten.
- Parents are asked to register their child at their local elementary school during school hours. If you are unsure of your school zone, please call the Stratford Office at (902) 368-6990 or Summerside Office at (902) 888-8400 or toll-free at 1-800-280-7965.
- A registration form will be completed at the time of registration.
- Parents are reminded to bring a piece of Government issued ID verifying proof of child's age, such as a birth Certificate, PEI health card or passport.
- Verification of home address must also be provided, such as a current utility bill.

GOOD ATTENDANCE AND BEING PUNCTUAL

Please have your student in school for the full day unless there is an appointment or other specific reason for late drop off or early pick up to ensure minimum disruption for our classes. Our school day runs from 8:50 - 2:50.

PLEASE SEE OTHER SIDE



This helps ensure they are not missing key instructional time and that classes are not disrupted when students arrive.

Being on time also ensures the students have positive interactions with a variety of staff before instruction begins. This is one key focus of the Social Emotional Learning strategies we work on as a school community.

Punctuality is also a career readiness skill that is best developed from a young age.

The **Public School Branch has an attendance policy** to help us monitor student attendance. We always appreciate regular communication with parents and caregivers. You can contact Ms. Stephanie in the office and the classroom teacher if your child is going to be absent.

Teachers/administrators will be contacting parents/guardians regarding unexcused missed time as per our attendance policy to help support your child's education.

Here is some information on the importance of Attendance.
https://www.attendanceworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Attendance-Works-Elementary_handout_101421.pdf

Head Lice Information

Just for your information parents are asked to check their students' heads regularly.

Head lice are tiny insects that live on the scalp, where they lay their eggs. Head lice do not spread disease. Having head lice does not mean you are not clean.

What do head lice look like?

Lice have 3 stages – the egg (nit), the nymph and the adult.

- Nits are whitish-grey, tan or yellow ovals, approximately the size of a grain of sand. They stick to the hair close to the scalp and can look like dandruff. Nits hatch in 9 to 10 days.
- Nymphs are baby lice. They look like adult lice but are smaller.
- Adult lice are approximately the size of a sesame seed and are hard to see. Adult lice can live for up to 30 days on a person's head, but they die within 3 days away from the scalp.

How do they spread?

Head lice spread easily, especially where people are in close contact. They are very common among school-aged children or children attending child care.

- Head lice spread through direct hair-to-hair contact or indirectly by sharing things like hats, combs, hairbrushes and headphones.
- Head lice don't fly or hop, but do crawl very quickly.
- Head lice that live on people can't

live on pets, such as cats or dogs.

How do you know you have head lice?

One of the first signs of head lice is an itchy scalp. But it is possible to have head lice without any symptoms.

If you think your child has head lice, check his hair for nits right away, then again after 1 week and after 2 weeks.

How do I check for head lice?

To confirm a case of head lice, you need to find live lice. Children can have a few nits without actually having a case of head lice. Usually children have no more than 10 to 20 live lice.

- Good lighting is important when you are checking.
- Head lice move fast and are hard to see. They are usually found very close to the scalp, at the bottom of the neck and behind the ears.
- To look for nits, part hair in small sections, moving from one side of the head to the other. Check carefully, looking close to the scalp.

How can head lice be treated?

Insecticides are chemicals that kill insects (bugs). In Canada, 3 insecticides are approved to treat head lice:

- pyrethrin (found in R&C Shampoo + Conditioner)
 - permethrin (Nix Creme Rinse or Kwellada-P Creme Rinse)
 - lindane (Hexit Shampoo or PMS-Lindane Shampoo).
- Pyrethrin and permethrin are safe when used on humans. However, lindane can be toxic (poisonous). Products with lindane should not be used on infants or young children younger than 2 years of age. You don't need a prescription for these products.
- Follow package directions carefully.
 - Don't leave the shampoo or rinse in the hair longer than directed.

HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS, JANUARY 2025

2025 Extra Mile Awards for Teachers/Staff

Local Home and School Associations can consider nominating a schoolteacher/staff person for going the "extra mile" for students. The Federation is accepting nominations until **Jan. 17, 2025**. Find criteria and application at:
<https://peihsf.ca/extra-mile-award/>

Resolutions impact change

The Federation supports equal opportunity for all students and promotes this by approving pertinent resolutions at annual meetings. Resolutions are the single most important tool that Home and School can use to influence decision-makers in government and school boards. Approved resolutions are forwarded to decision-makers who can make changes for the benefit of all island students. Guidelines on how to write

and present a resolution and examples of previously passed resolutions are available at www.peihsf.ca/resolutions. Discuss topics with local association parents and teachers and consider submitting a resolution. Deadline to submit resolutions is **Jan. 31, 2025**.

President's Annual Reports

Home and School Presidents/Co-Chairs are asked to submit their 2024-2025 annual reports to the Federation office by **Feb. 28**. All reports are compiled in the Federation's Annual Book of Reports and posted at <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>.

School Staff Appreciation Week, February 10-14, 2025

School Staff Appreciation Week is an opportunity for parents and students to recognize the dedication and hard work of school staff: teachers, administrative support, educational assistants, and custodians. Set up a small committee to brainstorm ways the school community can thank school staff. Keep plans simple!

Annual General Meeting Notice

The Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation will hold its 72nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **Saturday, April 12, 2025**. All Member Home and School Associations are invited to attend the AGM. Each Association is asked to designate five of your school's attendees as voting delegates. Registration details will be available in February and posted at: <http://peihsf.ca/agm>

PSB Consultation on Memorials and Grief Support in Schools

The Public Schools Branch is conducting a consultation to review a policy and procedure entitled "Memorials and Grief Support in Schools." Draft versions of the proposed documents have been made available for your review and participation in the Consultation Survey.

[Participate in the Consultation Survey](#) and [Memorials and Grief Support In Schools - Policy and Procedure Consultation.pdf](#)

Home and School monthly newspaper column

Read David Schult, PEI Home and School Federation president's monthly columns at: <https://peihsf.ca/news/>

