

# ÉCOLE ST. JOSEPH'S A. MCKAY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL: AMY HUNT

VICE PRINCIPAL: CHEYANNE GORMAN-TOLLIVER

ADMIN ASSISTANT: SANDY HARRISON



## Upcoming Dates:

May 1 & 2: Eid

May 4: SJAM Basketball  
Game at Westmount (3:30)

May 5: Cinco de Mayo

May 8: Mother's Day

May 10: Home & School  
Meeting via Zoom (6:30)

May 17th: School Steering  
Team Meeting (6:00)

May 24: School Advisory  
Council via Zoom (6:00)

May 20th: Shauntay Grant  
workshops with grades 3-6

May 23rd: Holiday

## Contacts:

**Phone:** 902- 493-5180

**Safe Arrival:** 902-493-6180

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

**Fax:** 902- 493-5186

**Website:** <https://sje.hrce.ca/>

**Email:** [sjam@hrce.ca](mailto:sjam@hrce.ca)

Follow us on **Twitter**

@SJAMSchool & the **SJAM**

## Message to Families:

Spring has Sprung! Please continue to send your child with weather-appropriate clothing and comfortable outdoor sneakers as they will be spending an increasing amount of time outside.

Please note there are no hot lunches in the months of May and June. We are grateful to have received a grant from Admiral Insurance that allowed us to provide free, healthy, hot lunches to students until the end of April.

We appreciate your patience as we all learn how to use the new automated SchoolMessenger Safe Arrival System which is being rolled out across HRCE. If your child will be absent from school, you can report the absence ahead of time at your convenience using the following three methods:

- Call 1-833-582-6940
- Website: <http://sishrsb.ednet.ns.ca/public/>
- App: SchoolMessenger Download

If you need any assistance with these methods, please let us know!

## 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.... (continued)....**

All students, staff and guests to the building require masks. Use the following [daily checklist](#) below to check for symptoms of Covid-19 each day:

## 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](https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus)  
[nshealth.ca/coronavirus](https://nshealth.ca/coronavirus)

Last updated January 14, 2022

NOVA SCOTIA

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

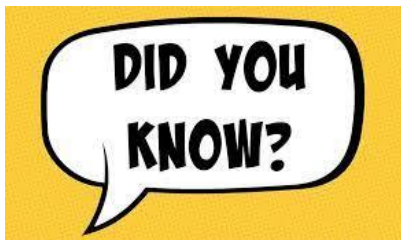


### **Interim Treasurer Needed!**

Our current Treasurer is taking a six month leave of absence. We are looking for someone to fill in while he is away. Interested? Email us at [sjamhomeandschool@hotmail.com](mailto:sjamhomeandschool@hotmail.com)

Everyone: Welcome!

As always, all guardians/parents of current students are welcome to join the HSA. We cook up community building and fundraising activities at 6:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month. Wanna join? Email us at [sjamhomeandschool@hotmail.com](mailto:sjamhomeandschool@hotmail.com) and we'll send you invites to our monthly ZOOM meetings. Our next meeting is May 10th at 6:30.



Our SJAM Home & School Association has an account at Tanner's Recycling!

Recycling piling up in your house? Drop off your recycling and tell them it's for SJAM!

**Tanners Recycling, 6393 Bayne St, Open Monday to Thursday 8am - 4pm**

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

**Our School Advisory Council (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 May 17th at 6:00 via Zoom. If you are interested, please reach out to Ben Stone, SAC Chair, at [ben@zuppatheatre.com](mailto:ben@zuppatheatre.com) and/or Amy Hunt, SJAM Principal, at [HuntA@hrce.ca](mailto:HuntA@hrce.ca).

---

## 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 and start construction in Spring 2022
- return to a new school on the existing site (5389 Russell Street) in September 2023.

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](http://www.hrce.ca/about-hrce/operations-services/capital-projects/replacement-school-sjam)

## RECESS & LUNCH AT SJAM<sub>2</sub>:

- 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.
- 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.
- NO HOT LUNCH IN MAY & JUNE.
- If students bring lunches that require utensils, please send in utensils! Thank you.



## SUMMER OFFERINGS FOR STUDENTS from Heartwood Centre:

Hello,

My name is Kayla Bernard, I am a Recreation Therapist and Coordinator of HeART Mental Wellness Art Programming for Youth at Heartwood Centre for Community Youth Development. I am reaching out to share with you, and your school information about our summer programming for our program HeART for youth in grades 4 to 12.

HeART is a mental wellness art program, for youth by youth, founded in January 2019 by Kayla Bernard, a Mi'kmaw youth from the community of Sipekne'katik First Nation. HeART addresses the need for access to basic coping skills in the mental health field and non-competitive art outlets for youth in the recreation sector in Halifax.

In the program, youth express themselves through a variety of creative forms, while learning and practicing mindfulness, in a supportive peer setting. Our programs are designed with smaller participant caps, which allows for more purposeful and supportive peer engagement. HeART programming is centered in four core approaches: Decolonial, Leisure Education, Community Youth Development, and Strength & Resiliency.

The best part is our programming is youth led! Which means allowing the participants in the program to design and create their own experiences, with the support of our staff. Helping them build skills in leadership and interpersonal relationships.

**Cost:** This summer we are very excited to be able to offer all our summer programs for **FREE** to our community. Families are welcome to make a donation towards our programming if they would like, but it is not required.

This summer we are excited to offer half day summer camps in July and August and weekly evening programs for middle school and high school youth. We do ask that if families are to sign up for a day camp spot that they commit to the spot. As our camps fill up fast, and if a youth signs up, and does not attend it is taking the opportunity away from another family. Here are our offerings this summer, followed by my contact information:

### Weekly Evening Programs

#### **Middle Youth Program: For Youth in grades 6 to 8**

Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8pm

Link for Middle Youth Program Registration:

<https://forms.gle/5jcq8bPNDU3Etug36>

#### **Older Youth Program: For Youth in grades 9 to 12**

Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8pm.

Link for Older Youth Program Registration:

<https://forms.gle/nNjmxjWjukf1jjPH6>



### **Summer Day Camps**

Our half day camps are free, with a maximum of 10 youth. They consist of mindfulness, games, art activities, swimming, and a community outing.

Camps run from 1-4:30 each day.

### **July Summer Camps**

July: 11th -15th Younger Youth (Ages 8-12)

July: 25th - 29th Middle Youth (Ages 12-15)

### **August Summer Camps**

August: 8th -12th Older + Middle Youth (Ages 13+)

August: 15th -19th Younger Youth (Ages 8-12)

Summer camp registration:

<https://forms.gle/qSbqhCBqtbdfS6gi7>

**All Programs will be taking place at Powerhouse Youth Centre: 1606 Bell Rd,  
Halifax, NS B3H 2Z3**

Yours in Community,

**Kayla Bernard**

***Recreation Therapist &***

***Coordinator: HeART Mental Wellness Art Programming for Youth***

*Pronouns: She, Her*

Phone: 902-402-0683 (Mobile)

kayla@heartwood.ns.ca



Special thanks to Wayne Mason, HRM Councillor (Halifax South Downtown) for a \$10K grant for outdoor playground improvements! We have ordered outdoor classroom furniture and supplies to enhance outdoor time at school! Thank you, Wayne!