

Gulf Shore School Newsletter

September 2023

Principal: Anita Conohan
Vice Principal: Klasina Driscoll

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Welcome:

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. A special welcome to those of you who are new to our school.

This newsletter is the first of a monthly newsletter from Gulf Shore. We will be sending out a reminder to parents that the newsletter is ready to view and it will be posted on the website at www.edu.pe.ca/gulfshore. Parents are asked to take the time to read it as it contains information about the upcoming month. On behalf of the staff, we wish you a very successful school year.

Dates to Remember:

September 7 – First Instructional Day 2023
September 20 - Meet the Staff
September 22 – Student Pictures
September 28 – Magic Toothbrush Presentation for K-3 students
September 29 – Professional Learning Day (no classes for students)
October 2 – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (no classes)
October 9 – Thanksgiving Day - (no classes)
October 26 – Student Picture retakes
October 27 – Professional Learning Day (no classes)
October 31- Halloween

Visitors to the School:

Everyone who is visiting the school (dropping off children, picking up children or for any other reason) **must** stop in the office before going to any other part of the school. We ask that you do not park on the side of the road in front of the school, please use the parking lot. Also, please remember that we are a nut and scent free school.

Staffing:

We would like to welcome our new Gulf Shore Staff:
Anita Conohan - Principal
Molly Johnston – Grade 3
Tracy MacMillan – Grade 6
Mariska Gatha – Gr. 7 & 9 ELA, Gr. 8 Social Studies
Logan Roche – Phys. Ed
Rocky Schurman – Youth Service Worker

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School Fee

As in past years, we are collecting a school fee for students in grades 7-9. This fee is used to offset the cost of Home Ec., Industrial Arts. The fee for 2023 – 2024 school year is \$20.00. Please send this fee in with your son/daughter. Once we received the payment, a receipt will be issued and sent home.

Nut / Fragrance Free:

Gulf Shore is scent-free. Some members of our staff and students are highly allergic to strong scents. We ask that students refrain from using perfumes and strong scented deodorant of any kind. If you plan on visiting the school please abide by this policy.

We are also a Nut Free School. Please be mindful when packing your children's lunches, NO Peanut butter, soy butter, Nutella or products containing peanuts, pistachios or cashews and no WOW or imitation butter.

Early Arrival at School:

Parents are asked to respect our policy regarding students coming to school early in the morning. Students who walk or are dropped off are asked **not to arrive before 8:20**.

School Photos:

Our school photos will be taken by Everest Solutions on September 22. Retakes for anyone who was missing on our original picture day is October 26.

Agendas: Student Agendas have been ordered for students in grades K-6. It is expected that students use their agenda daily to record homework, assignments, and other important dates. It is also a useful place to communicate with homeroom teachers.

Meet The Staff Night: We will be having a Meet the staff night on Wednesday, September 20. More information will follow.

Terry Fox News: Our school will be participating in the Terry Fox Run. Date will be determined. Stay tuned.

Home & School News:

Welcome to all the new families joining the Gulf Shore community as well as all our returning members. We hope everyone had a great Summer. As a parent or guardian of a child enrolled at Gulf Shore, you are already a member of the Home and School. Thank you for taking an interest in our school and the important role that Home and School play.

Home and School exist for many reasons. Our primary purpose is to ensure that our children receive the best learning environment possible. We do this by maintaining open lines of

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communication with the staff so that parents have an understanding of the school and its workings, and so problems can be solved, and ideas can be heard. If you don't know about Home and School, this is your chance to get involved and be in the know!

Throughout the year, we will be looking to our members to get involved by volunteering to help when they can. We all have different strengths and interests and there is always a way to help. Everyone is always welcome. They are a great way to stay connected to what is happening in our school community.

Our Home and School takes care of the milk program along with the Food for Thought cupboard. Our milk program will not be up and running until the second week of school. This will give parents time to log on and register their child for this program. The Food for Thought Cupboard is stocked with healthy foods and snacks and is available to any of our students when in need. We also organize staff appreciation potlucks, healthy snacks, hair checks, a Terry Fox Day BBQ and a fundraising event during the school year.

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month. Our first meeting of the year will take place on Wednesday September 20th at 7pm at Gulf Shore School.

This year's executive include:

President - Marsha LeBlanc

Past President - Jen Covello

Vice President - Dorothy Wakelin

Secretary – Martina Cole-Gallant

Treasurer- Lindsay Gallant

Wishing all the Gulf Shore families a great 2024-25 school year. We hope to see you.

Band News -

Welcome back to music class. I will be updating our music education site over the first few weeks of school. More details to come.

Communication: Band information sheets will be distributed to all band students. Please check in their book bags! For the remainder of this school year, I will be sending out important information and announcements through the school email server. I also post information on the "Gulf Shore Band" Facebook page - please join us if you haven't already done so!

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Early Morning Band and Shark Attack!

All students in grades 7-9 Band are expected to participate in our early morning band rehearsals on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students are asked to be in the building no later than 7:45 am so that they are in their seats and ready to play by 7:55am. Our first EMB will be on Tuesday, September 12th.

All grade 7-9 band students are invited to join our (optional) popular music group, Shark Attack. Shark Attack practices on Wednesdays after school from 3-4:30 pm. The date for our first Shark Attack will be announced at a later date.

Band Uniforms and Hoodies- An email will be sent out later this month to take orders for band uniform shirts (required) and band hoodies (optional).

Phys Ed/Sports News:

Welcome back to our Gulf Shore athletes for the 2023/24 fall sports season!

Soccer (grade 7-9): We will be getting right into the swing of things with soccer tryouts for both girls and boys starting Monday, Sept 11th immediately after school until 4:30. Future practices and league games are TBD and will be sent out at a later date.

Cross country (grade 3-9) will be offered once again for all students in grade 3-9, and we will be sending athletes to the TBD Zone Meet for Novice Girls, Novice Boys, Bantam Girls, Bantam Boys, Intermediate Girls, and Intermediate Boys PEISAA Age Classifications. Practices will be starting up in early September and will be run during lunch break on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting the second week back.

Golf (grade 7-9) will be starting week of Sept 11-15th with exact practice dates/times TBD.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The information provided is for information purposes and is not necessarily sanctioned by the school or Public Schools Branch.

PEI Home & School News, September 2023

Slow down and watch for students on the road

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Another school year begins Sept. 7. Students will be walking, cycling, riding on a bus or in family car to school. It is a strategic time to remind all motorists that with awareness and education, children can get to school and back home again safely.

Update your Local Home and School Contacts

Are you still the President? Treasurer? If not, send current contact info to the Federation office. **Presidents** – Submit your local Home and School's contact details using the new Google Form. Click here: [Home and School Association Contacts](#). **Treasurers** - Submit 2023-2024 Membership fees to the PEIHSF office by sending e-transfers to: peihsf@gov.pe.ca

“Meet the Teacher”

“Meet the Teacher” evening sessions are planned for parents to meet their child's teacher at the beginning of the school year. It's an informal opportunity to chat, face-to-face, say hi, to become acquainted with your child's teacher. Find the date on your child's school website.

What is Home and School's role in education?

Experienced facilitators, Vicki Bryanton and Stephen Gould, will lead volunteer training workshops on November 6, 7. Find out how volunteers collaborate with staff in schools. How can we help and support for the benefit of all students! Workshop locations to be announced.

Semi-Annual Meeting

The Semi-Annual meeting will be held Monday, October 23rd, 6:00 PM, Central Queens Elementary School, Hunter River, PEI. Speaker/Presenters will include: Dr. Travis Saunders, UPEI "Screens in schools: simple ways to maximize the benefits and minimize the harms?"; David Schult, Educator "Home and School 101", Dept. Health "Student Health Survey." Parents, educators and students are invited to attend. More info to follow by end of September.

School Board By-Elections in two Zones

Due to the resignation of a Public Schools Branch Trustee in Zone 7 (Morell Family of Schools), and in the French board, Zone 2, there will be a By-election to fill these vacancies. Residents in these zones will be able to run as a candidate and vote beginning Sept. 5, 2023. More details will be shared by Elections PEI. For current details, go to: <https://www.electionspei.ca/school-board-trustee-elections>

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Healthy School Lunch Program

It's a new school year! Sign up your child for healthy school food meals that will be served daily in schools. \$5.50 per lunch or pay what you can. Donate to pay for another child who cannot afford to pay for a healthy lunch! Register and order at: [Healthy Lunch for Island Kids! | PEI School Food Program](#) / www.peischoolfood.ca

Shirley Smedley Jay

PEI Home and School Federation

PEI School Food Program

2023-2024 School Year

We hope you have enjoyed your summer vacation!

The PEI School Food Program team is gearing up for another year of providing healthy, and affordable meal options to Island students. During the 2022-23 school year, we provided 600,000 meals to students, and we are expecting even more this school year!

We will be operating a new school food hub this year, in Bluefield High School.

Registration for new users on the website will open on August 31st.

Ordering will begin on September 2nd and close on September 7th for meals starting September 11th, 2023.

Our menu has also been revised for this fall! Please check out our website at www.peischoolfood.ca for more information on what's new.

The program will remain a pay-what-you-can program. As the cost of food and supplies continues to rise, the PEI School Food Program will be increasing the asking price for parents to \$5.75 per meal. We kindly ask school staff, families, and students to pay for their meal if they're able to, to help those who are not! Collectively, we play our part so that every Island student has access to a healthy lunch to help them grow and learn.

Check your email regularly for program updates and stay tuned via social media @peischoolfood!

We look forward to serving you soon,

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