

October is Mi 'kmaq
History Month



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Bedford, NS Canada
B4A 4J6
Phone: 902-832-5800
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DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Oct. 1 Treaty Day
- Oct. 5 Terry Fox run

- Oct. 8 Thanksgiving Day
No students
- Oct. 9 SAC 6:00PM
HSA 7:00PM
- Oct. 9-12 Grade 6 assess.
- Oct. 10 World Mental
Health Day
- Oct. 17 Unit 1 PD
No school for
students
- Oct. 22 Picture retakes

- Oct. 26 Prov. Conference
Day.
No students
- Oct. 31 Halloween



Bedford South School
902-832-5800

H. Healy, Principal
C. Crewe, VP
J. Ashton, Admin Assist
A. Light, Admin Assist

www.bedfordsouth.ednet.ns.ca

Early Dismissal/Storm Closure:

Winter will be here before you know it and we still do not have emergency closure forms for all of our students. Please send your form in as soon as possible. For your information our school is bus cluster 1, unit 1 and part of the C.P.Allen family of schools. A great idea for parents, is to sign up for a text from the HRCE to let you know of early dismissals or school closures. You can do this by visiting the HRCE website at www.hrce.ca.

SAFE ARRIVAL:

We have a safe arrival program at our school to ensure the safety of our children as they travel to school each day and to identify, as quickly as possible, those children who did leave home for school but did not arrive at their destination. To be certain this program is effective we would ask parents to please do the following:

To telephone the Safe Arrival Line at **902-832-5800 ext. 1** whenever your child will be absent or late, (even if you have informed the classroom teacher).

1. To leave a message, state your child's name, grade, teacher's name, length of absence or approximate time of arrival, and the reason for being absent.
2. To sign in your child if arriving at school after the first bell has rung, in the Sign In/Out binder in the school office. They will receive a late slip at this time.
3. To inform the school office of changes in contact information.

Should you have any questions or concerns please contact Jennifer Ashton at 902-832-5800.

CAUTION!

The traffic outside on our drop off loop has become a very dangerous place in the morning and afternoon. Please remember this a walking school and as much as possible children should be walking to school. Perhaps if you are driving you could park on one of the streets near our school and walk through one of the walking paths. Please do not pick up and drop off on the inside loop or come into the staff parking lot. This is very dangerous as there are children who walk through this area. You must keep the drop off areas clear. They are not for parking.

Medication:

Administration of Medication

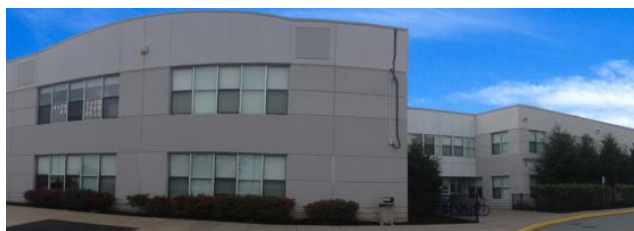
In general, school personnel will not be involved in the administration of medication and/or medical procedures to students. Parents or guardians are responsible for making arrangements to eliminate the need for staff to be involved in the administration of medication and medical procedures to students.

Students who use puffers may, with the parents' written permission and having completed the appropriate form in the office, self-administer.

Children who have any life-threatening allergies must contact the office to receive the appropriate forms and guidelines regarding parent/student and school responsibilities.

Nut Free and Scent Free:

Please remember we have students who have life-threatening allergies to nuts. It is very important that when sending recess snacks and lunch to school that you are mindful of the food you send. We have students arriving with Nutella snacks, peanut butter, etc. This could potentially put a student at serious risk. Also, if you are visiting the school please do not wear perfumes or other scents. Again, students and staff are very sensitive to the use of such products. We appreciate your support.

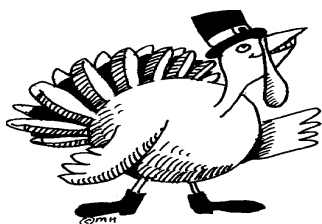


SCHOOL VISITORS:

While we welcome Parents/Guardians to the school, you are reminded to check in at the office before proceeding through the school.
If you wish to pick up your children before dismissal, you must report to the office and we will page your child.
Also, students may not be dropped off before 8:25am in the morning, as this is when outdoor supervision begins. Parents/Guardians should not be in the hallways unless they have signed in at the office. If you need to visit your child's teacher, please report to the office to obtain a visitor pass or call to make an appointment.

Thanksgiving:

Thanksgiving Day in Canada
Thanksgiving Day in Canada has been a holiday on the second Monday of October since 1957. It is a chance for people to give thanks for a good harvest and other fortunes in the past.



Provincial Student Attendance And Engagement Policy:

Effective Oct. 1st, 2017
Student attendance matters.
On average, 25% of all students miss 16 or more days of school.

What is the student attendance policy?

It is a province wide policy that sets a clear expectation for students, parents and teachers
"Truancy is associated with poorer student performance in mathematics" and "skipping days of school is associated with poorer performance"-PISA in Focus

Are there Consequences under the policy?

For junior high and elementary students there will be more emphasis on working with parents to address missed class time.

How many days can my child miss?

We want students to be in school every day, but we know that is not always possible. Communication between the family and school is key when a student is absent, at all levels, but especially in elementary grades, the focus will be on identifying attendance issues early and responding in a way that helps build good attendance habits.

What is considered an absence?

Any time a student is not in class, except when they are taking part in a school activity, is considered an absence.

I have a child with special needs. How will they be affected by this policy?

The goal is to help all students attend school as much as they are able.

For children with special needs, parents will work closely with the school-and community partners as appropriate, to develop the right support for the student.

Where can I find more information?

For more information visit:
<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/student-attendance-and-engagement-policy>.

On average, about 6% of all students missed more than 35 days of school in 2015-16.

Parents and guardians are responsible for monitoring and ensuring that their children maintain regular attendance and arrive at school on time, and for communicating with the school regarding their child(ren)'s attendance.

Mi'kmaq History Month

October is Mi'kmaq History Month in Nova Scotia. The goal of the month is to help Nova Scotians build awareness of Mi'kmaq history and heritage, and to increase understanding of the province's rich Mi'kmaq culture. Treaty Day 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. Several events are planned throughout the month, including the 5th Annual Mi'kmaq History Month Educators Conference (Oct. 2-3), Mi'kmaq artist Alan Sylliboy's Thundermaker exhibition (touring Oct. 7-24), and the Dalhousie Native Student Association Mawimi on October 16.

The complete list of events can be found on the Mi'kmaq History Month [events calendar](#).