

ÉCOLE ST. JOSEPH'S A. MCKAY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL: AMY HUNT

VICE PRINCIPAL: CHEYANNE GORMAN-TOLLIVER

ADMIN ASSISTANT: SANDY HARRISON



Upcoming Dates:

March 1: School Naming Committee, 3:30

March 7th-11th: SJAM Spirit Week

March 8th: International Women's Day

March 8th: Home & School Association, 6:30

March 14-18: March Break

March 21: International Day for the Elimination of Discrimination

March 22: SAC, 6pm

March 23: Assessment & Evaluation Day

April 5th: Report Cards sent home to families

April 7th: PD & Parent-Teacher Day

Contacts:

Phone: 902- 493-5180

Safe Arrival: 902-493-6180

(Let us know if your child will be absent please!)

Message to Families:

Happy March! We are excited to welcome Spring.

This month, teachers will be focusing on collecting assessment data in math and literacy, and finalizing Term 2 report cards on March 23rd. They will be in touch with parents and guardians directly about setting up parent-teacher conferences on April 7th. We hope to see you then. We are grateful for your support and partnership in your child's education!

More information will be released from HRCE before March Break in terms of revised health and safety protocols which will be in place after March Break at school. Stay tuned!

Please participate in the school naming process (please see page 4 for the link to the survey or check your child's backpack for the paper form!)

Daily Covid-19 Checklist:

If students are not feeling well or have any symptoms, they need to stay home for at least 24 hours or until feeling better. Use the [daily checklist](#) below to check for symptoms of Covid-19:

COVID-19 Daily Checklist

It is important to closely monitor your health and the health of those you care for to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses like the flu.

Vaccination is your best defense against COVID-19 and some other illnesses like the flu.

NOTE: If you are in a school or child care setting, you need to follow this checklist AND instructions for the **Test to Protect Program**.

1

Do you feel sick?

If yes, stay home or put a mask on right away and go home. Keep doing healthy habits like washing your hands and coughing or sneezing into your elbow. Avoid school, work, child care settings and public spaces. Do not return until you feel better (without fever medications) for at least 24 hours. It's ok if you still have a mild cough or runny nose, unless you are in one of the situations below.

2

In the past 48 hours, have you had, or are you currently experiencing:



Cough (new or worsening)

OR two or more of the following symptoms (new or worsening);



Fever
(i.e. chills/sweats)



Sore
throat



Runny nose/
nasal congestion



Headache



Shortness of breath

If yes, go home or stay home as noted above. Follow [Public Health instructions](#) for testing and isolation.

3

Have you visited a COVID-19 exposure site?

Check the list of [COVID-19 exposure sites](#) and follow Public Health instructions. You may need to be tested. You may also need to self-isolate.

4

Have you been outside Nova Scotia in the past 14 days?

If yes, check if you are required to [isolate due to travel](#).

5

Has someone who tested positive for COVID-19 told you that you are one of their close contacts?

If yes, follow [Public Health instructions](#).

novascotia.ca/coronavirus
nshealth.ca/coronavirus

Last updated January 14, 2022

NOVA SCOTIA



A Note from the SJAM Home and School Association (HSA)!

Join us! The **SJAM HSA** meets (via Zoom) on the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm 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.

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 Zoom meetings and we can send you the link.



Our next meeting is March 8th at 6:30pm.

A Note from the SJAM School Advisory Council (SAC)!

Our School Advisory Council (SAC) is looking for parents/guardians, staff and community members that reflect the diversity of our community to serve as a member for a two-year term. The SAC is an advisory body that supports school administration. For more information about the role of the SAC, please see: <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/SAC>

Our next meeting is March 22nd at 6:00. If you are interested, please reach out to Ben Stone, SAC Chair, at ben@zuppatheatre.com and/or Amy Hunt, SJAM Principal, at HuntA@hrce.ca



Fun Fact: During SJAM Spirit Week in March, the whole school will be participating in the "**GREAT BIG CRUNCH**", a nutrition activity offered by Nourish Nova Scotia! Apples for All!

Update on the Rebuild of SJAM School:



Our SJAM school building at 5389 Russell Street is being replaced! The estimated timeline for this process is as follows:

- relocate SJAM students & staff to 1589 Walnut Street in south end for two school years (across from LeMarchant-St.Thomas);
- demolish the current building by March and start construction in Spring 2022
- return to a new school on the existing site (5389 Russell Street) in September 2023.

Please complete the "School Naming Committee" Survey at the following link to offer input into the school naming process:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd4Hzl7UADvmROaKEaHhuzfnDrtefQrRvFofGECPW-BmhBstQ/viewform>

For updates and meeting minutes on the replacement, please see the following link:

www.hrce.ca/about-hrce/operations-services/capital-projects/replacement-school-sjam

RECESS & LUNCH AT SJAM:

- Students should bring a refillable water bottle each day.
- We do not have microwaves. Students need lunches that do not require heating. Using a thermos is a great way to send a hot lunch.
- If your child requires utensils to eat the lunch they are bringing, you need to send utensils. Recess should be a quick snack while children play for 15 mins.
- Students eat lunch with their classroom teacher for 20 minutes, and have 40 minutes of activity time on the playground with lunch monitors. In the case of inclement weather, students will spend the activity time in classrooms.
- On Fridays, we offer a free hot lunch to all interested families, sponsored by Admiral Insurance (as long as funds allow). To participate, fill out the form at the end of each month and send it back to school by the due date.

