



ELLERSLIE ELEMENTARY

Principal: Jaime Cole

Vice-Principal: Sarah Totten



DATES TO REMEMBER

January 8-First Instructional Day of 2024

January 27-Family Literacy Day

February 16-Winter Wellness Day (This is a regular school day)

February 19-Islander Day (No classes)

March 8-Parent Teacher Interviews (K-9)

March 22-28-March Break (No classes)

March 29-Good Friday (No classes)

April 1-Easter Monday (No classes)

April 19-Professional Learning Day (K-9) (No classes)

May 3-Area Association PD/CUPE (No classes)

May 20-Victoria Day (No classes)

June 26-Grade 6 closing

June 26-Last Day for students

Principal's Message

Happy New Year to all! We hope you had a wonderful and restful holiday. It was wonderful to see excited faces returning to the school.

Staff returned to school on January 4th and completed professional development. One major focus for the year for all schools is Social Emotional Learning.



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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!



Family Literacy Day

January 27 is Family Literacy Day. Teachers participating in this event will be reaching out to parents with details.

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.

There are some changes to the menu for the new year.

Thanks!

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 10th 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 to bring home.

Thank you to all who made donations, the grade 6 class for running a successful flea market and to all who made a purchase. We were able to raise over \$800 to put to our school community needs. We can't wait until next year.

Thank you again for your support!

BASKETBALL:

Basketball season is well underway. All teams had impressive showings against Miscouche before Christmas. The next game will be on January

15th. The grade 5 and 6 boys' team will play a home game against O'Leary Elementary. The girls' team will travel to O'Leary Elementary for an away game. Both games are scheduled to start at 3:30pm. Mr. MacDougall is hoping to schedule more games between now and the zone tournament in February.

On the intramural side of things, basketball intramurals have 4 remaining regular season games before the semi-finals. Following basketball, the next intramural sport will be ball hockey.

HAND WASHING

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

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.

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 2024

2024 Extra Mile Awards for Teachers/Staff

Local Home and School Associations can consider nominating a school teacher/staff person for going the "extra mile" for students. The Federation is accepting nominations until **Jan. 19, 2024**. 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 passing 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, 2024**.

Annual Reports

Presidents/Co-Chairs are asked to submit your 2023-2024 Annual Reports to the Federation by **Feb. 29**. Annual reports are compiled in the Federation's Book of Reports posted at: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>.

2024 School Staff Appreciation Week, February 12-16

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!

2024 Annual General Meeting Notice

Book your calendars! The Prince Edward Island Home and School Federation will hold its 71st Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **Saturday, April 13, 2024**. All member Home and School Associations are invited to attend the AGM. Each Association is invited to designate five of your school's attendees as voting delegates. Registration details will be posted in February at: <http://peihsf.ca/agm>

Home and School and You

Dionne Tuplin, PEI Home and School Federation president writes a monthly column for The Guardian. Her January 2024 news column will be published in The Guardian and posted at: <https://peihsf.ca/news/> on Friday, Jan. 5.

