**QUEEN ELIZABETH**

**ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER**

**VOLUME 7 - March 2024**

**Principal** **Vice-Principal**

Rodney MacArthur Telephone: 836-8900 Colleen Taylor

 <https://queenelizabeth.edu.pe.ca/>

**\*\*\* IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR PARENTS\*\*\***

**When picking up your child or dropping off late, please sign them in/out in the purple binder on the front desk at the office.**

**Also, remember to call the school to report the absence of your child if they will not be coming in.**

**These procedures are all in an effort to make sure we keep our students/your children safe. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated! 😊**

**DATES TO REMEMBER ☺**

**March 8** – Parent Teacher Interviews (Weather may cause changes, we will continue to monitor)

**March 11** – Yearbook Team Photos being taken.

**March 15** – We are celebrating St Patrick’s Day. Dress in green or your favorite St Patty’s Day Swag!

**March 18** – Fun in the Sun! Wear your tropical tourist clothing!

**March 19** – Jersey Day

**March 20** – Darrah Samples Spelling Bee (grades 3-6)

**March 21** – PJ Day, Pancake Breakfast, and a Movie in the Gym!

**March 22-28** – March Break (no classes)

**March 29** – Statutory Holiday (no classes)

**April 1** – Statutory Holiday (no classes)

**April 19** – PD Day (no classes)

**COUGAR NEWS**

**The following students are receiving GOLDEN MOMENTS for TRUSTWORTHINESS:**

**Kindergarden: Elliot Arthur, Victoria Coughlin, Charlee Maclellan, Rosie Collicutt, Able Blaikie**

**Grade 1: Catherine Cousins, Wyatt MacKay, EJ McKay, Harrison McIver, Liam Carr, Taylor Adams, Khloe Johnson**

**Grade 2: Kinzlea Terry, Kali Champion, Kaysen Clark, Ellie Martin, Rosie Campbell, Russel Coughlin**

**Grade 3: Sophia Ginn, Jasmeet Kaur, Luciana Londono Garcia, Julia Paynter, Brinley Howard**

**Grade 4: Cohen Gallant, Dynlee Paynter, Nora Campbell, Harrison MacLeod, Norah Collins, Silas Munn, Carrlee Paynter**

**Grade 5: Owen Gravina, Clark French, Hudson McCormick, Lydia St Pierre, Wyatt Tapp, Xavier Thomas**

**Grade 6: Jack Wall, Liam Hanlan-Costain, Aria Bidgood, Lachlan Woolhead, Jamieson MacKay**

**CANDY IN THE JAR CONTEST!**

During the week of Winter Fest, March 15th-21st, there will be a jar of candy in the office for the students. Closest guess to the actual amount wins the whole jar! Good Luck!

**OPEN HOUSE**

On Tuesday, March 19, Grade 6B will host an Open House for QEES families to showcase the students’ Net-Zero Communities.  The students are participating in the STEAM PEI Net-Zero Community Design Challenge.  The Open House is an opportunity for students to share their learning with the community.  All are welcome to attend!

**FRIDAY CHIPS**

Every Friday, with the help of some grade 6 students, we sell chips for just $1.00! If you would like to get your child a Friday treat and at the same time support their field trip fund don’t forget to send them with some chip money on Fridays! All support is greatly appreciated. 😊

**SNOW SHOW**

The Easter Seals committee would like to thank everyone for coming to the annual Snow Show. We raised over four hundred dollars! Many thanks to all the artists for displaying their amazing art work.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**STEP DANCING CLASSES**

Stepping Out Studio is offering a new class for beginners. If your child is interested in learning something new, having fun, getting exercise and lots more, than this is the spot for them! Class will be Saturdays from 1:30 to 2:30. Please call 902-836-3887 to register.

\*If you have community news that you would like to share in our next months newsletter you can email amandansmith@edu.pe.ca\*

**HOME & SCHOOL NEWS MARCH 2024**

**🍎 School Calendar 2024-2025**

To help families and school staff plan for the year ahead, the province has released the 2024-2025 school year calendar, which includes 182 instructional days. Find the school calendar online at [**https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/education-and-early-years/2024-2025-school-calendar**](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.princeedwardisland.ca%2Fen%2Finformation%2Feducation-and-early-years%2F2024-2025-school-calendar&data=05%7C02%7Camandansmith%40EDU.PE.CA%7C01c15c22196d4ef078fc08dc36f03572%7C9872daac4f67480981dd082737f7d78b%7C0%7C0%7C638445652555525077%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=f%2FX%2Fs0qzhP3Ha%2F3BeKBU9P92fXjKd5elILTAR6VeqrU%3D&reserved=0)

**🍎 Mark your calendar --- 71st AGM & Conference**

The **P.E.I. Home and School Federation** is pleased to announce that its A.G.M. &

Conference 2024 will take place on **Saturday, April 13,** at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, Charlottetown.

[**REGISTER**](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fforms%2Fd%2F17Gt8Bz9Jd5GALWTnPPMdDFBdLgLSr_oMZsGtTEetn7s%2Fedit&data=05%7C02%7Camandansmith%40EDU.PE.CA%7C01c15c22196d4ef078fc08dc36f03572%7C9872daac4f67480981dd082737f7d78b%7C0%7C0%7C638445652555534509%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=G%2FIK468B3mjxBK%2F0B5uYC6iGWawueQKfQQZjYN0pOg8%3D&reserved=0) **online at** [**https://peihsf.ca/agm/**](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpeihsf.ca%2Fagm%2F&data=05%7C02%7Camandansmith%40EDU.PE.CA%7C01c15c22196d4ef078fc08dc36f03572%7C9872daac4f67480981dd082737f7d78b%7C0%7C0%7C638445652555541413%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=pNyj7C1hvJuJ5%2B%2Bky6nu5QDHIT9Mzurw7ZFclHMayPA%3D&reserved=0)

**By** the early registration deadline, **March 21.**

**Ensure your school is represented.**

**Speakers will include** Hon. Natalie Jameson, Minister of Education and Early Years, Hon. Antionette Perry, Lieutenant Governor of P.E.I., and round table experts, who will present on Suicide Prevention, Dept. Education's Inclusion Report, COMPASS 2023-24 Youth Survey

results, What is the role of an E.A.? What is Fundations? and Youth & Sports Nutrition.

**🍎 2024 Resolutions**

Proposed 2024 resolutions have been circulated to Presidents with directions to discuss these at a Home and School meeting. Use each resolution as a springboard for discussing the topic; then

hold a vote, resolution by resolution, to determine how your school's delegates will vote at the Annual Meeting. Your voting delegates can vote "in favour," "opposed," or they can present amendments. 2024 resolutions are online at [https://peihsf.ca/resolutions/](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpeihsf.ca%2Fresolutions%2F&data=05%7C02%7Camandansmith%40EDU.PE.CA%7C01c15c22196d4ef078fc08dc36f03572%7C9872daac4f67480981dd082737f7d78b%7C0%7C0%7C638445652555547362%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4wUEGv6Ur6zu2sOALpm2SGtQNERElsxEXTcSRgLx6Og%3D&reserved=0) For further information, call 902-620-3186.

**🍎 Volunteer Awards**

Do you know an amazing Home and School volunteer in your school? You can nominate this person for the Federation's Volunteer of the Year Award. This award recognizes one person annually for their efforts in their local school. Submit nominations to the Federation office by March 8. Find details: [https://peihsf.ca/awards/](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpeihsf.ca%2Fawards%2F&data=05%7C02%7Camandansmith%40EDU.PE.CA%7C01c15c22196d4ef078fc08dc36f03572%7C9872daac4f67480981dd082737f7d78b%7C0%7C0%7C638445652555553518%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=R8IWIQpFea9PmuI0BZbxS5G0jF8qqlCkz5ooe05Eb6Q%3D&reserved=0)

**🍎 Board of Directors Nominations**

You can allow your name to stand for a provincial Home and School Federation two-year term? Vacant positions include President, Vice President, and Directors for the Charlottetown Rural, Colonel Gray, Kinkora, Montague, and Morell Families of Schools. The Federation is the umbrella organization of Home and Schools across Prince Edward Island and is overseen by a volunteer board elected by delegates at the A.G.M. Members are encouraged to nominate suitable candidates who, in your opinion, have the necessary qualifications to do the work of the provincial Federation. Find the 2024 Nomination Form at: [https://peihsf.ca/agm/](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpeihsf.ca%2Fagm%2F&data=05%7C02%7Camandansmith%40EDU.PE.CA%7C01c15c22196d4ef078fc08dc36f03572%7C9872daac4f67480981dd082737f7d78b%7C0%7C0%7C638445652555559041%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FLwN2vlQUJWY19ZQVBJQNxtB0t%2BgLRm1ZXAt9hIZMyg%3D&reserved=0)

**🍎 Parental Involvement**
In children's education, parental involvement is a broad term that can take many forms inside and outside school. So, what role do parents play in education? Depending on schedules, parents can help **their children by participating in school functions or obligations, advocating for the school and improving their children's schoolwork. Examples of getting involved at home include** helping with homework, modelling desired behavior, providing ongoing encouragement, monitoring homework completion, and creating a time and space for study.

Parents **can be more involved in their child's school by:**

· Communicating with teachers regularly

· Volunteering for school activities

· Attending parent-teacher interviews

· Helping with the governance of a Home and School

**🍎 Great Big Crunch!** Get your apples 🍎 or other crunchy fruit or vegetable ready to crunch LOUD! On March 7, thousands will gather in person at their school, at work, and online with students, friends, and colleagues to highlight the importance of eating healthy food at school. You are invited to host a crunch in your school or workplace OR join the Virtual Great Big Crunch at 1:00 pm E.S.T. Register for the event [here](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww2.foodsecurecanada.org%2Fcivicrm%2Fmailing%2Furl%3Fu%3D27179%26qid%3D2277889&data=05%7C02%7Camandansmith%40EDU.PE.CA%7C01c15c22196d4ef078fc08dc36f03572%7C9872daac4f67480981dd082737f7d78b%7C0%7C0%7C638445652555564364%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Ot9xH%2BPaXLjB3N582qV3OWw%2BHnhRmJEPKbCSdeTo6Rg%3D&reserved=0). Crunch to celebrate healthy school food. Find more info at: <https://www.healthyschoolfood.ca/great-big-crunch>

**🍎 Youth Vaping Workshop Opportunity on March 13 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm** at the Charlottetown Library. This session is open to parents/staff who work with youth. Participants will gain knowledge from local findings, share their own experiences, discuss opportunities to reduce youth vaping, and learn about mental health and addiction connections. Sign up at: [https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/youth-vaping-cessation-workshop-charlottetown-evening-tickets-816837863037](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.ca%2Fe%2Fyouth-vaping-cessation-workshop-charlottetown-evening-tickets-816837863037&data=05%7C02%7Camandansmith%40EDU.PE.CA%7C01c15c22196d4ef078fc08dc36f03572%7C9872daac4f67480981dd082737f7d78b%7C0%7C0%7C638445652555569641%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=rLnn4jgjRMeDtkXvi6AhppoksF0bqRGChmRTrb4A6%2F4%3D&reserved=0).

**NEW ADMIN CONTACT INFO**

Amanda Smith

902-836-8900 amandansmith@edu.pe.ca

**CHANCES SMARTPLAY**

Any parents with students attending the afterschool CHANCES program, please make sure that you communicate with the program contacts regarding absences and getting picked up before the end of the day. CHANCES contact info is: chancesspk@chancesfamily.ca, and phone # is 902-330-8044.



**WINTER WEATHER AND OUTDOOR PLAY**

**Please make sure your children have warm mittens, hats, snow pants and jackets for playing outside.** You cannot have fun outdoors in winter when you are not dressed warm. It would be great if you could put an extra pair of pants, mittens and socks in their backpacks in case they get wet.

**LOCKDOWN POLICY**

All doors, except the main door, will be locked throughout the school day. Visitors will be required to sign in at the Office. The Office is open from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm.

**SCHOOL DAY START TIME & END TIME**

Instruction begins at 8:35 am each day, so please ensure that if you’re dropping your child(ren) off, that they are here by 8:20 am, as not to miss important information. The school day ends at 2:20 pm. There is no supervision for students arriving prior to 8:10 am so please do not drop your child off before this time. Parents dropping off or picking up students **MUST DO SO IN THE GRADE 1 AREA ONLY**. The main parking lot is to be left open for the buses. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter as we continue to make our school grounds a safe place for your children.

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**NOTICE FROM PUBLIC SCHOOLS BRANCH – WEATHER RELATED**

**SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS**

All Public Schools Branch (PSB) weather related cancellations will be announced on local radio stations and posted on our website by 7:00 A.M. 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.

**ONE HOUR DELAY**

If a decision on cancellation cannot be made by 7:00 A.M., 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 A.M.

**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) on OCEAN 100.3 at 7:30 am.**  We do communicate late buses once known on out Facebook page for the school also.

**SCHOOL CLOSURES DURING THE DAY**

It may be necessary to close school part way through a school day. **Detailed announcements will be made on local radio stations and posted to our 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**

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

2. **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.

3. **Please listen** to the radio and check the PSB website frequently between 6:30 and 8:00 A.M. daily to determine if schools are operating. Every effort will be made to have announcements broadcast by 7:00 A.M.

4. **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.