

# École St. Joseph A. McKay Elementary School



## October Newsletter

September was an exciting month and a great start to school. With your support and continued involvement we are looking forward to another fantastic month and school year. Thanks to all of you who came out to Curriculum Night & our Ice Cream Social. Please take a moment to look at upcoming events and ways you can be involved in school life this month.

### Safe-Arrival

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason please call our Safe-Arrival line at 902-493-6180. If your child arrives after the attendance has been taken, they must check in at the office so we can avoid unnecessary calls.

### Life-Threatening Allergies & Epi Pens

Our HRCE policy states that students who have identified life-threatening allergies must carry their epinephrine auto injectors (epi pen) on their person at all times while at school. We have several students who have life-threatening allergies to peanuts and eggs. **Do not send snacks or lunches that contain nuts and nut products.** We are also a scent smart school and encourage visitors to avoid wearing strong scents when at school.

### Medic Alert No Child Without Program

The No Child Without program offers a free MedicAlert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of four and up to their 14th birthday. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a MedicAlert membership through this program. For further information come to the office for a brochure or go to [www.nochildout.ca](http://www.nochildout.ca). If your child is already part of the No Child Without program and there have been changes to their medical condition, medications or emergency contact information, call MedicAlert at 1-866-679-3220 Ext. 1 to update your child's file.

### Hot Lunch

Please note that hot lunches begin with Pizza delivered on **Monday, October 1 – Monday, December 17.**<sup>th</sup> Subway begins **on Friday October 5 - Friday, December 21.**<sup>st</sup> Lunch Lady orders are available on Wednesdays from September- June. Families order and pay directly online: [www.thelunchlady.ca](http://www.thelunchlady.ca) (St. Joseph's A. McKay) to place your order.

### Reminders:

#### October 3

SAC @5:30  
Home & School @6:30

#### October 8

No School - Thanksgiving

#### October 17 & 26

PD Days – No School for Students

### Did you Know?


SJAM has an account at Tanner's Recycling 6393 Bayne St, Halifax. You can drop your recyclables off at any time and credit them to the Home & School Account

Principal –  
Natalie Hagerty  
Acting Vice Principal –  
Stephanie Kenny  
Administrative Assistant –  
Barb Dewar

5389 Russell St.  
Halifax, NS B3K 1W8

Phone – 902- 493-5180  
Safe Arrival – 902-493-6180  
Fax – 902- 493-5186

Website <https://sje.hrce.ca/>  
Email – [sjam@hrce.ca](mailto:sjam@hrce.ca)

Follow us on Twitter   
[@SJAMSchool](https://twitter.com/SJAMSchool)



Remember to check the website at <https://sje.hrce.ca/> for this newsletter and the most up-to-date information

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### SJAM Breakfast

We are pleased to be able to offer a “grab & go” breakfast selection here at SJAM every morning. Teachers have a basket of food in their rooms that include items like cheese strings, yogurt tubes, raisins, nutri-grain bars, cheerios and apples that students can access. The breakfast program is funded through a grant from the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) and is supported through funds raised in the recent Nourish Your Roots fundraiser. Please contact the school if you would like to find out how to support our breakfast program.

### Safety

The security of your children is important to us and we have a number of measures in place to facilitate their safety:

- Supervision of students begins at **8:40 am**. Please do not leave children on school grounds unattended before that time.
- To avoid congestion and to assist your child in establishing routines, please allow your child to enter the school with their line. We ask that parents do not go to their child’s classroom. Students will be met on the playground in the morning by their teacher and dismissed on the playground at the end of the day.
- If you need to pick your child up before the end of the day we ask that you come to the office and sign them out before they leave the building or grounds.
  - If at all possible, please avoid picking students up early. Leaving early will result in students missing part of the instruction and calling students out of class early also leads to disruption in the classroom.
- When students in grades 3-6 arrive, they should go directly to the upper yard rather than through the building
- Please do not park in the bus lane on Russell Street when dropping students off.

### Parents/Guardians & Visitors to the School

Any person visiting the school for any purpose must enter through the building’s main door on Russell Street and report to the main office. Those remaining in the building for any period of time must sign in and receive an HRCE visitor or volunteer badge. All assigned staff is required to wear identification badges at all times. Parents/Guardians waiting for students at dismissal times are asked to please wait outside. This will enable teachers to arrange for a safe, orderly and timely dismissal.

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