September 04, 2024

Dear Shatford Families,

Can you believe it! Tomorrow is the first day for students for the 2024-2025 school year. We welcome back our current families and extend open arms to our brand-new families. We are in for a fantastic year. Thursday and Friday will be very exciting days for all our students. This is just a few things I want to mention before school starts. I will put further information out via school messenger (This email format.) throughout the year. I try to be brief but sometimes there is a great deal of information. Looking forward to reconnecting with you and your child(ren). This partnership we have is so important. Together we are strong advocates for the emotional, social and academic development of our child(ren).

If you have questions or concerns please contact me at 902-857-4200 or swile@hrce.ca

In Education,

Sarah

**Class Lists**

Can be found using your parent powerschool login or on our webpage under news. Students are listed by their 310 numbers.

**Safe Arrival**

Just a reminder that Safe Arrival is automated. Please use one of the options to call in your child’s absence from school. (See attachment) You can also use this 1-833-582-6940 and save in your phone. Please try to avoid calling the school to report absences. However, we understand that at times this cannot be avoided.

**Cell Phone Use**

A new policy has been created to monitor the use of cellphones at school. From pp-grade six we are asking all students to leave their cell phones at home. Please contact myself if there are unforeseen circumstances that are exceptional. Thank you.

**School Lunches**

As you are aware the province has launched a new lunch program which will offer nutritious lunches every day. The ordering system for the first lunches that will be available at our school will be opened Oct 18 to 23. This is a provincial system that individual schools are not in charge of. **The actual lunch program will begin with an expected date of Oct 28.** I will let you know any more details that come my away as soon as possible. In the meantime check out the website at

nslunch.ca

**Home and School Meeting**

Our first Home and School meeting is scheduled for Sept. 17 6:30pm at the school and everyone is welcome. The Home and School is a cooperation of parents and staff that organize events and fundraisers for the betterment of our students. In the past, the Home and School organized events for students and families such as Halloween dances, auction, spaghetti suppers and family barbeques. The Home and School supports the school to purchase the extra things that would not be possible. As well Home and School helped fund free class trips, cultural events, artist in the classroom and many other things. We would love to have new members even if you can only make some of the meetings or want to volunteer to help with school events. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to email me. swile@hrce.ca

One of our first events will be a Halloween Family Dance on Oct. 30th. Stay tuned for more details.

**Grade six assessment – Oct 1-18**

All the grade sixes across the province are expected to take part in a provincial assessment in language and math. Information is taken from these assessments to guide teachers practice and to help students in any growth areas. If at all possible, please ensure your students are in attendance for these days. (A pamphlet will be sent home in the upcoming weeks.)

**Curriculum Night**

Curriculum night is fast approaching. It will take place on Sept 19 from 6:00-7:00pm. This is a night that teachers present information on the curriculum at their grade level. Students can also show their parents where their desk is etc. Each teacher will give the same presentation twice to accommodate larger families. One session will start at 6:00 and the second one will start at 6:30pm.

Just a reminder that this is not a time to talk about your specific child. This is about what is being taught. If you are wondering how your child is doing , you can call the school or email the individual teacher. A frozen treat will be available for your child.

**Chaperones for class trips**

We are starting to book some class trips (Oct 3 for grades 3 to 6 and Oct 7 for grades p-2) which are connected to our curriculum . In order to take students on trips we need chaperones**. All chaperones need the following paperwork submitted to the school before the trip date**. Each chaperone requires:

1.Vulnerable Sector Check (which includes a Criminal Record Check)

2. Child Abuse Registry Check.

**Sometimes these checks take two weeks** to get the results so if you would like to chaperone start applying as we do have some trips already planned for first week in October.

See links on our website

**Stand Up against Bullying Day-**

We will be celebrating this day on September 12. We are asking students to wear pink if it is possible.

**Terry Fox Walk and Run**

On September 24th  at 12:35pm we will honour Terry Fox’s memory and courage to fight cancer by walking and running around the school. Donations are welcome. You can send in money the day of the event, or you can do a donation online by using the following link.

<https://schools.terryfox.ca/ShatfordMemorialElem>