

École St. Joseph's A. McKay Elementary School



May Newsletter

Spring Has Sprung! (*We Hope!*) The weather is improving and we continue to be busy here at SJAM – in the classroom and outside. This newsletter is meant to inform and update you on the many events taking place this spring. Please take a moment to read through the newsletter and add the dates to your calendar.

Lunch Hour Change - September 2019

This year we see the majority of our students staying at school during lunch. With fewer students needing to go off site we have been working in consultation with the SAC and are planning to shorten lunch by 10 minutes. This will take effect in September 2019. The lunch hour will be from 12:10-12:55 pm.

To account for this change, we have proposed that school will begin ten minutes later in the morning. Students can be dropped off on the playground beginning at 8:50 and the bell to enter the building will be at 9:00. This will not affect afternoon dismissal times. We feel this will positively impact the quality of our morning and afternoon instruction.

Please know we will work in collaboration with you during this transition period and parents encouraged to contact the office at 902-493-5180 with questions or concerns.

EXCEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR 2019-2020:

The EXCEL program will be using a new registration and payment system for the 2019-20 school year. The software offers a secure, convenient, web-based platform on which clients can register their child(ren) online for the EXCEL program.

To ensure that the new system is fully operational for the registration period, the designated registration dates of April 29th, 2019 for current participants and May 6th, 2019 for new participants will be postponed until late spring 2019. Despite the delay in the registration dates, it is anticipated that clients will be informed of their acceptance to the EXCEL program no later than June 28th, 2019.

Please visit <https://www.hrce.ca/about-our-schools/parents/excel-child-care/registration> to receive the latest information.

Reminders:

May 1

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

May 17

No School for students- PD Day

May 20

No School- Victoria Day

May 25

Spring Fair 11:00-2:00

May 30

Primary Orientation @3:30

May 31

Variety Show

Did you know?

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

We serve breakfast every day.
Students can choose from a variety of grab and go snacks available in their classrooms throughout the morning.

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

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

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Primary Parent Information Session

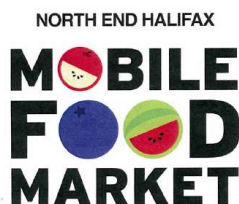
There will be a general information session for all parents/guardians of new Primary students during primary orientation on May 30, 2019 at 3:30. Once students are settled in the primary rooms, parents will meet in the library. This afternoon session will provide an overview of the Primary program and information pertaining to the school. Parents/guardians will have an opportunity to meet school administration, primary teachers, and specialist teachers.

Primary Student Orientation

At the same time as our parent meeting on May 30, 2019, an orientation session will be provided for our new Primary students. Students will be invited to spend time in a Primary classroom. This will provide an opportunity for students to become familiar with the classroom setting, our school and some of our staff. This is for students only. Parents are asked to drop off their child for this short period of time and pick them up afterwards.

Northern Lights Festival

The annual Northern Lights Lantern Festival will be on August 10th 2019 from 4:30-9:30pm (rain date Thursday August 15th at Merv Sullivan Park (The Pit). The organizing committee is looking for your help – they need donations of glass jars for the lantern making. These can be dropped off at the school up until June 28.



EVERY SECOND
SATURDAY, 9:30 - 11:00am

SUMMER 2019 LOCATION
BETHEL CHURCH
5406 Roomie Street, Halifax
At the corner of Devonshire and Roomie Street

May 4, 18	August 10, 24
June 1, 15, 29	September 7, 21
July 13, 27	October 5, 19

Looking ahead to June – Mark Your Calendar

June 13– Grade Six Closing at 1:00
June 21 – SJAMBoree
June 24 & 25 – Grade Six Trip
June 27 – No School for Students
June 28 - Last day of school

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Volunteers

As we come to the time of year when classes plan their year-end trips, we remind you that any volunteer involved in trips, coaching or who may have regular and direct contact or responsibility for students with limited supervision by HRSB staff must provide annually:

- A completed Department of Community Services Form XIII – Child Abuse Register – Request for Search
- A certified and true copy of a current (completed in the 3 months before volunteer activities begin) Police Reference/ Records Check.

Please contact the office for more information about these forms.

Year End Trip

We're so excited about our year end trip! On June 21 our whole school will be spending the day at Africville Park and you're invited! This outdoor day in our community, promises to be a full of activity, learning, music and fun. Stay tuned for more details to follow.

Yoga Club at SJAM School

We are pleased to once again offer a Yoga Club at SJAM School for the next six weeks. Interested students in grades three - six will participate on Thursday at lunch time from 12:00 -12:55 beginning on **May 9**. Please note that participation is limited to a maximum of 25 students per group and participants will be chosen on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Yoga Instructors Julie Coleman and Leanne Whiting from Grow a Lotus Yoga will facilitate the sessions with SJAM teachers Ms. McKenzie and Ms. Dewar. Yoga mats are provided.

Please complete and detach the form below by **May 7** if your child is interested in participating. If you are interested in participating with your child, you are welcome!

I, _____, give my child, _____ in grade _____, permission to participate in the SJAM Yoga Club. I understand that my child requires a bagged lunch that does not require heating, and water, and that my child needs to dress comfortably. I also understand that participation is limited to 25 students.

I am interested in participating as a parent in the SJAM Yoga Club: YES or NO

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