



Brookhouse News October 2016



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

THANK YOU to our Home & School Association for hosting the Ice Cream Social on September 29th. Thank you to all the families who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend curriculum night. This event was enjoyed by everyone.

BROOKHOUSE BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The School Breakfast Program at Brookhouse Elementary runs **three days each week on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays**. Many schools in HRM offer a breakfast program in recognition of the fact some students come to school without a nutritious breakfast. This can happen for a variety of reasons, including a late start to the day.

Any student who needs breakfast is welcome to attend, provided a signed registration form has been returned to the school, prior to the child's participation. Registration forms have been sent home with all students.

The Breakfast Club is looking for additional volunteers. If you are available Monday or Thursday or Friday from 7:45-9:00 am, and interested in helping out, please contact Leanne Christie at leannechristie5@hotmail.com

The Cereal/Bagel Drive was a big success! Thanks to all who donated.

SCHOOL MILK PROGRAM DELAY

The School Milk Program has been delayed due to a fridge malfunction. We are currently looking for a replacement fridge or if anyone has knowledge of refrigeration repair. As soon as we are able to store milk, we will be starting the School Milk Program. Students will receive the milk they have paid for as soon as possible. Thanks for your understanding.



NOURISH YOUR ROOTS

Veggie Box Pick Up is
Thursday, October 6



**PICTURE RETAKE DAY IS
Monday, October 17**

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

October 19, 5:30 pm

HOME & SCHOOL MEETING

October 19, 6:30 pm

**HOME & SCHOOL MOVIE NIGHT
October 27, 5:45 pm, \$2 at the door**

**CONFERENCE DAY – Friday, Oct. 28
No Students Present**

ALLERGY ALERTS!

Brookhouse School has students with severe, life-threatening allergies to all nuts, peanuts, shellfish and kiwi. Please do not send these products to school.



TERRY FOX RUN

Thank you to all who participated in the Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 25. It was a great success – raising more than \$200!

Thanks to the Home & School for the refreshing popsicles!

**STOCK BUS TRACKER
#WHERESEMBUS???**

Stock Transportation has created an app that allows parents/guardians and students to track their school bus in near real time. It's called the **Stock Bus Tracker**. The app is now live and ready for use. Bus students will receive information how to download the app and how to log in. Bus students will also receive information on Frequently Asked Questions that Stock has done their best to answer.

Please note the busing information Stock uses comes directly from PowerSchool. To log in, users will need the last four digits of their child's Student ID number – this will be sent with bus students.

For further questions related to bus routing or about how the app works, please call 902-481-8400.

FORKS, SPOONS & STRAWS

Please remember to pack a spoon, fork and/or straw with your child(ren)'s snacks or lunches. The school does not supply these items.

**PUBLIC HEALTH RESOURCES –
HEAD LICE**

Head lice are a common nuisance in schools that previously resulted in long periods of needless absence. While unpleasant, they are not a health concern.

If your child has lice please call the office at 902-435-8318, keep him/her home and have him/her treated before he/she returns to school.

Parents, teachers and community members can contact 811 or their local pharmacy for information on head lice. The Department of Health and Wellness also has a useful pamphlet at:

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publications/07135HeadLicePamphletEn.pdf>

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Just a reminder to our Brookhouse community, we do have cameras to help monitor our school yard as we continue to make improvements to our grounds. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

IMPORTANT Reminders . . .

☺ **When dropping off items for students**, and in an effort to minimize classroom interruptions and maximize student learning, **ALL** items such as sneakers, lunches and snacks are to be dropped off at the office with Mrs. Fraser. Thank you very much.

☺ **When picking up students**, please meet them outside by their dismissal door. Otherwise you will need to enter through the front door, sign in and collect

a badge, then return the badge and sign out when you leave.

☺ **Meeting with classroom teachers.** We are a welcoming school and value parent input. If you would like to meet with your child's teacher, please call or email ahead to make an appointment.

BROOKHOUSE ELEMENTARY LOST AND FOUND

Every year Brookhouse Elementary School's Lost and Found is a big supporter of local charities who collect clothing. If you would prefer your child(ren) get their clothing back, **please label all items.**

The Lost and Found Bin (inside the front doors) already has quite a few sweaters, coats, shoes and miscellaneous items. Be sure to have a look.

NEWSLETTERS, NOTICES, MEMOS

The monthly calendars and newsletters will be put on the Brookhouse Elementary School website as close to the beginning of each month as possible. Please note the Home & School's *Brookhouse Buzzzz* will also be posted online in place of sending home paper copies.



Be sure to look for our monthly Newsletters & Calendars at:
www.brookhouse.ednet.ns.ca

There will be paper copies of newsletter/calendars, as well as The H&S Brookhouse Buzzzz, available on the notice shelf in the lobby.

Other notices, memos, etc., from the office will normally be sent home on Wednesdays with the exception of items required to be sent home by the School Board within a specific time frame.

WELCOME TO THE COUNSELLOR'S CORNER!

Career Development in Elementary School?

Children in elementary school are not choosing courses that will affect their future employment, nor are they applying for jobs. However, that does not mean that career education and development are not relevant for them. At younger ages, career development looks like:

- Understanding themselves- their preferences, skills, passions and temperament
- Learning about different available occupations

Try not to steer your child away from any occupations at this age. When your daughter tells you she wants to be a rapper, try to help her figure out what it is that attracts her about that. Does she like to be creative? To perform? When your son says he wants to design video games, ask whether he wants to work outside or inside, with others or on his own. Does he like detailed work and solving problems? The specific occupations they name will likely change as they get older, but many of the qualities of the work may still be there. For example, both doctors and personal care workers help take care of people and work with families. These conversations can be fun, eye-opening, and can help your child begin to recognize characteristics about themselves that will help them shape their futures.

NS ACTION PLAN FOR EDUCATION

New year and new initiatives for students and teachers

As we head into year two of Nova Scotia's Action Plan for Education, there are many more exciting initiatives for students at all grade levels this school year.

This fall, students in grades primary to 3 will benefit from hands-on learning, including

using floor robots to learn sequencing and programming. Students in grades 4-6 will benefit from Innovation and Exploration Kits that include Spheros and Makey Makey invention kits. Students in grades 7 to 12 will learn coding through events, such as the Hour of Code and STEAM Olympics, and courses, such as Computer Programming 12. Coding promotes problem solving, teamwork, critical thinking, creativity and innovation. These skills are not only related to learning math, science and the arts, but they are also directly linked to many careers, including computer programming and the marine industries.

With the province's first literacy strategy for students in all grades, there will be a greater focus on the teaching of reading and writing and the development of oral communication skills. Reading Recovery support has been increased for grade 1 students. Students in Grades 4 to 6 will have a renewed curriculum, with more time for literacy and math. Class caps are expanded to grades 4 to 6.

To help more students succeed in math, additional supports will be made available for both teachers and students. Career education outcomes will assist students as they begin thinking about their futures and the many possibilities ahead. To learn more about what is new this year, go to <http://novascotia.ca/educationactionplan/> to sign up for ongoing updates from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

PARKING REMINDERS

- ❖ **Parents/Guardians are NOT permitted to drive into the parking lot to drop off and pick up children.** As you can appreciate this poses a huge safety risk to our students; and we ask that you drop off and pick up your children off school grounds on the sidewalk. **Please do not drive on the school grounds at any time.** When getting dropped off for school there are children who run across the parking lot instead of walking along the sidewalk and entering the school

grounds via the end driveways. Please discuss this with your child(ren) and the hazards of running across a parking lot with moving vehicles.

- ❖ Parking on the street is permitted in certain areas only. These areas are clearly marked with signage and HRM regularly patrols, issuing tickets for violations.
- ❖ We ask everyone to be good Brookhouse neighbours and ensure driveways are not blocked when picking up and dropping off your children.

SCHOOL CANCELLATION Due to Inclement Weather and Other Exceptional Circumstances

Parents / Guardians should be aware that school could be closed by both weather cancellations and emergency closures (extended power outages, loss of heat, loss of water and other exceptional circumstances). It is imperative that you provide the office with the most recent contact phone numbers.

All schools are part of only one Family. Brookhouse Elementary School is a member of the Prince Andrew High Family of Schools.

Brookhouse Elementary School has a communication network (telephone tree) devised so that parents/ guardians can be contacted if school is cancelled during the day.

Key Messages to Parents:

- The decision to cancel school will usually be made as close to 6:00 a.m. as possible and it will be communicated on the radio, the Board's website www.hrsb.ca, the main switchboard and through the school cancellation number: 464-INFO (4636).
- Parents are reminded to listen for either the Family name or the individual school name in all cancellation announcements.
- Parents should ensure that students are properly dressed for the weather conditions, regardless of whether they walk to school or travel by bus.
- Before dropping students off at school on inclement weather days, parents should ensure that staff have arrived and are

immediately available to provide supervision.

- When busses are cancelled and schools are open, parents must use their own discretion with regard to sending their children to school.
- When schools are open, meaningful learning activities will be going on in classrooms.
- Students who are unable to attend due to inclement weather and/or bus cancellation will not be penalized because of assignments given or due on that day. However, please remember to call the safe arrival line (435-8466) to let the school know if your child will be absent.

**24 HOUR ABSENTEE/LATE LINE
435-8466**

**HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY
HALLOWE'EN**

We wish all Brookhouse students a safe and happy Hallowe'en.



Costume accessories resembling weapons (i.e. guns, knives, swords, etc.) are not permitted at school.

