

SHERWOOD NEWS

Sherwood Elementary School

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Principal: Parker Grimmer

Vice Principal: Francyne Doiron

January 10, 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 27 – Family Literacy Day

February 19 – Islander Day (no classes for students)

February 23 – Sherwood Dance (details to come)

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We wish everyone a Happy New Year!

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES THANK YOU

Thank you to those who contributed to Sherwood Elementary Christmas Families. These donations went a long way to support Sherwood families and students who needed a little more support over the holiday season.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

While registration for Kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year wrapped up on November 25, families can still register their child by visiting the school office in person. Please be reminded that children must be 5 years old by December 31, 2024, in order to be eligible for Kindergarten. Please 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.

THANKS, AND APPRECIATION

Many students, parents, and staff were active showing kindness leading up to the holiday break. Thank you to Leadership Students for all their efforts with the 10 Days of Christmas", to 5A students for their incredible efforts selling and distributing over 3000 Candy Grams, parents who tied skates at the Dec.22 school skate, and staff for their support of all the activities in their classrooms and workspaces.

PARKING AND DROP OFF ON MAPLE AVE. AND PINE DRIVE

The roads around our school continue to be very busy. For the safety of our student body it is very important that cars do not pull over and stop, to drop-off or pick-up students. The Cody Banks parking lot is currently the only area specified area for student drop-off and pick-up. Thank you to parents for their efforts safely using this area.

LOST AND FOUND

New items:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-AFtGFQeXcFhCqb7CnxPDZKgToo5E9XQ/view?usp=sharing>

New Items will remain on the lost and found table for at least a month. If left unclaimed for an extended period, they will be donated to goodwill.

STAFFING NEWS

Joan Gallant, educational assistant, retired during the Christmas break. We thank Joan for her many years of dedicated service and for the positive influence she has had on the learning of Sherwood students. We wish her all the best for her retirement. The school is in the process now of hiring someone to fill this position. Congratulations Joan.

Beaudah VanWiechen, administrative assistant, is on leave. Rachel Manuel is presently working as an administrative assistant in the office.

Paul Buote, custodian, has moved to Central Queens Elementary. We thank Paul and while we miss him, we are pleased for this opportunity for him. Good luck, Paul. John Doucette is our new custodian. He comes to Sherwood after working at East Wiltshire Intermediate for several years.

John 'Red' Cheverie, our crossing guard, has let us know that he is taking the winter away from his job, but plans to return for April. We thank him for all his great years of work and look forward to seeing him back with his stop sign in the spring. Gary Judson is now taking on the crossing guard responsibilities.

Welcome John, Gary, and Rachel.

AFTER SCHOOL PLANS

A reminder that any changes to a student's after school plan needs to be arranged prior to coming to school. We ask that changes be communicated to teachers in writing. Bus students are not permitted to walk home without written permission.

LATE FOR SCHOOL

Parents, if your child is late for school, please remember that all doors are locked. Please go to the main door and be buzzed in. Thank you for parking at Cody Banks when dropping off or picking up students during the school day.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS

Sherwood School is pleased to offer lunch options available through the *PEI School Food Program* as well as our own *HotLunches* program. A brief description of both can be found below.

PEI SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM

The PEI School Food Program is a provincial lunch program that offers ALL Island students K-12 a healthy and affordable lunch 5 days per week! The PEI School Food Program is accessible through the Bon Appétit ordering platform. User registration is now open at www.peischoolfood.ca. We encourage you to check out the program and menu options online. Detailed information has been sent home with your child.

SHERWOOD HOT LUNCHES

Our school-based lunch program consists of white and chocolate milk daily and Stratford Pizza on Fridays.

Orders are placed in advance and follow a two-week order cycle.

All orders must be placed by 9 am on the Saturday prior to the 2-week order cycle. We encourage parents to pay by Bambora. This saves sending money to school with your child and makes it much quicker for the order to be processed. If you need to send a cheque, please make cheques payable to Sherwood School and send it in a baggie with your child's name, parent name and homeroom. If the payment is not received on time, your child's order will not be processed.

MENU OPTIONS

Mondays to Friday: Milk, 50 cents, and chocolate milk 75 cents.

Fridays: Stratford Pizza (cheese pizza and pepperoni pizza the last Friday of the month) (\$2.50)

ONLINE ORDERING PROCESS

- Please visit www.sherwood.hotlunches.net
- Click on register on the upper right-hand corner
- Enter our school access code SEHL
- Fill in your information as required
- Make sure you register your child as the student and not yourself and ensure you pick the proper homeroom
- Please read the order dates carefully, we have had several parents order for the wrong 2-week period.
- If you need help at any time, please click on the "help" tab then select "parent instruction guide"
- Choose food items and become familiar with the service.

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

As work continues on the new Sherwood School, there may be instances when, for safety reasons, the work being done outside may impact when or where student activities take place. The school will communicate with parents and guardians through school messenger ahead of time should an instance like this arise.

"SHOW SHERWOOD" SHOWCASE AND JUGGLING SHOW

Grades 4,5, and 6 students have been invited to submit an act for our "Show Sherwood" Showcase 2024. The showcase will be presented to the school at the end of January and will include acts that demonstrate any music, art pieces, or physical movement skills. This event will "showcase" skills that Sherwood students have (i.e. martial arts demo, playing a song on a piano, a short gymnastics routine, prepared dance, basketball tricks, skipping tricks, etc.) and might not have a chance to show during a regular school day. Any interested Grade 4,5, and 6 students are asked to plan, prepare and practice (practice and practice) and submit either a short video of the act to our Showcase committee or show in-person during one of the set times (to be announced at school). There will be a few in-school opportunities to practice but it is highly encouraged for participating students to be practicing at home as well.

HEALTHY SNACK WEDNESDAY

The school will be providing students with the opportunity to have a free healthy snack each month on a Wednesday. Our next healthy snack will be trail mix and will be provided on Wednesday, January 31st. Leadership students will deliver this snack to classes and a healthy snack alternative will also be provided for gluten allergic students.

PEANUT/NUT RESTRICTED SCHOOL

Sherwood School is a peanut/nut restricted school. We have several students who have a life-threatening food allergy (anaphylaxis) to peanuts/nuts. Our school strives to keep these students safe in the school environment. It is necessary to check all ingredient labels to see if the products contain peanuts/nuts. Please do not send these products to school or on field trips at any time. In addition, we do not allow WOW butter in the school so please do not send this with your child. We appreciate the home and school for working together to provide a safe place for all our students. Thank you for your cooperation.

SCENT FREE SCHOOL/SCENTS IN WORKPLACES

Please note that Sherwood School has a fragrance/scent free rule that complies with the Public Schools Branch. Recently, there has been an increase in concerns related to scents in PSB learning and work places. For many people, when exposed to the ingredients in scented products, it can adversely affect their health. People with allergies and asthma report that certain odors, even in small amounts, can cause asthma symptoms. Please take the time to read the PSB scents policy which can be found at: <https://psb.edu.pe.ca/schools/school-health-and-safety/scented-products-and-fragrances>

COLD WEATHER

Students are reminded to wear warmer outdoor clothing, jackets, hats, mittens or gloves, and boots now that the days are becoming colder. All students are outside twice a day for outdoor recreation at recess time. This time is much more enjoyable when students are dressed for colder temperatures. Please remember to label all your child's outdoor clothing with their first and last name so items can be easily returned if they are misplaced.

HOME & SCHOOL VICE PRESIDENT POSITION

The Sherwood Home and School committee is looking for nominees for our vacant Vice President position. The person filling the role will be involved in the planning and implementation of the various activities put on by the Home and School. They will also attend monthly meetings and be able to stand in for the president in the event of his/her absence. We are looking for someone with good leadership qualities, who is organized, enthusiastic and a team player. Please join us at a meeting or reach out if you are interested.

FAMILY LITERACY DAY

January 27 is Family Literacy Day, the largest national family literacy event in Canada. Literacy organizations, schools, libraries and media groups will coordinate numerous literacy-themed events and activities across the country in honour of this special initiative. The theme for FLD 2024 is Let's have a family party! 2024 marks 25 years of Family Literacy Day and ABC Life Literacy Canada is encouraging families to celebrate by making food, singing songs and playing games. The possibilities for learning are endless – and it's fun when you do it together. Family Literacy Day is a national awareness initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999 to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. For more information, visit the Family Literacy Day website or download resources from the Community Wire website at www.communitywire.ca/en/org/abc-life-literacy-canada

STORM CLOSURES

School cancellations

All Public Schools Branch (PSB) weather-related cancellations will be announced on local radio stations and posted on the PSB website by 7:00 am. An announcement that “all classes in the public schools branch are cancelled” means that there is no school for students. An announcement of a “system-wide shutdown” indicates that all schools and offices are closed. In some instances, it may only be necessary to close an individual school or a Family of Schools. Partial system closures or delays will be announced by Family of Schools. Sherwood School is in the Charlottetown Family of Schools.

One-hour delay

If a decision on cancellation cannot be made by 7:00 am, a one-hour delay will be announced whereby all schools and buses will operate one hour later than usual. A further announcement will be broadcast by 8:00 am.

Late buses

In some instances, even in fine weather, buses may be delayed. Parents will be notified via radio broadcast that a bus will be delayed (i.e. Bus #297 is running 30 minutes late).

School closures during the day

It may be necessary to close school partway through a school day. Detailed announcements will be made on local radio stations and posted to the PSB website as early as possible.

Parents who will not be at home when children arrive are responsible for making alternate arrangements for the care of their children on such days. If you have not done so already, please notify the school of these arrangements as soon as possible.

Extreme weather during the school day

Should the department of transportation and/or the RCMP recommend that school buses remain off island roads, students may be required to remain at school beyond their normal dismissal time (unless picked up by a parent or designate). Announcements will be made on local radio stations and posted to our website.

On days when classes are in session, and the low temperature combined with wind provides a wind chill of -20 or below, students will not be required to go outside at recess or lunch or remain outside upon morning arrival.

Suggestions for parents

The final decision to attend school or to travel to school via school bus always rests with the parent.

1. Please do not drop children off at school unless you are certain that school is operating that day and that staff are present to supervise the children.
2. Please listen to the radio and check the PSB website frequently between 6:30 and 8:00 am daily to determine if schools are operating. Every effort will be made to have announcements broadcast by 7:00 am.
3. Please do not call the school, PSB office, or radio stations for information on cancellations or delays. Such calls tie up telephone lines which may be needed for emergency use.

Thank you for your support. Together we will work to ensure a safe winter for all our children.