

APRIL IS  
DENTAL  
HEALTH  
MONTH!



**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

April 01 April Fools  
April 02 World Autism  
Awareness Day  
Wear blue  
April 05 Parent Social  
April 05 Reports home  
April 09 SAC 6pm  
PTA 7pm  
April 11 PD am  
No students  
April 11 Parent teacher  
1-3pm  
No students  
April 11 Parent teacher  
6-8pm  
No school  
April 12 Dance for IWK  
Mental Health  
At lunch  
April 12 Baisakhi Day  
Wear orange  
April 19 Good Friday  
NO school  
April 22 Easter Monday  
No school  
April 22 Earth Day  
April 26 Arbor Day

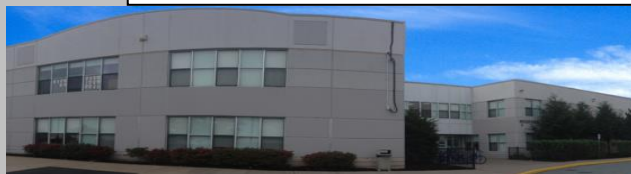
**Bedford South School**

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Bedford, NS  
B4A 4J6

902-832-5800

H. Healy	Principal
C. Crewe	V-Principal
J. Ashton	Secretary
S. Moore	Secretary

**SAFE ARRIVAL/STUDENT ABSENCE 832-5800(1)**



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**EXCEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR  
2019-2020:**

The EXCEL program will be using a new registration and payment system for the 2019-20 school year. The software offers a secure, convenient, web-based platform on which clients can register their child(ren) **online** for the EXCEL program.

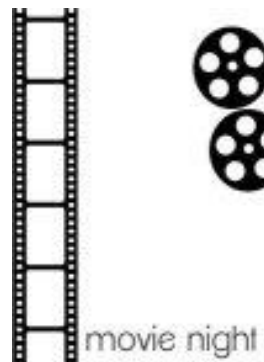
To ensure that the new system is fully operational for the registration period, the designated registration dates of April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 for current participants and May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 for new participants will be **postponed** until late Spring 2019. Despite the delay in the registration dates, it is anticipated that clients will be informed of their acceptance to the EXCEL program no later than June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Please visit <https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/excel-child-care/registration> in the coming weeks to receive the latest information on the 2019-20 EXCEL registration process and dates for early and general registration.

**Traffic Woes:**

Traffic continues to be an issue on our front and back loops. With the improved weather why not consider walking to school! It's great exercise for the mind and body. Our school will be sending out a letter regarding changes to our driveway access shortly as the front and back loops are extremely dangerous for students and safety vehicles cannot navigate through the traffic.

**Happy Passover:** The Passover holiday will be celebrated beginning March 30<sup>th</sup> ending April 7<sup>th</sup> by many in the Bedford South family who are Jewish. Passover, or *Pesach*, as it is called in Hebrew, is a seven or eight day festival that celebrates the freedom of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt about 3500 years ago. It is one of the most important festivals/holidays in the Jewish year. In preparation for Passover some families clean their houses thoroughly to remove all crumbs of chametz (leaven). This recalls the Jews leaving Egypt who did not have time to let their bread rise. In many Jewish homes children enjoy taking part in a ritual search for any specks of leaven left behind. On the evening before the Passover begins, a special service called a Seder ('Order') takes place over a meal with family and friends in the home. The Seder plate on the table consists of: a lamb bone; a roasted egg; a green vegetable to dip in salt water; bitter herbs made from horseradish; and charoset (a paste of chopped apples, walnuts and wine). "Happy Passover" to all those Jewish members of our Bedford South family who will be celebrating.



**Family Fun Night- April 5<sup>th</sup>!**

3 movie titles, 5 board games, a craft table

Pizza and concessions for sale

Doors open at 6:00

Movies (3 different titles, TBA) start at 6:30

(Board games and crafts for those not able to sit through a movie)

\$5/person

\*this is not a drop off event. Children must be accompanied by an adult. All proceeds will go to the Playground Fund. Details to follow.

**Light It Up Blue**, annually observed on April 2, is dedicated to raising awareness of autism. The initiative is generally associated with Autism Speaks. It is intended to raise international awareness of autism in support of both World Autism Awareness Day and Autism Awareness Month in the United States. Please wear blue on April 2<sup>nd</sup> in recognition of World Autism Day.



World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD) aims to put a spotlight on the hurdles that people with autism – and others living with autism – face every day. As a growing global health issue owing to its increasing exposure in the press and common knowledge, autism is an issue that is only gaining more understanding – and WAAD activities are planned every year to further increase and develop world knowledge of children and adults who have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

What's more, World Autism Awareness Day goes one step further to celebrate the unique talents of those with autism, while putting a huge focus on the warm embrace and welcome that these skills deserve through community events around the globe.

#### Parent teacher interviews- April 11th

Again, this term we will have parents/guardians book their own parent interviews on line through a the OPTIS program.

A letter will be sent home shortly reminding you to book your appointment. Parents/guardians will access the site via a website address which will be posted. If you do not have access to a computer to book an appointment, please let your child's teacher know so we can determine how to schedule your appointment. This program will allow parents/guardians to avoid conflicts with siblings schedules.



## Happy Easter

Easter is the most important festival of Christianity. It celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day after he was crucified (which took place on what we now call Good Friday) –the foundation on which Christianity is based. Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon following Spring Equinox on (March 20th this year).

Christians usually celebrate Easter by attending church on Easter Sunday. Many families and friends gather together for a special Easter dinner, often including roast turkey or baked ham. Easter is celebrated in many parts of the world by both Christians and non-Christians. Some names for "Easter" in other countries are: Paques (France); Pascua (Spain); Pasqua (Italy); Pashke (Albania); Pascha (Greece); Paaske (Norway); Pasen (Holland); and Pask (Sweden). Some symbols associated with Easter include: eggs, bunnies, lambs, lilies, crosses, palm branches, and hot cross buns. For many, Easter egg hunts and a visit from the Easter Bunny (who leaves treats hidden in the house) are part of the Easter celebration. "Happy Easter" to all those in our Bedford South family who will be celebrating soon.

## Baisakhi in India

The Baisakhi harvest celebration in countries such as in India is an occasion of dancing, singing, music, wearing of festive garments and religious praise. The festival marks the start of the New Year in the Nanakshahi solar calendar. Baisakhi, also known as Vaisakhi, is a harvest celebration observed in countries such as India. **What Do People do During Baisakhi?** Many people in India celebrate Baisakhi by dancing, singing, dressing in holiday finery, observing wrestling bouts and enjoying the many parades that take place at this time. Men dance the *Bhangra* and women dance the *Gidda* to celebrate this event. People enjoy holiday foods and special treats such as *kada prasad* (a type of sweet).