



Sackville Heights Junior High Newsletter

October 2018

CONTACT US:

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SHJH Family of Schools: Millwood Bus Cluster: 1

VP: D. Ferguson

Main Office Manager: J. Knight

Happy Fall SHJH students & families!!!

“Autumn....the year’s last, loveliest smile.” ~ William Cullen Bryant



Important Dates to Remember in October:

- October 8 Happy Thanksgiving!! No school
- October 10 School Spirit wear goes on sale for students
- October 11 & 12 Grade 6 Reading & Writing Provincial Assessment
- October 11 (a.m.) Dalhousie University PowWow for Indigenous students and guests
- October 11 (p.m.) Live Different Presentation – full school
- October 15 & 16 Grade 6 Math Provincial Assessment
- October 16 Bus Evacuation Drills
- **October 17 Professional Development Day – NO CLASSES**
- October 18 Dance! 6:30-8:30 p.m. **To ensure student safety, we ask that students are picked up right at 8:30 p.m. Thanks ☺**
- October 25 Picture Retake Day
- October 26 Provincial Professional Development Day - No Classes
- October 29 SAC Meeting 5:30 p.m. School library
- October 30 Last day for School Spirit wear sales for students

Here are a few important pieces of information this month:

- **SHJH School Spirit Wear Clothing:** We are excited to be able to offer school Spirit Wear clothing to our students this fall! SHJH clothing will go on sale Wednesday, October 10th and will be available until Tuesday, October 30th. Clothing items available include pull over hoodies, zip up hoodies, t-shirts and sweatpants. Photos and a price list will be available soon on our school webpage. Samples will be available in the main office for sizing.
- **School Cancellations:** The Halifax Regional School Board takes great care when making the decision to alter the normal operations of schools in the event of severe or inclement weather. Decisions on school closures and/or bus cancellations are posted on the board's website at www.hrsb.ns.ca, on Twitter at www.twitter.com/HRSB_Official, recorded on 464-INFO (4636) and communicated to all local radio stations. You can also receive notice of school and bus cancellations by e-mail or text message by following the link on the front page (left side) of the HRSB website. If you are interested in learning more on how decisions regarding closures and cancellations are made, visit <http://www.hrsb.ns.ca/content/id/1137.html> . Sackville Heights Junior High is in the Millwood family of schools in case schools are cancelled by feeder schools.
- **Counsellor's Corner:** My name is Mrs. Dempster and I am the school counsellor (guidance) at SHJH. I provide students with support for school, peer and family issues, handling stress and difficult emotions and developing problem-solving and self-advocacy skills. School counsellors support students individually, in small groups, or through whole-class presentations and can help students and families connect to community resources as needed. Currently, Ms. Kane is working with me to complete her counselling practicum through Acadia University. She will be at SHJH until Christmas. We will work together to serve the guidance and counselling needs at the school. Each month, I provide information in the newsletter that may be helpful for parents and students around issues that I commonly see at school and I will tell you about services and programs in the community. My website can be used to find more information and details about resources and supports that are available. Please feel free to contact me directly at 869-3804 or ldempster@hrsbc.ca.
- Our **Breakfast Program** is available from 8:25 - 8:40 a.m. Mon, Wed. & Fri. We offer students grab n' go items such as yoghurt tubes, cheese sticks, cereal bars. **We need parent volunteers for Monday and Friday!!** If you are available to help us, please contact the main office at: 902-869-3800

Our regular messages...!

- **Students are welcome to bring their own electronic devices to school; however, they are not permitted to use them to make calls or send/receive text message to anyone, including parents, during class time.** If students need to contact home for any reason, they should go to the main office where they can use their own device to call home if they wish or the main office phone. Thank you for your cooperation with this.
- All students are expected to **dress in a respectable and appropriate manner** during the school day at and at school events including dances.
- **SHJH is a NUT/Scent Aware school.** We have a number of students and staff who have strong anaphylactic, life threatening allergies to peanuts and tree nuts as well as those severely affected by scents such as perfumes and body sprays. For this reason, students and visitors MUST refrain from wearing scented products at school, especially AXE, and should not bring foods containing nuts to school. Thank you for your cooperation!

- **Late Arrival:** Parents/guardians can report a student absence or late by sending an email to: svjattendance@hrsb.ca or by calling **Late Arrival phone #: 902-869-3842**. Please do not report a student absence on the main office number or school email address. **Late Arrival needs volunteers!** If you are able to help with Late Arrival one day per week we would be extremely grateful. With 575 students this year, having a volunteer to help with Late Arrival means that student attendance in the morning can be monitored more quickly.
- **Drop off and pick up student safety:** Parents/guardians dropping students off in the morning or picking students up after school are asked to **pull over at the curb outside of the designated bus areas** i.e. not in the area directly in front of the school. Vehicles should drive through the driveway with caution! A reminder to parents that **students dropped off before 8:25 a.m. in the morning are not supervised** until teachers are on duty at 8:25 a.m.
- **Building Security:** The front door will be locked at 9 a.m. and then after the lunchtime at 12:45 p.m. In order to gain entrance to the school during school hours, visitors need to push the button on the camera located at the front door of the school. Someone will then give you access to the building. **All visitors must report to the main office upon entering the school.**