

ÉCOLE ST. JOSEPH'S A. MCKAY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL: CHEYANNE GORMAN-TOLLIVER

ACTING, VICE PRINCIPAL: KATIE MOTT

ADMIN ASSISTANT: SANDY HARRISON



Upcoming Dates:

April 1: Good Friday-NO SCHOOL

April 2: Autism Awareness Day

April 4: PD Day/Parent Teacher Conferences-NO SCHOOL for students

April 9: Eid al-Fitr!
(Celebration to mark the end of Ramadan)

April 16: School Advisory Council (SAC) 6pm-7pm
Home & School Meeting (H&S) 7pm-8pm via Zoom

April 22: Earth Day-School Clean Up

April 22-30: Passover

Violin Classes

Monday:

Grade 5 11:50-12:30 pm
Grade 4: 12:30-1:10pm

Wednesday:

Gr. 4 11:50-12:30pm
Grade 5: 12:30pm-1:10pm

Band:

Monday: 10:40-11:40am
Tuesday: 1:10-2:10pm

Contacts:

Phone: 902- 493-5180

Website: <https://sje.hrce.ca/> **Email:** sjam@hrce.ca

Safe Arrival: 1-833-582-6940

Follow us on **Twitter** @SJAMSchool & the **SJAM Home & School Facebook Page**.

Dear SJAM Families:

April is here and so is the final term of the school year—Term 3! In this last three months of school, it is so important that students attend daily. Teachers are assessing learning on a daily basis in various ways. Ms. T, Ms. Mott, and HRCE are frequently looking at the progress of all students in Literacy & Math and want to see our data reflecting that ALL our students are excelling. If you have any questions or need support in getting your child to school, please reach out to us, we want to help! All our students are scholars and we want them to show it!

Parent/Teacher Conferences are coming up on April 4th. The hours are 1-4pm and 5-7pm, however, there are some teachers who have made schedule adjustments within those times. There will also be teachers who are meeting at the Mulgrave Caring & Learning Centre. Whether you connect in person, over the phone, video conference, or email it is so important you that you get the full view of your child as a learner at SJAM. Make sure you reach out not only to the classroom teacher but also, Ms. Lucas (Phys. Ed teacher), Ms. Anderson (Music Teacher), Ms. Fielding (Gr.4-6 Core French), and any other educators that are facilitating your child's education. If April 4th doesn't work for you, please reach out to the classroom teacher to schedule an alternate time.



Home & School Association:

Join us! We meet **(Via Microsoft TEAMS)** to cook up future fundraising and community building activities for SJAM. All parents/guardians of current students are invited to join the team, which also includes SJAM staff.



Not able to come to a meeting but would like to know when we need volunteers? Do you like to create electronic posters? Do you have fundraising ideas? We have many ways in which you can be a part of the school community with us, and you are not required to attend all meetings.



All you need to do is email us at sjamhomeandschool@hotmail.com and let us know that you would like to receive the invites to our monthly Teams meetings or what talents you have to lend and we can include

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 7:00pm. Hope to see you then!

School Advisory Council (SAC):

School Advisory Councils (SACs) play an important role in supporting student success at the school community level. An SAC is an advisory body to the school principal and the Regional Centre for Education (HRCE), on a range of issues related to the school and the school system. Membership can vary, but generally consists of the school principal, parents, teachers, and other community members.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 6pm via Zoom. If you are interested, please reach out to Ben Stone, SAC Chair, at hrce-sac-sjam@gnspecs.ca or Cheyanne Tolliver, Principal cgorman-tolliver@hrce.ca

SJAM Fundraiser:

The Home and School Association is in full planning mode for our "Biggest Fundraiser of the Year". Our event's name is *SJAM Community Social and Silent Auction*, and it is an adult only (19+) event that will occur on Friday, April 26th at 7pm at the Mayflower Curling Club (off of Young Street by the Superstore). The silent auction part of the evening will occur from 7-9, with the bidding ending at 8:30. We have local businesses in attendances showcases their products. 100% of the profits from the event go straight towards supporting SJAM's students through the Home and School Association's support. Plan to come join us but if you can't there are many other ways to support: share the information with friends/family/social media, donate an item to the auction, or volunteer the night of the event. A school messenger will go out with further details.



Solar Eclipse 2024:

Preparing for the Solar Eclipse

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is pleased to provide all students in Nova Scotia with eclipse glasses to view the upcoming solar eclipse safely.

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the Earth and the sun, obscuring the view of the sun from a section of the Earth. This event is extremely rare, with the next solar eclipse not occurring in the province until 2079. Nova Scotia will be just outside of the zone of totality for the solar eclipse; for this reason, it is important that individuals have appropriate protection to view this historic event. The solar eclipse will begin at 3:27 p.m., reaching maximum coverage at 4:38 p.m., and ending at 5:44 p.m. For more information, visit <https://thediscoverycentre.ca/solar-eclipse-solaire/>



Happy Education Week to our hard-working staff! We appreciate everything you do for our students!



Nova Scotia Education Week: Education Week 2024

Nova Scotia's annual Education Week will take place from April 14-20, 2024.

This year's theme is Connections to Community and recognizes the work of teachers, student support staff, administrators and Early Childhood Educators who take deliberate effort to enhance and empower their larger school communities,

including families and the community at large.

At SJAM it is our belief that all the adults in the building are educators and on a daily basis they interact with students in a way that shows them they are seen and heard for who they are as a individual and a learner! From our Caretaker to our Classroom Teachers and everyone in between we say thank you for showing up and showing out for our students!

Update on Rebuild of SJAM School:



The **School Steering Team (SST)** comprised of HRCE staff, provincial staff, SJAM school staff, architects, SAC members and parents/guardians are discussing the design of the new building and will communicate this to the community as the process continues. For more information, please click here: <https://www.hrce.ca/about-hrce/operations-services/capital-projects>

Life @ SJAM2:

March seemed like a blip on the calendar! We had a week of school before March Break then after was assessment and a set of 4-day weeks for the Easter Holiday. However, we can report that the SJAM Basketball Team ended their season and how awesome was it! Most importantly students had fun and learned the characteristics of good sportsmanship that will transfer over to many aspects of life. Again, thanks to the teachers who volunteered their time for practice and games: Ms. Lucas, Mme. Swinamer, and Ms. Young. Also, thanks to staff and families who came out and supported! A huge thanks you also to students, who represented themselves, their families, and their school with greatness!

Looking forward to exciting and fun events coming up for students and staff at SJAM: Earth Day Clean Up, DAL/SJAM Day, the Grade 3-6 Spring Concert in May, and our SJAMboree in June!

Thank you for your continued support,

Your SJAM Admin Team