

BEDFORD SOUTH SCHOOL

October 2026 Newsletter

☐ **A Wonderful October at Bedford South!**

October is a busy and exciting month at Bedford South School! As the leaves change and the days get a little cooler, we continue to focus on learning, kindness, belonging and building a strong school community.

Thank you to our families for your continued support and partnership. Together, we are helping make Bedford South a safe, welcoming and positive place for every student.

☐ **No E-Scooters on School Property**

A reminder to families that e-scooters are not permitted on school property.

E-scooters can be dangerous around students, particularly during busy arrival and dismissal times. For the safety of our students, staff and families, please do not ride or bring e-scooters onto school property.

Thank you for helping us keep our school grounds safe.

☐ **Please Leave Toys at Home**

We are asking students to please leave toys and special items at home.

We have had a number of toys become lost or damaged at school. While we understand that students enjoy bringing special items to share or play with, we cannot guarantee that toys will not be lost or damaged.

There are lots of opportunities for students to play and enjoy activities at school, so please help us by keeping personal toys at home.

☐ **Bedford Lions Club Food Drive**

We are excited to be supporting the Bedford Lions Club Food Drive this week!

Families are invited to send in non-perishable food items to help support families in our community. Please send donations to school by Friday.

Thank you for helping our Bedford South community support others in our local community. Every donation makes a difference!

☐ **October is Mi'kmaq History Month**

October is Mi'kmaq History Month, providing an opportunity to deepen our understanding of Mi'kmaq culture, history, language and traditions, while recognizing the important contributions of Mi'kmaq people, past and present.

Throughout the month, students and staff will have opportunities to learn about Mi'kmaq perspectives and continue building our understanding of truth and reconciliation.

☐ **Treaty Day – October 1**

Treaty Day is an opportunity to learn, reflect and deepen our understanding of the historic and ongoing relationships between Mi'kmaq and non-Mi'kmaq people in Nova Scotia.

Treaties are living agreements that continue to shape our shared responsibilities today. We continue to learn about the Treaties and our responsibilities as we work toward respectful relationships and reconciliation.

☐ **October is Canadian Library Month**

October is also Canadian Library Month!

Our school library is an important part of our school community. Libraries help students discover new interests, develop literacy skills, find reliable information and enjoy the wonderful world of books.

We are grateful for the work of our Library Support Specialist and the important role the library plays in supporting our students and staff.

☐ **Fire Prevention Week – October 4–10**

October 4–10 is Fire Prevention Week.

This year's theme, "Safe Charging is a Superpower," focuses on the safe use and charging of devices powered by lithium-ion batteries, including phones, tablets, laptops, e-bikes and other rechargeable devices.

Families are encouraged to review fire safety at home, test smoke alarms and make sure everyone knows your family's fire escape plan.

☐ **School Bus Safety Week – October 19–23**

Every day, thousands of students rely on school buses to get safely to and from school. We encourage families to review safe bus routines with their children.

- Be on time and don't run to or from the bus.
- Stand well back from the road and do not push or shove while waiting.
- Always cross in front of the bus and wait for the driver's signal.
- Never cross behind the bus or crawl underneath it.
- Listen to and respect the driver and keep noise levels low.
- Stay seated while the bus is moving and keep the aisle clear.
- Keep hands, arms, feet and head inside the bus.
- Do not throw anything inside the bus or out the windows.

A very important reminder: In Nova Scotia, it is illegal to pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended.

☐ **HSA Halloween Dance – October 22**

We are excited to have our Home and School Association hosting a Halloween Dance on Thursday, October 22! The dance will run from 6:15–7:45 p.m. Tickets are \$6 and will be available through SchoolCash Online from October 13–20. Each ticket includes a drink and a snack.

Parents do not need to purchase a ticket, but they must accompany their child(ren). Please note that costume weapons are not permitted.

We are grateful to our HSA volunteers for creating opportunities like this for our school community.



🦃 **Thanksgiving – October 12**

There will be no classes on Monday, October 12, as we celebrate Thanksgiving.

We are thankful for our wonderful students, families and staff and for the many ways our Bedford South community supports one another.

We wish all of our families a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

□ Professional Development / NSTU Conference Day – October 23

There will be no classes on Friday, October 23, as staff will be participating in professional learning.

□ Growing Independence Doesn't Have to Start with a Smartphone

As children get older, families naturally begin thinking about ways to give them more independence. A smartphone can seem like an obvious way for children to stay connected, but there are other options that provide communication without the internet, social media and other distractions.

- Long-range walkie-talkies
- A home phone
- A kids' smartwatch with limited communication
- A basic talk-and-text phone

The goal is to match technology to what children actually need and to give them opportunities to gradually develop the responsibility and judgment they will need as they become more independent.

□ Do You Know How to Raise a Concern?

We value communication with our families and want to ensure that concerns are addressed in a supportive and timely way.

If you have a concern about your child's education or well-being, the first step is to speak with your child's teacher. If your concern is not resolved, you can then contact the principal. If the concern remains unresolved, HRCE Family Navigators are available to provide information about supports and resources.

We encourage families to communicate with us whenever they have questions or concerns. Working together helps us best support our students.

□ October 2026 Calendar

Oct. 1 Treaty Day
Oct. 1–31 Mi'kmaq History Month
Oct. 4–10 Fire Prevention Week
Oct. 12 Thanksgiving – No Classes
Oct. 19–23 School Bus Safety Week
Oct. 22 HSA Halloween Dance – 6:15–7:45 p.m.
Oct. 23 NSTU Conference Day – No Classes

□ A Message from Principal Tracy Foster

Thank you to our students, families and staff for continuing to make Bedford South such a wonderful school community.

October gives us many opportunities to learn, reflect and come together — from Mi'kmaq History Month and Treaty Day to Thanksgiving, School Bus Safety Week and our HSA Halloween Dance.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for all the ways you support our school. We are grateful to have such a caring and supportive community. It was wonderful to see so many of our students wearing orange on Oct 1st to recognize that Every Child Matters!

Wishing everyone a wonderful October!

Warmly,
Tracy Foster Principal Bedford South School