

Ash Lee Jefferson Newsletter

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October 2018
Newsletter #2

Principal: Lynn Mills
Vice-Principal: Jennifer Cholock
Secretary: Helen Eisenhauer



Upcoming Events

Oct 8 - Thanksgiving – No School
Oct 16 – Picture Retakes
Oct 17 – PD Day – No School
Oct 15 - PTO Meeting 6:00 pm
Oct 25 – PTO Family Dance 6:30-8:00pm
Oct 26 – Provincial Conference Day – No School

Dear Families,

We had a busy and productive start to our first school year together. Beginning on October 10th our grade 6 students are participating in our Provincial assessments. We celebrated Anti-Bully Pink Day, met with families on Curriculum Night/ Ice Cream Social, shared in Orange Day celebrating equality for children, and participated in Terry Fox activities. We are also busy planning our whole school Family Dance! It promises to be a wonderful time to come together as a whole school community. We hope that you all enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving.

Safe Arrival & Late Students

We have noticed that a number of students are arriving to school late. With the implementation of the new Attendance Policy, both absences and lates are being closely monitored. Being late is very disruptive to your child's learning and his/her classmates. If your child is a walker, please ensure that they give themselves enough time in the morning to arrive to school on time. Students enter the building at 8:10 am. Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

If your child is absent or going to be late, please call the safe arrival line (902) 860-4375. Leave your child's name, teacher's name, and reason for absence. Please do not leave voicemails for administration or the school secretary, as these messages are only for the information of the safe arrival volunteers.

Volunteers

Volunteers are an important part of a positive and inclusive school climate. We welcome parent/community volunteers in our school. The Halifax Regional School Board has a Student Protection Policy in place in order to ensure that all schools provide a safe and secure learning environment for all students. **Prior to volunteering with the school, all volunteers must complete a Criminal Records Check and Child Abuse Registry Search.** These documents are valid for a period of three years. We are still in need of volunteers for our Safe Arrival program. Please contact the secretary if you have an available hour (8:00–9:00am) in the morning.

Changes to Students' Dismissal

If there is a change to a student's dismissal, please ensure you send in a note for the teacher. We understand that emergencies occur, however we are a very busy school and cannot always guarantee that messages are passed onto the teacher in time.

Parking Lot Safety

The safety of students is our #1 priority. With this in mind, **vehicles are not permitted on the school grounds between 7:40 am and 8:20 am and between 1:50 pm and 2:30 pm.** The parking lot is not a drop off or pick-up zone. The only **exceptions** are for parents picking up sick students or in emergency situations. Thank you for your cooperation regarding these expectations. We also request that all parents who are meeting students at the end of the day remain outside the front doors when picking up children.

Life Threatening Allergies

The school asks that all parents continue to respect that we are a **Nut & Seafood Aware School**. Please be aware that there are a number of students and staff who have allergies of various types. For this reason, we are asking all visitors, parents/guardians, babysitters, and friends who are visiting the school, to keep in mind that we are a nut, seafood, and scent aware school. We appreciate your support, as it enables us to provide a safer environment for all

Mi'kmaq Heritage Month

Treaty Day, (October 1st) marks the beginning of Mi'kmaq History Month in Nova Scotia as proclaimed in 1993 by then Premier John Savage and Mi'kmaq Grand Chief Ben Sylliboy.

Its purpose is to promote public awareness about the Mi'kmaq culture and heritage for all citizens of Nova Scotia. A poster is produced and numerous events are organized throughout the month in recognition of Mi'kmaq History Month.

For more information visit the Mi'kmaq History Month website: <http://mikmaghistorymonth.com/>

SCHOOL CANCELLATION: SEVERE WEATHER OR EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The Halifax Regional School Board takes great care when making the decision to alter the normal operations of schools in the event of severe or inclement weather. Decisions on school closures and/or bus cancellations are posted on the board's website at www.hrce.ns.ca, on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/HRCE_Official](https://twitter.com/HRCE_Official), recorded on the school cancellation line at 464-INFO (4636) and communicated to all local radio stations. Ash Lee Jefferson is part of the Lockview High Family of Schools. We may be closed "by family" some days so this information is important.

Head Lice

As we know head lice can appear in schools and other public places from time to time. The link below is provided by the Department of Public Health as a resource to support families with head lice. If you suspect that your son/daughter has head lice please contact the school. <https://www.novascotia.ca/dhw/publications/public-health-education/07135-head-lice-pamphlet-en.pdf>. Children may return to school once they have been treated.