

Important Dates

DATES TO REMEMBER February 12-16-Staff Appreciation week February 14-Valentine's Day February 14-Ellerslie's First Heart Art Assembly at 1:00 pm, Gallery open from 1:30–2:30pm February 15-Heart Art Assembly

storm date

February 16-Winter Wellness Day (This is a regular school day) February 19-Islander Day (No classes) February 28-Pink Shirt Day

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 9-Spring photos (am) April 19-Professional Learning Day (K-9) (No classes) May 3-Area Association /CUPE Convention (No classes) May 20-Victoria Day (No classes) June 26-Grade 6 closing June 26-Last Day for students



Where is the time going? It is so hard to believe that half of the school year is over already, and we are heading into February.

It has been so wonderful to see the community and family support for our students. There have been many activities and engaging classes for our students over the last few months.

At the end of January, we celebrated Family Literacy Day with stations including making a recipe, an escape room, making bookmarks and reading activities. We are always happy to have our grade 6 students step up as leaders in the school to help with these activities.

The school has purchased sleds for on the hills at big recess. Currently, students and staff are busy preparing for our first Heart Art Show at Ellerslie. The students are also enjoying a new sensory path by the library and learning more skills to help them self-regulate and develop stronger connections with peers and school staff.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call/email me jlcole@edu.pe.ca

Here is this month's literacy tip:

Reading to or reading with your child is one of the greatest things that parents can do for their children when it comes to literacy. When you read to your child, they have a chance to hear an experienced reader and can model after your example. It is also a great time to chat about the books being read...the quality time is a bonus!

Winter Wellness Day

On Friday, February 16th, we will recognize Winter Wellness Day! This year the students will be doing stations outside for the afternoon.



BUS DRIVER NAMES & NUMBERS Please see the bus numbers and drivers' names below. Please use these numbers for bus passes.

David Palmer #769 Melanie Phillips #538 Sherri Arsenault #561 Lowell Palmer (Greg Wardrope currently driving) #575 Cathy Richard #758



PINK SHIRT DAY

Wednesday, February 28th is Pink Shirt Day. Students are asked to wear pink to take a stand against bullying.

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 as there have been some mix ups©



PLEASE SEE OTHER SIDE



HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS

Presidents' Annual Reports -President's Annual Reports are due February 29. All reports will be included in the 71st Annual Book of Reports. Include activities for this school year, starting in Sept. through to the end of June. You can get tips on how to write your report by reading other reports in last year's 2023 Book of Reports at: https://peihsf.ca/aqm/. Use a blog format by listing each month and related activities in bullet form. Use the Federation's new President's Annual Report 2024 Google Form. If you need help, contact the office peihsf@gov.pe.ca / 902-620-3186

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week -Celebrate Teachers/Staff Appreciation Week, February 12-16, 2024. Home and School

Associations plan ways to thank school staff during Teacher/Staff Appreciation week. Start now. Brainstorm ideas to thank school staff.

Home and School Volunteer

Awards-The Federation's Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes one volunteer's significant contributions to helping volunteers in their local school communities. The Life Member acknowledges service to the provincial Federation. Associations may nominate Home and School volunteers for these awards by the deadline: **March. 3.** Criteria and Form are online at: https://peihsf.ca/awards/

SAVE THE DATE: April 13, 2024-The P.E.I. Home and School Federation's Annual General Meeting will be on April 13, 2024, at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel. The Federation office will mail the AGM package to presidents and information will be posted at: https://peihsf.ca/agm/ Plan to register 2-5 delegates to represent your school.

What is the role of educators and parents in the education of students?

Parent and educators work together to support and improve the learning, development and overall health of children and youth. We play major roles in the educational success of students. Students need a positive learning experience to succeed in school: one providing support, motivation, and quality instruction. With the increasing demands on the family, parental support in the education of students extends beyond the school building. It's a shared responsibility! You really can bolster a child's education by creating a supportive learning environment at home. You can also do so by becoming more involved in the school community. The research says that parent and family involvement creates better outcomes for students. https://www.prodigygame.com/main-

en/blog/parental-involvement-ineducation/

~Pink Shirt Day Canada 2024 is on February 28th Let's work together to end bullying and spread kindness! A new Pink Shirt Project for high schools urges youth to create a kindness inspired project for their school or community. Students conceive of and implement their very own ideas for spreading good! For more information go to:

https://pinkshirtdaycanada.ca/

~Early Childhood Development Association Handle with Care

course = provides parents, educators and all caregivers the understanding of children's social and emotional needs, as well as understanding and developing their own. Programs: BGC Charlottetown, Jan. 30th 6:00-8:00; Charlottetown Royalty Centre Rm 212, starting Feb. 5th 11:30-1:30pm; Stratford Town Hall, Southport Rm, starting Feb. 7th 6:30-8:30 pm. Materials/refreshments provided. Contact Sara MacDougall to register <u>hwcpei@ecdaofpei.ca</u> or 902-368-1870.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2024-2025

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, 2024, 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.

Head Lice Information Parents are asked to please check their students' heads regularly for lice.

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 schoolaged children or children attending child care.

• Head lice spread through direct hairto-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 their 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.